

Academia Sinica to conduct Tang awards

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Singapore: Taiwan's Academia Sinica in association with the Tang Prize Foundation have started the process of nominating various individuals for Tang Prize, which is an international award that recognizes the most original and influential researchers or institutes. The prizes would be given in four categories, including sustainable development, biopharmaceutical science, sinology (excluding literary works), and rule of law.

From 2014, the Tang Prize will be awarded once-every-two-years, to individuals or institutions that have made the most outstanding contributions in the four areas. Each will receive an amount not less than \$1.36 million in prize money, and a further \$341,000 will be allocated for the execution of a plan submitted by the prize recipients to promote and cultivate research and talent in the related area within a period of five years.

Nominations for the first Tang Prize will be drawn up by the Tang Prize selection committee, and invitations will be sent to eligible individuals and/or institutions in May 2013. The closing date for candidates to accept their nominations is September 30, 2013. The Tang Prize selection committee will present a detailed reports on the final candidates to the Tang Prize Foundation board at the end of April 2014. The Tang Prize Foundation board will announce the laureates on June 18, 2014.

Tang Prize Foundation was established by Dr Samuel Yin with a donation of \$102 million. Dr Yin said, "Setting up the Tang Prize has been one of my biggest dreams. I hope that the prize will encourage more research that is beneficial to the world and humankind, promote Chinese culture, and make the world a better place."

The president of Academia Sinica, Mr Chi-Huey Wong, said, "Historically, Academia Sinica has always had a first-rate reputation. Both at home and abroad, our academicians hold important positions in many fields, and thus have the professional capability to select the best candidates for the Tang Prize. We shall carefully select experts from each field, both in Taiwan and abroad, to compose the selection committee."