GUIDELINES FOR INNOVATION AWARDS

1 Innovator of the year award

The Distinguished University Innovator(s) will have accomplished a reasonable combination of the following:

- Developed a breakthrough idea, process, or technology and demonstrated its transformational potential relative to an otherwise conventionally accepted practice or market;
- Taken a significant innovation developed in the University through to market-readiness, either through partnership with a commercial enterprise, licensing a patent, or by starting a company;
- Demonstrated a new method or means for moving innovations from the University into the private sector through the establishment of partnerships or other relationships that promote the strategic or economic position of the region, state or nation.

The winning innovations should meet the following criteria.

- *Quality*: Students and/or staff agree that the innovation increases quality in the course, program, office, or institution. Evidence of quality may include student ratings or letters of support from colleagues.
- *Efficiency* :There is evidence that the innovation contributes to a more efficient way of doing things. Student ratings, perceptions of outside consultants, and pre- and post-comparison of time involved are examples of evidence.
- *Cost Effectiveness*.:There is evidence that the innovation adds value to the institution while at the same time containing or reducing costs. Cost data will serve as evidence.
- *Replication*. The innovation can be replicated at other institutions with a minimum of difficulty.
- *Creativity and novelty* . The innovation should be original or the adaptation creative. The program description or letters from experts are examples of evidence.

- *Timeliness*. The innovation should be no more than five years old at the institution, but must have been around long enough to have been tested so that it meets most of the criteria.
- **Alignment with national policies and Agenda:** The innovation should be aligned with national agenda for easy integration into the national policies.
- **Collaboration:** The innovator should demonstrate strong collaboration between a user and technology partner and stakeholders.
- *Other*. Other ways that the innovation is worthy of this award.

2. Early Career Innovator of the Year

Nominees should show outstanding promise for future achievement and impact. A strong nominee will have demonstrated superior scholarly and innovation achievement at an early career. The following guidelines shall be used to evaluate entries:

The candidate must be a member at MUBAS and must satisfy at least one of the following criteria:

i) They should be 35 years old or younger and must have served as a tenured faculty member at MUBAS for at least two years
ii) They should possess MSc/MA or above conferred within three years from the date of applying for the award; out of these three years, the tenured faculty member must have served at least two years at MUBAS.

- **The novelty and creativity**: Innovator should demonstrate creativity in the proposed innovation and originality.
- **Impact**: submitted innovation should significantly transform society and industry.
- **Intellectual Property:**There should be evidence regarding invention disclosures, copyrights (including software), patent applications, patents awarded, tangible property (e.g., cell lines), data products, etc.
- **Scientific content/theoretical Framework**: Innovator should demonstrate application of scientific principles with clear theoretical framework in the innovation
- **Methods/Design**: The innovators should demonstrate ability to apply methods and designs that can be replicated.

- **Sustainability and Cost-effectiveness:** There should be an evidence that the innovation is cost-effective and sustainable.

- **Efficiency:** There should be an evidence that the innovation contributes to a more efficient way of doing things. Student ratings, perceptions of outside consultants, and pre- and post-comparison of time involved are examples of evidence.
- **Originality and adaptability**: The innovation should be original and easily adapted
- **Potential for commercialization**: Innovator should demonstrate potential commercialization of the ideas.
- **Impact**: the innovation should demonstrate impact on society and industry
- **Alignment with national policies and Agenda:** The innovation should be aligned with national agenda for easy integration into the national policies

3. Best Student Innovator

Nominees should show outstanding promise for future achievement and impact. A strong nominee will have demonstrated superior scholarly and innovation achievement as a student. The following guidelines shall be used to evaluate entries: The candidate must be a student at MUBAS, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and must satisfy at least one of the following criteria for hardware and software prototypes:

- **Originality and Innovation:** The hardware or software prototype should demonstrate originality in its concept, design, or application. It should showcase innovative ideas, technologies, or approaches that have not been previously explored or implemented.
- **Problem Solving:** The prototype should address a specific problem or challenge and provide a valuable solution or improvement. It should demonstrate how the innovation can effectively solve real-world problems or meet specific needs.
- **Technical Excellence:** The hardware or software prototype should exhibit technical excellence in its design, implementation, and functionality. It should demonstrate a high level of craftsmanship, quality, and attention to detail.

- **Impact:** The prototype should have the potential for significant impact, whether it is in academia, industry, or society. It should demonstrate the potential to bring about positive change, create new opportunities, or improve existing processes, systems, or experiences.
- **Presentation and Communication:** The innovators should be able to effectively communicate their prototype's features, benefits, and potential impact. Clear and concise presentation materials, such as documentation, demonstrations, or visual aids, can help convey the value of the prototype to the judging panel.