

SLTC Staff Awards - 2025

Introduction

The SLTC Staff Awards celebrate the outstanding research, scholarly contributions, and creative outputs of staff members. These awards are designed to motivate staff to actively engage in teaching, research, innovation and creative work, while also inspiring junior colleagues as well as students to pursue impactful contributions that strengthen SLTC's research ecosystem.

SLTC comprises five faculties dedicated in the areas of —Engineering, Science, Computing & IT, Business, and Postgraduate Studies—and the School of Music. The awards program is conducted under two main categories of recognition in order to felicitate research outputs of staff members across this landscape.

University-Level Recognition celebrates the most outstanding achievements in research and innovation across SLTC, acknowledging individuals whose contributions demonstrate excellence, leadership, and broad institutional impact. Both academic and non-academic staff are eligible to apply for this recognition without restriction. **Faculty-Level Recognition**, on the other hand, honors exceptional researchers within each faculty, ensuring that excellence is celebrated across all disciplines while motivating faculty members who demonstrate consistent performance and scholarly impact within their respective fields.

In total, **27 awards** will be presented under the above categories. In addition, **Certificates of Merit** will be awarded to recognize specific achievements such as patents and other exceptional intellectual property outcomes, as recommended by the Panel of Judges. For the **SLTC Research & Innovation Awards 2025**, only research achievements made during the three-year period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered for evaluation. **Lifetime Awards**, however, will assess the applicant's entire body of work affiliated with SLTC, ensuring that sustained contributions to research and innovation are duly honored.

This document sets out the **general eligibility criteria, award descriptions, and specific requirements** related to the SLTC Staff Awards. Applicants are expected to read this document carefully before preparing and submitting their applications.

Eligibility Criteria & Competition Rules

1. Employment Status

- The applicant must be a full-time staff member of Sri Lanka Technology Campus (SLTC) with a minimum of six (6) months of continuous service completed by **30th June 2025** in order to be eligible for the awards.
- Both academic and non-academic staff are eligible to apply for their respective award categories without any restriction as described in the **introduction**.

2. Period of Consideration

- Awards shall recognize achievements made in research & development, scholarly work, and creative outputs carried out during the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025**.
- In the case of Lifetime Awards, the applicant's entire body of work and contributions associated with SLTC affiliations will be considered.

3. Institutional Affiliation

- The awards program will **strictly prioritize** research outputs affiliated with SLTC. Applicants are therefore encouraged to present achievements produced under SLTC affiliation during the specified period of consideration for evaluation.

4. Submission of Applications

- All applicants must prepare their application using the relevant template provided on the SLTC Research & Innovation Awards 2025 webpage.
- Applications must be filled, signed and submitted by the applicant himself/herself.
- The duly completed application form, together with all supporting evidence compiled in separate PDF files, shall be submitted through the Google Form link provided on the awards webpage.
- The deadline for submitting applications is **15th September 2025**.
- Each staff member may submit only one application for consideration under the awards.
- Applications that are incomplete, contain false or misleading information, or are submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

5. Applicants must maintain a Google Scholar and/or ResearchGate profiles that are publicly accessible. Applicant will be requested to provide the relevant Google Scholar ID and any other profile links in the application form.

6. Guideline on Indexed Publications

- When submitting indexed journal publications, the indexing status must be verified using authoritative sources such as the Clarivate Master Journal List, the Scopus Sources List, or the PubMed journal catalog.
- Recognized and widely accepted indexing services may include the Science Citation Index (SCI), Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), Scopus, PubMed/MEDLINE, Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI), Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), Arts & Humanities Citation Index (AHCI), and Ei Compendex. These platforms are considered credible and ensure that submitted publications meet rigorous academic standards of visibility and impact.
- Any publications in predator journals will be disregarded.

7. Evaluation Process

- The evaluation of applications will be undertaken by a Panel of Judges appointed under the oversight of the University's senior leadership.
- All assessments will be conducted with the highest standards of impartiality and confidentiality to ensure a fair and transparent process.
- The decision of the Panel of Judges shall be final, and the Panel reserves the right to defer or withhold awards in instances where no suitable recipient is identified.

Other considerations:

8. Confidentiality of Submissions

- Applicants are advised to avoid including highly confidential or commercially sensitive details in their submissions.

- This precaution is intended to protect the value of applicants' work and ensure a smooth evaluation process without the risk of sensitive information being disclosed unnecessarily.
9. Winners, depending on the requirements, may be requested to submit a short article, photographs, or short video clip about their research, prepared under the guidance of the Organizing Committee of the SLTC Research & Innovation Awards 2025, for internal and external publication purposes.

Criterial for the Awards

- The primary criterion for the award will be the research excellence demonstrated by the applicant within the defined evaluation period.
- "Research excellence" may be defined by the Panel of Judges as encompassing, but not limited to, originality of research or creative output, impact or potential impact, quality of collaborations, and overall scholarly productivity.
- The research output of each applicant will be evaluated by the Panel of Judges using parameters such as:
 - Publication credentials, including articles in national and international peer-reviewed journals, full papers and abstracts presented at conferences, and books, monographs, or book chapters.
 - Impact and citation performance, reflected through indicators such as the applicant's H-index.
 - Innovativeness and creativity, demonstrated through intellectual property outputs such as patents, trademarks, copyrights, or trade secrets.
 - Contributions to supervision and mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students.
 - Collaborative research initiatives with partners from industry and academia.

Award Structure

University-Level Recognition

University-level recognition aims to celebrate excellence and outstanding contributions that extend beyond individual faculties, highlighting staff members whose achievements have made a significant impact on SLTC as a whole. These awards are intended to acknowledge innovation, creativity, and research leadership that elevate the university's national and international profile. A **total of 7 awards** will be presented across all SLTC staff under the following categories.

A total of 07 awards are proposed under following categories;

1. Most Outstanding Senior Researcher
2. Most Outstanding Young Researcher
3. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Indexed Journal Publications
4. Top Researcher with the Highest H-index – Lifetime Award*
5. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations
6. Best Inventor –Staff Category
7. Best Art and Creativity Award

* **Note:** Award No. 4 above is not *time-bound*, meaning they will consider the full body of work

produced by the applicant to date, rather than being limited to outputs from 30th June 2022 and 30th June 2025.

Faculty-Level Recognition

Faculty level recognitions aims to motivate sustained research engagement and to honor leading contributors within their respective academic disciplines. A total of **20 awards** are proposed under the following award categories, across the **five faculties** of SLTC.

Award Categories for Faculty Level Recognition:

1. Outstanding Researcher Award
2. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Indexed Journal Publications
3. Top Researcher with the Highest H-index – Lifetime Award**
4. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations

**** Note:** Award No. 3 above is not *time-bound*, meaning they will consider the full body of work produced by the applicant to date, rather than being limited to outputs from 30th June 2022 and 30th June 2025.

Certificates of Merit

Certificates of Merit are intended to recognize noteworthy research accomplishments within the evaluation period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025**. These certificates will not require a separate application; instead, they will be awarded based on the overall evaluation of applications received under the main award categories.

Merit Award Categories:

- Recognition of Patented Inventions granted during the specified evaluation period
- Faculty or Department with the Highest Number of Indexed Publications during the specified evaluation period

Description of Awards

University-Level Recognition

1. Most Outstanding Senior Researcher

This award is presented in recognition of exceptional and sustained contributions to research, innovation, and scholarly impact at SLTC. It is intended for senior academics or researchers **aged 35 years or above**, whose excellence is demonstrated through a holistic evaluation of parameters such as innovative research, scholarly potential, impactful contributions student supervision, and other attributes aligned with “research excellence.” Achievements within the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered for evaluation. The winner will receive an award along with a certificate of recognition.

2. Most Outstanding Young Researcher

This award is presented in recognition of outstanding early-career research achievements and scholarly promise at SLTC. It is intended for researchers **under the age of 35**, whose excellence is demonstrated through parameters such as innovative research, scholarly potential, impactful contributions, and other attributes aligned with “research excellence.” Achievements within the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered for evaluation. The winner will receive an award along with a certificate of recognition.

3. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Indexed Journal Publications

Awarded to the researcher at SLTC who has produced the highest number of full-length peer-reviewed publications in internationally recognized indexed journals, reflecting sustained productivity, consistency, and scholarly contribution. Achievements during the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered. The winner will receive an award along with a certificate of recognition.

4. Top Researcher with the Highest Google Scholar H-index – Lifetime Award

This award is presented as a **lifetime recognition** to the SLTC researcher with the highest **Google Scholar H-index**, honoring a career of impactful publications and lasting contributions to their field of research. The applicant’s entire body of scholarly work will be considered for evaluation. The award will be conferred to the winner along with a certificate of recognition.

5. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations

This award is presented to the SLTC researcher whose scholarly work has received the highest number of citations, reflecting wide recognition, influence, and impact within the global academic community. Citation counts from recognized indexing databases will be considered. Achievements within the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered for evaluation. The winner will receive an award along with a certificate of recognition.

6. Best Inventor – Staff Category

This award is presented to an SLTC staff member who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to research innovation with clear potential for real-world application of research outputs with societal or industrial benefit. Evaluation will consider achievements such as **national and international patents**, intellectual property registrations, technology transfers, and commercialization efforts. Accomplishments within the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered for evaluation. The award will be conferred to the winner along with a certificate of recognition.

7. Best Art and Creativity Award

This award is dedicated to a researcher or creator at SLTC in the field of **performing or creative arts**, whose work demonstrates strong originality, artistic quality, and meaningful contributions to innovation in research or practice. The criteria also extend inclusive recognition to **non-traditional research outputs**, including but not limited to original music or artistic content, songs, public performances or recordings, musical manuscripts or published music, and registered intellectual property such as copyrights and trademarks. Achievements made between **30th June 2022 and 30th June 2025** will be considered. The winner will receive an award along with a certificate of recognition.

Faculty-Level Recognition

1. Outstanding Researcher Award

This award is presented to a faculty member who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to research, innovation, and scholarly impact within their faculty. Evaluation will be based on a holistic set of parameters such as innovative research, scholarly potential, impactful contributions, and other attributes aligned with “research excellence.” Achievements within the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered for evaluation. The winners from each faculty will receive an award along with a certificate of recognition.

2. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Indexed Journal Publications

Presented to the faculty member with the highest number of research articles published in **indexed journals**, reflecting consistent productivity and contribution to the academic community. Only publications indexed in recognized databases will be considered. Achievements during the period **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered. The winners from each faculty will receive a certificate of recognition.

3. Top Researcher with the Highest H-index – Lifetime Award

This award is presented as a **lifetime recognition** to the researcher from each faculty with the highest **Google Scholar H-index**, honoring a career of impactful publications and lasting contributions to their field of research. The applicant’s entire body of scholarly work will be considered for evaluation. The winners from each faculty will receive a certificate of recognition.

4. Top Researcher with the Highest Number of Citations

This award is presented to the faculty member whose research has received the highest number of citations, reflecting significant academic influence, relevance, and global peer recognition. Citation counts from recognized indexing databases will be considered. Achievements within the period from **30th June 2022 to 30th June 2025** will be considered for evaluation. The winners from each faculty will receive a certificate of recognition.