Purpose
The Presidential Benefactor Award is intended to recognize an individual member or group, who by their actions and personal generosity has contributed uniquely to the enhanced reputation and recognition of systems engineering in society-at-large, and directly to the advancement and betterment of INCOSE.

Applicability
This policy applies to INCOSE regular and senior members.

Definitions
None

Eligibility
Contributions should be of a highly significant nature in systems engineering and contribute positively to society at large and to the advancement and betterment of INCOSE. Some examples of such contributions include, but not be limited to: monetary contributions toward the education of students, or the emergence of a new chapter; use of systems engineering to the betterment of a humanitarian effort (such as community rebuilding); elevation of systems engineering to a national or international attention (such as publication of a Foresight Report).

Nomination
Any INCOSE member in good standing may initiate a Presidential Benefactor Award nomination but they may only nominate or provide a letter of support for one (1) individual or group for Presidential Benefactor per year. The nominator shall prepare a nomination letter describing the nominator’s qualifications for making the nomination and the contributions made by the nominee that qualify them for consideration for this award. The nomination letter must be accompanied by a minimum of three (3) detailed letters of support, each letter from a different INCOSE member other than the nominator, who are also members in good standing. At least one letter of support shall be from a member of the INCOSE Board of Directors, an INCOSE past President, an Associate or Assistant Director, an INCOSE Fellow, a working group Chair/Co-Chair, or a Chapter President or President-Elect. Each letter of support shall state the supporter’s qualifications for supporting the nomination and why they believe the nominee is qualified for consideration for this award.

Posthumous nominations shall not be accepted.
The nominator shall assemble the nomination letter and the letters of support into a nomination package and submit the nomination package to the INCOSE President not later than 28 February for consideration. Nomination packages received after that date will not be considered.

**Selection**

The INCOSE President shall evaluate the Presidential Benefactor Award nomination packages for completeness and eligibility. The INCOSE President shall present all nomination packages to the Board of Directors and shall provide a rank-ordered recommendation of a maximum of two candidates for the award. The Board of Directors shall approve the award recipient at the Second Calendar Quarter Board of Directors meeting by voted resolution.

The approval and notification process shall ensure confidentiality pending final notification as follows: Once the Board of Directors’ approval decision is made, the INCOSE President shall notify nominators of those who did not receive an award, within one month after 2Q BOD meeting. Likewise, the INCOSE President shall notify the successful award nominators and recipients within one month after 2Q BOD meeting.

Citations shall be provided by the INCOSE President to INCOSE Admin in order to support preparation of the award material.

**Presentation**

The Presidential Benefactor Award shall be limited to a maximum of one (1) per year. It is anticipated that this award will not be granted annually.

This award shall be announced at the annual International Symposium. INCOSE shall prepare a press release to coincide with the ceremonial presentation of the Presidential Benefactor Award. The recipient shall be asked to keep the information confidential until presentation.

Recipients of the Presidential Benefactor Award shall be granted for their personal use, free registration to the annual International Symposium in the year of their award. If at this event a social evening is offered, two (2) complimentary tickets to this function shall also be offered.

**Responsible Position**

Honors & Awards Committee Chair

**Related Policies**

None.

SUPERSEDES: REC-111 dated 26 April 2019
APPROVED BY: INCOSE Board of Directors, Torrance CA, 29 January 2020
POLICY OWNER (RACI Responsible R): Honors & Awards Committee Chair
MAINTAINED BY (RACI Accountable A): President