



REC-106: Pioneer Award – 19 October 2023

Purpose

The Pioneer Award is intended to recognize one distinguished individual or team, who by their achievements in the engineering of systems, has contributed uniquely to major products or outcomes enhancing society or meeting its needs.

Applicability

This policy applies to INCOSE members and non-members who have demonstrated a single outstanding outcome or a lifetime of significant achievements in effecting successful systems.

Definitions

None

Eligibility

Contributions from individuals or teams should be of a highly significant nature and contribute to the pioneering of Systems Engineering, applications and systems approaches in the development of successful products or services of benefit to society. Some examples of such contributions include, but not be limited to: applying systems engineering principles to unique, highly complex problems; the successful application of systems engineering to brand new market segments and outstanding examples of advancing the state of the art and/or practice of systems engineering beyond its current bounds.

Nomination

Any INCOSE member in good standing may initiate a Pioneer Award nomination but they may only nominate or provide a letter of support for one (1) individual or team for Pioneer 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. Of the three letters of support, at least two (2) shall be from INCOSE members in good standing. Each letter of support must be from an individual other than the nominator and 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 be accepted. There shall be no limitation in the time period elapsed between the individual's death and the nomination. However, the achievements that are being recognized should still be relevant to current systems engineering.



The nominator shall assemble the nomination letter and the letters of support into a nomination package and submit the nomination package to the Chair of the Honors and Awards Committee no later than 28 February for consideration. Nomination packages received after that date will not be considered.

Selection

The Honors and Awards Committee (refer to policy CMT-100) shall evaluate the Pioneer Award nomination packages and make a rank-ordered recommendation to the Board of Directors of a maximum of three candidates for the award. The Board of Directors shall approve the award recipient at the Q2 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 Chair of the Honors & Awards Committee shall notify nominators of those who did not receive an award, within one month after Q2 BOD meeting. Likewise, the Chair of the Honors & Awards Committee shall notify the successful award nominators and recipients within one month after Q2 BOD meeting.

Citations shall be provided by the Chair of the Honors & Awards Committee to INCOSE Admin in order to support preparation of the award material.

Presentation

The Pioneer Award shall be limited to a maximum of one (1) per year to a team or living individual. An additional award for that year may be made posthumously.

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

Recipients of the Pioneer Award shall be granted for their personal use, free registration for life to both the annual International Symposium (IS) and the annual International Workshop. If at the IS a social evening is offered, two (2) complimentary tickets to this function shall also be offered in the year of their award. In the case of a posthumous award, the person accepting the award shall receive the complimentary IS registration and two (2) complimentary tickets to the social evening (if offered) in the year of their award.

All recipients of the Pioneer Award shall receive lifetime INCOSE individual membership free of charge.



Responsible Position

Honors and Awards Committee Chair

Related Policies

CMT-100: Committees

SUPERSEDES: REC-106 dated 14 October 2021

APPROVED BY: INCOSE Board of Directors, Virtual, 19 October 2023

POLICY OWNER (RACI Responsible R): Honors and Awards Committee Chair

MAINTAINED BY (RACI Accountable A): President