Editorial

AU Academic Awards – 2003

A very special event took place at the AU Bang Na Campus on 24 December 2003. In addition to celebrating Christmas and the Emeritus President’s 71st Birthday (both of which fall on 25 December), the presentation of the 2003 AU Academic Awards to eight distinguished faculty members, who have “sacrificed their lives and time by their creative loyalty; and positive contributions to the institution” were held.

It was the Emeritus President, Rev. Bro. Martin P. Komolmas, who, in 1993, proclaimed, “such persons must be recognized, promoted, and rewarded”. Since then, there has been a tradition at Assumption University to present such awards to outstanding staff for their achievements on 24 December, a three-in-one event for the AU community.

There are altogether six AU Academic Awards; each is named after an illustrious person found in Catholic history and also in memory of our predecessors who had worked hard in “God’s vineyard”. The AU Academic Awards Committee laid down the general policies governing each award in 1997. These policies are subject to review; re-interpretation and modification as the times may call for. The President of the University is chairman of the present Committee while the Brothers in the University administration serve on the Committee. The sole right and prerogative on selection of the awardees resides with the committee, and recognized that a bias may exist, in that the awards generally go senior faculty and staff.

To help rectify this situation and to promote, recognize and encourage all members of the AU community to work towards and achieve goals geared to their current capabilities, the Committee has decided to create three achievement levels within most of the award categories. The third-class level is for recipients who can be looked upon as a model for others to emulate. The second-class level is meant for recipients who have previously received the third class honor, and have continued to grow to the point where they’re looked to for leadership, as well as being a superior model. The first-class level is to be given to those who have previously achieved the second-class award, and is given for sustained leadership and service to the University. They should be an inspiration for those who are to follow.

The Editor of the AU Journal of Technology is proud to announce that of the eight awardees this year; three were from the faculties under the general grouping of “technology” (under which the AU J.T. serves). These were: (i) Ms. Nootrudee Siriboon, Chairman of the Department of Food Technology, Faculty of Biotechnology, who received the St. Martin de Tours Award for Excellence in Teaching (3rd Class), (ii) Prof. Dr. David Tin Win, Professor, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science and Technology, who received the St. Thomas Aquinas Award for Research (1st Class), and (iii) Mr. Peerapol Moemeng, Lecturer, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science and Technology, who received the St. Thomas Aquinas Award for Research (3rd Class).

It is with great honor that these three awardees accepted the Editor’s invitation to write their papers specifically for this special issue of the AU J.T. to commemorate their outstanding achievements. As an introduction to the AU Academic Awards, the description of the “2002 AU Academic Awards Presentation” is presented which highlights the philosophy and objectives of the AU Academic Awards, the description of the awards that the awardees received, and the citations of each award. The three papers which follow are: (i) “A Study on the Ripening Process of ‘Namwa’ Banana”, by the St. Martin de Tours award winner, Ms. Nootrudee Siriboon, (ii) “Some Significant Chemical Research in the Past Decade”, by the St. Thomas Aquinas award winner, Prof. Dr. David Tin Win, and (iii) “Issues in Soccer Simulation Software Development”, by the St. Thomas Aquinas award winner, Mr. Peerapol Moemeng.