The UCISA Awards 2022

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About the UCISA Awards

The UCISA Awards recognise, celebrate and promote the outstanding achievements and innovation of staff working in or supporting technology in UCISA member organisations, and the application of digital solutions which positively transform the experience of students, academics and professional staff.

There are 6 categories in the UCISA awards, individual and group submissions are invited.

Applications for the UCISA Awards will close at 17:00, 7th February 2022.

The 6 categories are:

- Transformation Award
- Sustainable Digital Project or Initiative
- Supporting Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Research
- Rising Star Award
- UCISA award for Outstanding Corporate Member
- Outstanding contribution to IT/CIO/IT Director of the Year

More information on each award can be found on the Award Categories page.

Finalists are recognised and category recipients announced at the annual UCISA Leadership Conference.

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Award Categories

Outstanding contribution to IT /CIO/IT Director of the Year

The UCISA CIO/IT Director of the Year Award celebrates outstanding contribution to IT by a senior leader who demonstrates clear vision, positive transformation and professional excellence. This individual will act as a role model not only within their institution but throughout the wider UCISA community.

UCISA award for Outstanding Corporate Member

The UCISA Award for the Outstanding Corporate Member recognises the Company that has gone above and beyond in delivering excellent services to an institution or the wider sector.

Supporting Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Research

The UCISA Award for Supporting Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Research recognises digital innovations which have had a transformative effect on learning, teaching and research activities. Tell us how you are innovating and transforming how academics teach and students learn, or what has had a positive impact on how research is undertaken.

Rising Star Award

The UCISA Rising Star Award seeks to recognise an emerging leader in digital technology within the sector. They may have supported a collective effort to lead their team to achieve more than they have previously,

or led a new initiative through to success, or introduced some significant positive change..

Transformation Award

The UCISA Transformation Award celebrates transformations achieved through digital technology in all or part of your institution. For this award we will be looking at outcomes, impact and the cultural and/or operational change that this has enabled for you institution.

Sustainable Digital Project or Initiative

The UCISA Award for Sustainable Digital Project or Initiative celebrates an innovative activity that not only provides exceptional value to the institution but demonstrates a strong consideration for the future.

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Entry conditions

Conditions of entry

Applications are open to all current UCISA member organisation/staff working in or supporting technology.

For the inaugural awards, the leadership or activity on which the submission is based must have been performed between 01 January 2020 and 31 December 2021 (thereafter the preceding calendar year will apply).

The individual leading the activity/initiative must be from a recognised team and a current employee of a UCISA member organisation during the calendar year subject to the awards.

Nominations for the outstanding corporate member must come from a UCISA institutional or affiliate member.

Collaborative entries between institutions are welcomed, however a lead institution must be identified and make the submission.

Size of activity does not matter. Large, medium or small - all submissions are welcome

Applicants must meet all eligibility criteria.

You may make a submission as an individual or on behalf of a team. You may also nominate other individuals or teams.

A UCISA Award entry form needs to be completed and as part of the submission process for the Transformation Award, Sustainable Digital Project or Initiative, Supporting Excellence in Learning Outstanding contribution to IT/CIO/IT Director of the Year, Rising Star or UCISA award for Outstanding Corporate Member.

The initiative or activity may be entered in one Award Category only (although a CIO/IT Director of the Year Rising Star nominee may also be part of a team nomination)

Short description of the initiative or project must not exceed 200 words.

Two brief (max. 200 words) testimonials from direct reports, peers or senior staff should be included with the submission

The award entry will need to be endorsed by the organisation's senior IT leader (CIO/Director)

All applications must be submitted via the online submission form by 17:00, 7th February 2022.

UCISA may request a project demonstration webinar to the sector with any category nominees. This session may be recorded.

All finalists may be requested to attend an interview with a UCISA representative, prior to the announcement of each award recipient. This session may be recorded.

You acknowledge that photographers may attend UCISA events, and the images of participants may be used on the UCISA website or within event marketing material. If you do not wish to be photographed, please advise the photographer at the time.

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Criteria

Criteria applicable to all Award Categories include:

- **Supporting each other and inclusivity** in leading the development of digital capabilities and technologies to transform education and research.

- **Demonstrated positive impact** and doing it 'together' / across boundaries. This may be within your organisation, outside of it, between institutions or for the sector, as a whole.

- **Stakeholder Engagement.** What changes have there been in attitudes, behaviour or values of the participants? Have any other overall relevant benefits been achieved?

- **Demonstrated value** to the institution and its stakeholders. Institutional context/support; Impact achieved or return on investment (either measured or expected);

demonstrated alignment with institution's goals.

- **Demonstrating innovation or positive change**. Describe how new ground was forged through change, innovation, new technology; new approaches and how risk was managed.

- **Sustainability & scalability**. In what ways has the activity in question shown itself to be conscious of its own long-term costs and contributions as part of a commitment to sustainable practice?

- Has it become a model for other activity?

- Any other comments?

Each award category focuses on slightly different elements of these criteria, available in the Criteria overview document.

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Applications for the 2022 UCISA Awards are now being accepted. Before you enter, here are some things to consider, to assist in preparing the application.

I. Select the most relevant Award category for the activity /initiative

II. Ensure the conditions of entry/eligibility requirements have been met

III. Read through and make sure you understand the selection criteria. The judging panel will use these criteria to determine eligibility and assess the application

IV. Complete the *relevant UCISA Award Entry form*.

V. Review file attachments below, so you know what to prepare to upload with your application

VI. Email the relevant UCISA Award Entry Form along with all the required documentation in a zipped folder to admin@ucisa.ac.uk to finalise your application. Applications close 17:00 Monday 7th February 2022.

File attachments

Please note: PDF, DOC and DOCX files only are supported.

File attachments to be included with each submission include:

▪ The relevant UCISA Award Entry Form

▪ Two brief testimonials (max 200 words per testimonial) from direct reports, peers and/or senior staff *(required)*

▪ A letter of endorsement from member organisation's Member Representative (CIO, CDO, IT Director) *(required)*

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