STATUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TARTU BEST TEACHING STAFF AWARD

Based on clause 4 of the Regulations for Giving Recognition, adopted by the Senate of the University of Tartu Regulation no. 5 of 27 April 2012 and amended by Regulation no. 30 of 18 December 2015, I approve the statute of the University of Tartu best teaching staff award. [effective as of 14 October 2016]

1. Each academic year, the award “University of Tartu best teaching staff of the year” (“best teaching staff award”) is given to four employees of the University of Tartu who have taught a course in degree study programmes (“teaching staff”) in the previous academic year to recognise their teaching performance in the faculty of arts and humanities, social sciences, science and technology and medicine. If a member of teaching staff has taught courses that belong to several faculties or works in a support unit, he/she is recognised for work in the area in which his/her course(s) attracted the largest number of feedback forms completed by students. If the number of completed feedback forms is equal, the employee is recognised for work in the area in which the arithmetic average of the feedback score of the courses taught by him/her is the highest. [effective as of 14 October 2016]

2. In each area of teaching and research, one award is presented. The award goes to the member of teaching staff who has received the highest score in the students’ feedback on teaching and courses for the previous academic year. Only members of teaching staff regarding whom at least 50 feedback forms have been filled out for the previous academic year are eligible to be considered for the award.

3. The best teaching staff award is a specially designed layered silver badge. The uppermost layer is polished, while the visible edges of the descending layers are textured. The polished side of the badge bears the inscription “Tartu Ülikooli õppejõud” (“Member of teaching staff of the University of Tartu”) and the academic year for which the award is issued. The name of the recipient is engraved on the reverse side.

4. In addition to the badge, recipients of the best teaching staff award also receive a bonus in an amount equal to the minimum monthly salary for professors of the University of Tartu.

5. The award is granted on the basis of the results of the feedback on teaching and courses of the previous academic year, specifically the results of questions concerning teaching staff. A ranking list is drawn up on the basis of the arithmetic average score given to each member of teaching staff. If the average score of two or more members of teaching staff is equal, preference is given
to the member of teaching staff who received the greater share of maximum positive marks of all marks received.

6. The best teaching staff award may not be granted to the same person for two academic years in a row. If the first person in the ranking list drawn up pursuant to clause 5 has already received the best teaching staff award in the previous year, the award is given to the next person in the ranking list of the same area of teaching and research.

7. The head of the Office of Academic Affairs submits the names of the recipients of the best teaching staff award to the vice rector for academic affairs at least one month before the award is to be presented.

8. The granting of the best teaching staff award is approved by a directive of the vice rector for academic affairs.

9. Recipients of the best teaching staff award are announced on the anniversary of Estonia’s national university.

10. The names of recipients of the best teaching staff award are placed on the corresponding honour roll, which is kept by the academic secretary.

11. The names of ten members of teaching staff who received the best results in each faculty are published in the university’s magazine and on the university’s website. [effective as of 14 October 2016]

12. The “Statute of the Award ‘University of Tartu Teacher of the Year’” approved by the Rector’s Decree no. 25 of 25 August 2006 and amended by the Rector’s Decree no. 14 of 12 June 2009 is repealed.

13. This decree takes effect on 1 August 2012.