

The “KITE Award” (award for Key Innovation in Teaching at ETH), conferred by the ETH Zurich Lecturers’ Conference (KdL)

Description

1. Objective

The KdL wishes to

- Honour ETH Zurich faculty for innovative approaches to learning which improve student learning outcomes and demonstrate that teaching and learning methods are undergoing development which raises the quality of teaching;
- Motivate faculty to participate actively in this development and make successful approaches known and available across disciplinary boundaries, raising the visibility of teaching both within and outside of ETH Zurich.

To this end KdL has introduced a prize for “Key Innovation in Teaching at ETH Zurich”: the “KITE Award”. This prize will be announced and conferred every two years.

2. Target group

Prospective prizewinners are ETH Zurich faculty (lecturers and Assistants) who are responsible for or have substantially contributed to innovative methods (subsequently called “projects”) in teaching or in curriculum development. The prize may be awarded to both individuals and teams.

3. Award and award conferral

The award comprises a symbolic distinction, a certificate and a cash prize of CHF 10,000.00. The award will be conferred by the Rector at a solemn, attractively structured ceremony designated specifically for this purpose and organised by the KdL. The intention is to attract regard within and outside of ETH.

4. Nomination and selection

a) Nomination

Candidates (individuals or teams) may be nominated by any of the following:

- The department Teaching Commission [Unterrichtskommission]
- The Teaching Commission of the Executive Board [Lehrkommission]
- Department management, on behalf of the department conference

Nominations should contain the following:

- i) A short description of the project (1 page maximum)
- ii) The reason why the nominated individual or team deserves distinction for this project (1 page maximum), if possible accompanied by documentation verifying its success (e.g. a course evaluation)
- iii) Optionally: further documentation (links to websites, videos etc.) or data media which may be helpful to the assessment procedure

b) Selection committee

The KdL will set up a subcommittee as defined by Art. 14 of its bylaws to act as the selection committee. It will comprise four members of the KdL; the President of the Executive Board Teaching Commission [Lehrkommission]; one representative each from VSETH and AVETH; and an external member. One of the KdL members will act as Chair and has the deciding vote in case of a tie.

c) Preselection

The selection committee will evaluate the projects of the nominated candidates and will propose three persons or teams for the shortlist. Assessment will proceed according to the following criteria:

- The project contributes new approaches, structures, procedures or methods to teaching at ETH and creates new possibilities for teaching or learning (innovation).
- The positive effects on teaching at ETH are clearly visible (effectiveness).
- The project demonstrates long-term effects on teaching at ETH and/or further afield or shows potential for this (sustainability).

The selection committee may secure further information or testimony to support its decision-making.

d) Ceremony and final selection

The three projects on the shortlist will be presented at a plenary session of the KdL by the persons nominated or by representatives of the corresponding teams. After this the KdL will select the winner by secret ballot, also according to the criteria listed under (c).

Members of the selection committee who are not KdL members will be invited to the KdL meeting as guests (without voting rights).

5. Dates

The award will be announced in odd-numbered years and conferred in the respective year following.

Announcement:	September
Deadline for nominations:	End of October
Presentation of projects to KdL:	Beginning of March
Award ceremony:	April

6. Secretariat

The KdL secretariat is responsible for the respective administrative procedures.

7. Financing

Expenditure related to the prize, the announcement, the selection procedure and the award ceremony will be covered by the General Conference of the Faculty Members.

Approved by the KdL on 29 May 2015