



## RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

### POLICY ON INSTITUTING AND AWARDING GOLD MEDALS AND PRIZES AT THE GENERAL CONVERCATION

On the recommendation of the Senate, the Council of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, as the governing authority of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka by resolution adopts the following Policy.

Accepted Date: 09<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Amended Date: 01<sup>st</sup> March 2023

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#### 1. Overview

With its mission to be a center of excellence in higher education and research, by producing innovative intellectuals capable of taking on challenges in the context of global development through the competencies developed from the academic programmes, research and training of wide nature, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka intends to setup this policy as a decision framework to select and honor its best academic performers at the General Convocation.

#### 2. Purpose

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka is committed to foster an encouraging academic environment and understands the importance of recognizing outstanding performances. The University appreciates the diligence, perseverance, courage, enthusiasm, and painstaking efforts of the students to achieve academic excellence. Hence, the University seeks to ensure that its finest products, the best performers, are given due recognition and

honored by awarding gold medals and prizes at the end of their academic programmes appropriately. Further, by awarding medals and prizes, the University expects to inspire the students who are engaging in their studies to achieve high standards in their academic work by, setting up challenging goals.

### **3. Policy Statement**

#### **3.1. Endowment for Gold Medals and Prizes**

The University may accept endowments from external parties as prescribed in the relevant bylaw, whereas the medals and prizes are named after an eminent scholar who has excelled in the relevant academic field. The Faculties of the University are permitted to propose such medals and prizes to be awarded annually at the General Convocation and decide on the selection criteria subject to the approval of the Senate.

#### **3.2. Award of Medals and Prizes**

The University expects to select and honor the best performing students for their academic excellence at the time of their graduation by awarding them medals and prizes appropriately.

Individual Faculties are given the authority to establish criteria for selecting the best performers for each gold medal and prize subject to the approval of the Senate and the Council. Upon completion of respective degree programmes, the Faculties must select the best performers to award gold medals or cash prizes in accordance with such approved criteria. Once approved by the respective Faculty Boards, Senate and Council, the list of selected awardees is qualified for being honored at the subsequent General Convocation.

#### **3.3 Ethical Considerations**

University is always committed to ensure transparency and impartiality in every act and task relating to institution and award of gold medals and prizes, while strongly condemning any prejudice on the basis of religion, ethnicity, gender or any other form of unfair and unjust discrimination. Further, the University restrains from awarding medals and prizes to any student against whom disciplinary legal action is pending, or to any student who has been subject to punishment by the University and/or a Court of Law while being registered as a student of the University.

### **4. Application of the Policy/ Scope**

This policy applies to all undergraduate and post graduate students of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. All academic and administrative staff members of the University are expected to act in accordance with this policy and the relevant bylaw that governs the procedures in this regard.

## **5. Responsibilities**

The sole authority and responsibility of making decisions regarding this policy and associated bylaw are vested with the Senate and the Council of the University, whereas such powers may be delegated to the Faculties as per the provisions of the University Act [Part V Section 29(m)]. Individual Faculties are responsible to act in par with the policy when instituting and awarding gold medals and prizes. The Center of Quality Assurance is entrusted with the responsibility of timely reviewing and updating the policy and by-law.

## **6. Governance**

This policy is enforced by the By-law for Institution and Award of Gold Medals and Prizes of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. In exercising this policy, the University will ensure compliance with University Act No. 16 of 1978 as amended by the University (Amendment) Act No. 7 of 1985 and relevant legislation. In all matters arising in relation to the above awards, the decision of the Senate shall be the final.

## **7. Review**

On advice/ recommendation/ request of personnel or Faculty, the Center for Quality Assurance will review this policy timely and in the event of a change to relevant legislation.

## **8. Definitions and Keywords**

The Council: Governing body of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

The Senate: Senate of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

Faculty Board: Governing body of the Faculty

Center for Quality Assurance (CQA): Quality Assurance Center of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.

## **9. Approval and Amendments**

Senate Approval : 247<sup>th</sup> Senate held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Council Approval : 268<sup>th</sup> Council held on 09<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Date adapted : 01<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Date Commenced : 01<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Administrator : University Senate and Council

Date of Review :

Date Rescinded : Not Applicable