

*Erasmus Medal policy (adopted by the Board on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2014).*

## **The Erasmus Medal**

The Erasmus Medal (and accompanying Lecture) is a 'highlight of the year' for the Academia Europaea. The Medal is awarded to honour the best in European scholarship and personal achievements over a sustained period by an individual scholar.

### **The General criteria for the award**

The Erasmus Medal of the Academia Europaea, is awarded on the recommendation of the Council, to a member or other scholar who has maintained over a sustained period, the highest level of international scholarship and recognition by peers. The medallist is also invited to give the annual Erasmus Lecture and, if appropriate, is inducted into membership.

The search group appointed by the Board, will take into account the following:

- All purely academic nominations must be supported by detailed evidence of the suitability of any candidate. This includes; their international standing, their achievements/impacts in their respective field(s) and the impact on European scholarship and the community of scholars.
- Candidature is not restricted to members of the Academia Europaea, and in case of a non-member judged suitable to receive the award: the award automatically comes with an invitation to membership. Nominations for candidates who might not meet the 'normal' Academic/scholarship criteria may be considered, but only where there is substantive evidence of a significant and long term impact on scholarship and learning through their own personal actions, or where their involvement in 'the European learning Sector' and environments has contributed in a substantial way to the promotion of and support for research and learning.
- There is no obligation to that a candidate should be from the country hosting the annual meeting, or be a national from the hosting country. However, a Europe based scholar (of any nationality) is most definitely preferred.
- The award is in two parts - the Medal and the public Lecture. The search group will take into account the quality of the candidate as a potential speaker for a mixed, well educated, but non-specialist audience. The lecture will be published.
- Due to the nature of the Medal, posthumous nominations are not eligible.
- Officers of the AE can only be nominated for the Erasmus Medal after their terms of office have expired.
- The medallist is selected (at least) one year before the award is actually given.
- Being a recipient of other awards is no barrier to receiving the Erasmus medal.

### **The procedure for identifying candidates to receive the award:**

1. The Council, decide on the area(s) for the award. This might be for example, on a two year cycle (e.g. humanities and social sciences vs. physical and life sciences) or a four year cycle (e.g. humanities, physical sciences, social sciences, biological and medical sciences).
2. A search group of appropriate section chairs will be established, under the co-ordination of a member of the Board of Trustees, appointed by the Board.
3. The co-ordinator of the search group will initiate the open call and members of the search group (as chairs of a section) will send the Call to the members of their respective sections. All nominations should come on a Nomination Form with a citation, and should be signed with one (or more) nominator(s) and, if possible, it should be accompanied by the CV and publication list of the nominated candidate. The co-ordinator of the search group will collect the nominations and send them for ranking to the members of the search group. The search group will create a long-list, of at least five candidates.
4. The Search group will then agree a short-list (of not less than three names) and present it to the Board. The Board will decide whether it agrees with the short-list, or will request further action. If the Board accepts the short-list, it is presented to the Council.
5. Based on the short-list, the medallist is selected by a vote of the whole Council. The Council's selection should formally be approved by the Board.
6. The invitation of the medallist will come from the Chair of the Search Committee, on behalf of the Board and Council.