Traditional University Awards of the Ateneo de Manila University
Criteria for Nomination and Selection

I. Honorary Degree

- Honorary degrees which may be conferred are Doctor of Humanities (HD), Doctor of Laws (LLD), Doctor of Music (MusD), Doctor of Literature (LittD), Doctor of Science (ScD), and Doctor of Pedagogy (PD)

- The person on whom this award is conferred should have made notable and invaluable contributions in his or her field (professional, scientific, business, academic, civic, environmental, etc) and been recognized for them

- Ideal candidates are those who are renowned for their work in advancing social justice and development, as well as compassionate action and humanitarian services; that is, those who have dedicated themselves to a noble cause for the benefit of others

- Distinguished philanthropists who have used their resources wisely in support of a good cause, or institutions which have benefited the country or different sectors of society may be considered; this includes benefactors of the university, especially if their gifts foster the development of areas of special concern and interest to the university

- The candidate must also be known as a person of integrity and probity, someone that the Ateneo will be honored to include in its roster of alumni since he or she lives out the ideals which the university stands for

- Excluded from receiving honorary degrees are members of the Ateneo Board of Trustees during their term on the Board, university faculty and administrators during their term of service, and Jesuits within the Ateneo de Manila University community

II. Lux-in-Domino Award

- Named after the motto of the Ateneo de Manila which appears in the university seal, the Lux-in-Domino—light in the Lord—is a capstone award which recognizes the life and work of an extraordinary individual who has embodied, in an outstanding and exemplary manner, the noblest ideals of the university

- The motto itself is taken from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians, chapter 5, verse 8: “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light”; it sketches a way of life which the Ateneo holds up to her sons and daughters as their path of Christian discipleship, and is the ideal by which the awardee is measured

- The person on whom the award is conferred must have lived a life of service which reflects the values of the Ateneo as a Filipino, Catholic and Jesuit institution

- The award is given exclusively to male and female alumni of the Ateneo de Manila University; alumni who are members of the Society of Jesus are excluded from the award
III. Bukas Palad Award

- Originally called the Peypoch Award and first given in 1963, the award honors the memory of Fr. Manuel Peypoch SJ who taught at the Ateneo de Manila and distinguished himself in serving the Society of Jesus, the Church, and society in the areas of education, culture, and social and human development.

- Renamed the Bukas Palad Award to better express the Ignatian spirit of generosity, it gives recognition to the unconditional, dedicated service of the Religious in Christ’s Kingdom; therefore, it can only be given to members of the Religious community, or to Religious orders.

- The notable achievements of the candidate must serve as tangible, unmistakable evidence of the prophetic role of the Church in today’s world; they also serve as testimonials to Christ’s love for mankind, manifested in dedicated service to our fellowmen, especially the poor, the oppressed, the marginalized, the sick and the suffering.

- Members of the Society of Jesus are excluded from receiving the award.

IV. Ozanam Award

- Named after St. Frederick Ozanam, the great French Catholic leader who founded the St. Vincent de Paul Society for the relief of the poor, the Ozanam Award honors Christians who have given distinctive and continued service to their fellowmen in accordance with the principles of justice and charity.

- The outstanding achievements of the candidate must serve as tangible, unmistakable evidence of an extraordinary understanding of social justice and social transformation, manifested in the service he or she gives to our fellowmen, especially the poor, the oppressed, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering; his or her work and service must have been rendered for a significant number of years.

- The ideal candidate manifests in his or her private and public life moral and spiritual integrity, fidelity and loyalty to Church and country, as well as concern for the wider social good; he or she must be known to be personally committed to and motivated by Gospel values and the Christian faith.

- Part of the award’s intention is to emphasize the fact that the more dedicated a person is in living out the social teachings of the Church, the more he or she becomes a better citizen, and vice versa; therefore, the award may only be given to Filipino citizens who are lay Catholic or Christian.

V. Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahi

- The Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahi was created to recognize those who have dedicated their life’s work to the pursuit of Filipinism and the Filipino identity through any of the channels of culture, e.g., art, dance, literature, theater, philosophy, music, film, etc.

- The award may be given to individuals or organizations, regardless of race, creed or political affiliation, so long they have succeeded in steering the national consciousness towards a clarification, development, and enhancement of the essential Filipino image.
Since this award holds up the recipient to public honor and recognition by the Ateneo de Manila University, the personal integrity and moral qualities of candidates should also be considered as they are meant to be held up as models in their own lines of endeavor.

VI. Government Service Award

- The award is open to all holders of positions in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches and the constitutional bodies of government, at the national or local levels.
- The candidate, in the fulfillment of his or her direct duties in government, should have developed and implemented a public policy, program, or activity which is foundational or innovative, and significant for the common good.
- Lacking a foundational policy or program, the candidate for the award should have in some other way rendered exemplary service to the common good, such as exercising a preferential option for the poor in the execution of his or her duties.
- The person on whom this award is conferred must have consistently shown integrity, competence, dedication, and sound judgment in the course of his or her service in government; he or she possesses inspired leadership and encourages similar service from others, and promotes partnerships and innovation.

VII. Parangal Lingkod Sambayanan

- Originally called the Public Service Award, this award gives recognition to outstanding public service by an individual or organization; public service here is defined as areas of endeavor that support or complement what government should be or is doing, e.g., helping the needy, protecting the environment, promoting public discourse, promoting peace and development, etc.
- The public service must have been rendered continuously over a significant length of time, and in a professional manner with appropriate training, expertise, teamwork and leadership.
- The spirit of volunteerism should be evident in the delivery of the public service which does not ask for or take anything in return, except perhaps the satisfaction that comes from serving God and fellowmen; volunteerism is not limited to charitable acts but may include business ventures or work with people’s organizations that address a felt need.

VIII. St. Ignatius Award

- In the Jubilee Year 2000, the university created the St. Ignatius Award specifically to honor Jesuits—Fathers and Brothers who have rendered outstanding service to the Filipino people and the Church in the Philippines in life-long fidelity to the vision and mission given them by St. Ignatius for the greater glory of God.
- The award would be given only during special years when the Society of Jesus is celebrating or commemorating a significant occasion or anniversary.