

2023-24



Leadership Advancement Program for Student Organizations (LAPSO) Award Scheme

The Outstanding Student Organization

PANEL'S COMMENTS FOR THE AWARDEES

The Mahjong Research Society has been recognized for their exceptional dedication and hard work in promoting competitive mahjong and cultural exchange within the HKUST community. Their innovative approaches to promoting the game, such as through 3D printing workshop and broadcasting live games on YouTube, challenge the stereotype that mahjong is an "old person's game". The panel was also impressed by their outreach effort, collaborating with different organizations, and actively participating territory-wide and national mahjong competitions and international events like Gay Games. Additionally, their effort in promoting good manners in playing mahjong and introducing the game to international students are greatly appreciated. As a new society, the panel recognizes this society's remarkable achievements and sees a lot of possibilities for its future development.



Mahjong Research Society, HKUSTSU



As a society with rather long history in HKUST, the Band Society was not satisfied with conducting similar activities as in the past. Instead, they put remarkable effort to contribute to the HKUST community as well as other universities' Band Societies. They provided band equipment and technical support to other societies, offered new training workshops to members and students from other universities, and collaborated with different parties to deliver good performances. These fostered a sense of community and belonging. They also demonstrated their ability to effectively manage the funding, time, and resources of the society. They demonstrated they were good at engaging members from different backgrounds, being inclusive and respectful of all members, maintaining effective communication within the society and with the university, and being organized and efficient in activity planning.

The Band Society, HKUSTSU

Rainbow Bird is a student group focuses on fostering inclusiveness and diversity at HKUST. They have impressed the panel with their effective management and communication strategies, strong efforts in cultivating partnerships and inclusiveness, and creativity in promoting their organization and engaging a broader audience. There was a strong bond and a high level of trust observed between Rainbow Bird and their active participants. Established in 2017, Rainbow Bird has quickly made a name for themselves in the HKUST community. Within just six years, they have collaborated with various departments, offices, and student groups within the university, as well as external organizations. Their Instagram account has amassed over 1,300 followers, including not only HKUST students but also a significant number of followers from high schools. Despite having only five executive committee members, they successfully organized nine events within a 13-week period in Fall Term 2023-24, demonstrating exceptional organizational skills and dedication to their cause.



Rainbow Bird

2023-24



Leadership Advancement Program for Student Organizations (LAPSO) Award Scheme

The Innovative Student-led Activity of the Year

BRONZE AWARD: MENTORSHIP PROGRAM 2023

The program was of high quality and demonstrated this through clear positioning, well-executed events, cost-effectiveness, and achievement of objectives. It successfully engaged participants, addressed career preparation, and promoted long-term professional development through collaborating with alumni mentors and industry partners. Overall, the panel was impressed by the effectiveness of the program. It significantly supported students' career development and facilitated meaningful connections between students and industry professionals. While the panel suggests that more innovative components could be incorporated into the program in the future, the society did demonstrate some effort to do things in new and better ways to enhance mentees' engagement.



The Civil and Environmental Engineering Students' Society, HKUSTSU

BRONZE AWARD: WINTER TRAINING CAMP 2024



The camp provided a diverse range of sessions and tools to train business talents, showcasing out-of-the-box thinking and originality. It successfully empowered AIESEC members and the leadership team to perform better in the upcoming Summer Exchange Peak, enhancing their sense of ownership towards their departments and the operation peak. Although there is still room for improvement from an innovation perspective, the panel recognizes the camp was people-focused, tailoring each training sessions to fit the development needs of the members as well as AIESEC, and striving to improve the impact of its programs. The panel expects to see more innovative components to be added into the camp in the future to further enhance its impact.

AIESEC-LC-HKUST, HKUSTSU

OVERALL COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL

The panel is pleased with the high standard of the shortlisted societies in the first year of the Award Scheme, and these include both new and well-established societies at HKUST. The shortlisted societies have done an excellent job. Most of them showed good management and made impressive achievements in one or more areas. While all the three award-winning student organizations demonstrated their efforts in seeking collaborations, bringing innovation, expanding their scope of activities and participants, and promoting diversity and inclusiveness. The panel is looking forward to receiving more high quality applications in next year.