TANG PRIZE

永續發展獎  
Sustainable Development

生技醫藥獎  
Biopharmaceutical Science

漢學獎  
Sinology

法治獎  
Rule of Law
In the advent of industrialization and globalization, humanity has greatly enjoyed the convenience brought about by science and technology. Yet, humanity also faces a multitude of critical environmental, socio-cultural, and ethical issues on an unparalleled scale, such as climate change, inequality, and moral degradation. Against this backdrop, Dr. Samuel Yin established the Tang Prize in December 2012 to encourage individuals across the globe to chart the middle path to achieving sustainable development by recognizing and supporting contributors for their revolutionary efforts in the four major fields of Sustainable Development, Biopharmaceutical Science, Sinology, and Rule of Law. The Tang Prize is global in reach, with laureates selected on the basis of the originality of their work along with their contributions to society, irrespective of their nationality or ethnicity.

Rooted in the long-standing cultural traditions of Chinese philosophical thought and in an outlook of convergence and mutual enrichment with other traditions, the Tang Prize aims to provide fresh impetus to first-class research and development in the 21st century, to bring about positive change to the global community, and to create a brighter future for all humanity.
The Tang Prize is an extension of Samuel Yin’s commitment to education, a legacy passed down in the Yin family. Shu-Tien Yin, Yin’s father, often said that life should not be measured by one’s wealth but by one’s contributions to others—specifically, providing greater access to knowledge.

Following his father’s model of nurturing and developing human potential, Yin established the Kwang-Hua Education Foundation in 1989, which has since provided grants and scholarships to over 160,000 recipients. In 1994 he founded the Guanghua School of Management at Peking University and in 1996 established the Guanghua Engineering & Technological Science Award. Over the years he has continued to support universities and cultivate talent in fields ranging from management, medicine, and engineering, to law and the humanities.

Yin believes that education is life itself. He shares his outlook and life experiences with students in the hope that they, too, will give back to society by sharing knowledge. Knowing that education is the key to driving social progress, Yin established the Tang Prize, his commitment to encouraging inquiring minds to explore new perspectives and insights to make the world a better place.
Prize & Grant

The Prize Selection Committee invites noted international experts in the four award categories to submit nominees. Every two years, Tang Prize recipients are awarded with the medal and diploma, as well as a US$1.35 million cash prize and US$0.34 million grant to cultivate the next generation of outstanding contributors. Should multiple candidates (up to three) be named in the same category, the cash reward and grant are shared.

Nomination Process

The Tang Prize is awarded biennially. Therefore, each prize cycle lasts for two years. In April of the first year, invitations will be sent out to scholars and institutions around the world, asking them to submit their nominations by September 30th of the same year. In the second year, from the 18th to 21st of June, announcements of winners in the categories of Sustainable Development, Biopharmaceutical Science, Sinology and Rule of Law will be made respectively, followed by the award ceremony and the Tang Prize Week scheduled to take place in September.

**2021**
- April - September: Tang Prize Laureate nomination period
- October: Tang Prize finalist selection period begins

**2022**
- June 18-21: Tang Prize Announcements
- September: Tang Prize Week
  - Award Ceremony
  - Banquet
  - Reception
  - Laureate Lectures
  - Masters’ Forums
Award Categories

Sustainable Development
The Tang Prize in Sustainable Development recognizes those who have made extraordinary contributions to the sustainable development of human societies, especially through groundbreaking innovations in science and technology.

Biopharmaceutical Science
The Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science recognizes original biopharmaceutical or biomedical research that has led to significant advances towards preventing, diagnosing and/or treating major human diseases to improve human health.

Sinology
The Tang Prize in Sinology recognizes the study of Sinology in its broadest sense, awarding research on China and its related fields, such as Chinese thought, history, philology, linguistics, archaeology, philosophy, religion, traditional canons, literature, and art (excluding literary and art works). Honoring innovations in the field of Sinology, the Prize showcases Chinese culture and its contributions to the development of human civilization.

Rule of Law
All individuals are born equal, and everyone, including states and international organizations, is accountable to the law. For the purpose of the Tang Prize, the Rule of Law encompasses due process and substantive justice, and champions peace, human rights, and sustainable development in order to serve the common good of humankind and nature. The Tang Prize in the Rule of Law recognizes individual(s) or institution(s) who have made significant contributions to the rule of law, reflected not only in the achievement of the candidate(s) in terms of the advancement of legal theory or practice, but also in the realization of the rule of law in contemporary societies through the influences or inspiration of the work of the candidate(s).
The Tang Prize Medal was conceived by Japanese designer Naoto Fukasawa. Its spiral curves imply several levels of meaning, including the structure of DNA and the flight path of a dragon, in addition to speaking of the life force and the dynamism of movement. The medal appears as a flat, continuous circle when seen from above, while on the perpendicular plane the arms of the spiral never actually meet, but extend up and out to infinity, like history, growth, and life.

This design presents the cultural and philosophical image of the “rising dragon” and “descending dragon.” “Rising dragon” is a term that is used to express a state of increasing force, while “descending dragon” expresses the arrival of the dragon from above to protect the land below. In Buddhism, “rising dragon” is also a reference to the practice of supplication among monks on the path to enlightenment, while “descending dragon” also associates with the understanding that enlightenment is inherent in all living things.

The Tang Prize Diploma was designed by Jennifer Tsai, managing and creative director of Proad Identity. Throughout her decades-long career, she has won 82 international awards, the most among women of Chinese descent. Her talent is best demonstrated when she gives oriental aesthetic tradition a modern makeover. Tasked with this important mission, Tsai decided to draw inspiration from the four basic elements, water, earth, wind and fire, to create the visual images she was looking for. Name by classical Greek philosophers as the building blocks of our universe, these four elements epitomize the Tang Prize’s four award categories in terms of how integral they are to the survival and wellbeing of humanity. Through intangible ways, the four elements converged and formed the reality as we know it today. The evolving nature of this reality also signifies how the four award categories keep adopting themselves to meet the urgent needs of different eras.
**Tang Prize Laureates**

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**2020**

Jane Goodall  
**UK**

The 2020 Tang Prize in Sustainable Development is awarded to Dr. Jane Goodall, the pioneer conservationist who inspires hope through action, for her ground-breaking discovery in primatology that redefines human-animal relationship and for her lifelong unparalleled dedication to the conservation of Earth environment.

**2018**

James E. Hansen  
**USA**

Veerabhadran Ramanathan  
**USA**

The 2018 Tang Prize in Sustainable Development is awarded to James E. Hansen and Veerabhadran Ramanathan, recognizing their pioneering work on climate change and its impact on the sustainability of the earth. Their works lay the scientific foundation for international actions such as the Paris Climate Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**2016**

Arthur H. Rosenfeld  
**USA**

The 2016 Tang Prize in Sustainable Development is awarded to Arthur H. Rosenfeld for his lifelong and pioneering innovations in energy efficiency resulting in immense reductions in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions around the world.

**2014**

Gro Harlem Brundtland  
**Norway**

The 2014 Tang Prize in Sustainable Development is awarded to Gro Harlem Brundtland for her innovation, leadership and implementation of sustainable development that laid out the scientific and technical challenges for the global community to achieve a better balance of economic development, environmental integrity, and social equality for the benefit of all humanity. As a remarkable leader in the international arena, she put the ideas for sustainable development into action, and facilitated the signing of important international agreements, thus earning her the epithet “The Godmother of Sustainable Development.”
BIOPHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

2020

Charles Dinarello
USA

Marc Feldmann
UK

Tadamitsu Kishimoto
Japan

The 2020 Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science is jointly awarded to Charles Dinarello, Marc Feldmann and Tadamitsu Kishimoto for the development of cytokine-targeting biological therapies for the treatment of inflammatory diseases.

2018

Tony Hunter
UK/USA

Brian J. Druker
USA

John Mendelsohn
USA

The 2018 Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science is jointly awarded to Tony Hunter, Brian J. Druker and John Mendelsohn for the discovery of protein tyrosine phosphorylation and tyrosine kinases as oncogenes, eventually leading to the successful development of targeted cancer therapies. Their work represents one of the most impactful discoveries in cancer research, which revolutionized our understanding of the oncogenic process and forever changed our outlook for cancer treatment.
The 2016 Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science is jointly awarded to Emmanuelle Charpentier, Jennifer A. Doudna and Feng Zhang for the development of CRISPR/Cas9 as a breakthrough genome editing platform that promises to revolutionize biomedical research and disease treatment.

The 2014 Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science is jointly awarded to James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo for the discoveries of CTLA-4 and PD-1 as immune inhibitory molecules that led to their applications in cancer immunotherapy.
Tang Prize Laureates

SINOLOGY

2020

Wang Gungwu
Australia

The 2020 Tang Prize in Sinology is awarded to renowned historian Wang Gungwu, for his ground-breaking research on the Chinese world order, Chinese overseas, and Chinese migratory experience. As the leading expert on Sino-Southeast Asian relations, he develops a unique approach to understanding China by scrutinizing its long and complex relation with its southern neighbors. His erudition and insight have significantly enriched the explanation of the Chinese people’s changing place in the world, traditionally developed from an internalist perspective or in relation to the West.

2018

Stephen Owen
USA

Yoshinobu Shiba
Japan

The 2018 Tang Prize in Sinology is jointly awarded to Stephen Owen and Yoshinobu Shiba.

Stephen Owen has been the single most important scholar of Chinese classical poetry in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. A leading scholar on Tang poetry, he has also written widely in other literary fields, and has translated important writings in both prose and poetry. To this work, he brings not only penetrating Sinology, but also a breadth of comparative applications and theoretical sophistication that have made his scholarship unique worldwide.

Yoshinobu Shiba has been the leading authority on Chinese social-economic history. He innovatively synthesizes the strengths of the Japanese Sinological tradition with that of the Western social sciences, while skillfully making use of a variety of Chinese primary sources, adeptly merging the distinctive forces of these three academic traditions. His breakthrough insights in the study of Chinese history, particularly in Song studies, make him a foremost exemplar to emulate.
2016

William Theodore de Bary
USA

The 2016 Tang Prize in Sinology is awarded to William Theodore de Bary for his pioneering contributions in Confucian studies. In his remarkable academic career spanning over seven decades, he has written and edited over 30 books with many of them making ground-breaking contributions that provide both enlightening insight and honest critique into Confucianism. Recognized for establishing the field of Neo-Confucianism in the West, Professor de Bary is indeed a leading authority in the field of Sinology.

2014

Yu Ying-Shih
USA

The 2014 Tang Prize in Sinology is awarded to Yu Ying-Shih for his mastery of and insight into Chinese intellectual, political, and cultural history with an emphasis on his profound research into the history of public intellectuals in China. He has reinterpreted the tradition of thought in China and revived the importance of intellectual history by shedding new light on the value, richness, and current significance of Chinese culture.
The 2020 Tang Prize in Rule of Law is jointly awarded to Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (hereinafter BELA) based in Bangladesh, Dejusticia: The Center for Law, Justice, and Society (hereinafter Dejusticia) based in Colombia, and The Legal Agenda based in Lebanon, for their efforts in furthering the rule of law and its institutions through education and advocacy. Utilizing innovative strategic litigation, informed by rigorous scholarship, these organizations have shown exemplary perseverance in promoting greater individual, social and environmental justice, in milieus where the foundations of the rule of law are under severe challenge.

The 2018 Tang Prize in Rule of Law is awarded to Joseph Raz, one of the foremost legal philosophers of our time, for his path-breaking contributions to the rule of law, and for deepening our understanding of the very nature of law, legal reasoning, and the relationship between law, morality and freedom.
2016

Louise Arbour
Canada

The 2016 Tang Prize in Rule of Law is awarded to Louise Arbour for her enduring contributions to international criminal justice and the protection of human rights, to promoting peace, justice and security at home and abroad, and to working within the law to expand the frontiers of freedom for all.

2014

Albie Sachs
South Africa

The 2014 Tang Prize in Rule of Law is awarded to Albie Sachs for his many contributions to human rights and justice globally through an understanding of the rule of law in which the dignity of all persons is respected and the strengths and values of all communities are embraced. He is recognized in particular for his efforts in the realization of the rule of law in a free and democratic South Africa, working as an activist, lawyer, scholar, and framer of a new Constitution to heal the divisions of the past and to establish a society that respects diversity and is based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights.
Tang Prize Activities

Laureate and Diploma Exhibition

Masters' Forum

Award Ceremony
Banquet

International Connections

Campus Talks