

IAOA Fellows

IAOA has established an award of honorary fellowships in order to recognize distinguished scholars in the field of applied ontology. IAOA Fellows have contributed significantly and in a sustained manner to the field of applied ontology, for example by outstanding scientific achievements, which often goes hand-in-hand with their strong dedication and service to the community.

Who is the award given to?

Selected members of the applied ontology community in recognition of their contributions to research, education, community service, and the practice of applied ontology. A fellow should have made exceptional contributions in at least one of these categories and have made significant contributions in at least two others.

Contributions to **applied ontology research** include, but are not limited to:

- Authoring of impactful theories, ontologies, methods, and tools
- Sustained and impactful publications in the field of applied ontology, including at FOIS [1] and in the Applied Ontology journal [2]

Contributions to **applied ontology education** include, but are not limited to:

- Organizing or teaching at educational events related to applied ontology, including ISAO [3] and ESAO [4]
- Mentoring bachelor, masters, and doctoral students in applied ontology
- Producing educational material on applied ontology (e.g. books, courses)

Contributions in **applied ontology community service** include, but are not limited to:

- Organizing scientific events related to applied ontology
- Significant service to the IAOA
- Organizing special interests groups and scientific committees
- Engage substantially in community building and outreach

Contributions related to the **practice of applied ontology** include, but are not limited to:

- Realizing technology transfer of methods, tools, ontologies, and models developed by the community
- Conducting industrial projects with significant external visibility

Who chooses IAOA Fellows?

Every year, the selection committee will consist of a total of five members (e.g. Fellows and Advisory Board members), of which at most two are Executive Council members.

The Executive Council selects and invites candidates into the selection committee for a period of circa one year. The Committee itself is encouraged to propose successors of the selection committee to the Executive Council. Each person can serve as committee member for at most two years in a row. The selection committee determines its committee chair.

What is the selection process?

The chair of the selection committee makes an open call for nominations.

To nominate a person, a nominator sends a message to the committee that summarizes the main contributions of the nominee to applied ontology and argues why the nominee should be selected. The nomination should be seconded by at least one supporter. Among the nominator and the supporter(s), at least one should be an IAOA member. Self nominations are not allowed.

A nominee cannot be part of the selection committee. If that happens, the nominee will be given the option to reject the nomination or withdraw from the selection committee.

Under the direction of the committee chair, the members of the committee make the final selection. At least 4 of the committee members need to approve the induction. The committee chair notifies the new inductees immediately after the selection and confirms their acceptance of becoming a fellow. Upon acceptance, the committee chair notifies all nominators about the decision for the nomination(s) they made.

When can IAOA Fellows be nominated?

A call for nominations is issued once a year.

How many IAOA Fellows are inducted per year?

At most two fellows will be inducted per year.

How is the fellowship presented?

The selection committee chair (or their substitute) will recognize and honor each new IAOA Fellow during the next FOIS conference.

References

- [1] FOIS, the International Conference on Formal Ontology in Information Systems
- [2] AO, Applied Ontology
- [3] ISAO, Interdisciplinary School of Applied Ontology
- [4] ESAO, Educational Series on Applied Ontology