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[Academics] 45 Academia Sinica's Academician Candidates for 2012 Nominated, Youngest One is 42 Years Old

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(Chinese Version)

China Times E-paper (2012/04/15) On April 14, Academia Sinica announced the list of Academician candidates for 2012. This year there are 45 candidates, a maximum of 30 of whom will be elected as members of the Academy during the Convocation of Academicians to be held from July 2 to July 5. Professor Chang-Tai HSIEH at the Booth School of Business, University of Chicago in the U.S., who is only 42 years old, is the youngest candidate this year.

Academicians are full members of the Academy and make up the Convocation of Academicians. They are elected biennially. The responsibilities of the Convocation are to formulate academic research policies, elect members and honorary members, elect members to the Council of Academia Sinica, and conduct research at the request of the government. The title of academician is an honorary lifetime privilege without remuneration.

On the candidates list determined on April 14, there are 21 candidates in the Division of Mathematics and Physical Sciences, making the division the largest one this year, 17 candidates in the Division of Life Sciences and 7 candidates in the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences. Among all the candidates, six are female.

Chang-Tai HSIEH at the Booth School of Business, University of Chicago in the U.S., being only 42 years old, is the youngest candidate this year. His speciality is economic development and growth. Among the 45 candidates, seventeen, including Chair Professor W.S. Winston HO at the Ohio State University, Distinguished Professor Fred LEE at Virginia Tech, Chair Professor Stephen Y. Chou at Princeton University, etc., are presently serving in the institutes abroad, while 28 are local scholars.

Professor Winston LEE in the Division of Mathematics and Physical Sciences is nominated for Academia Sinica's Academician for the first time. He is presently Professor at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Virginia Tech, Academician of National Academy of Engineering, U.S. and formerly Chair of IEEE Power Electronics Society (PELS). Noted climate scholar, also present Director of Academia Sinica's Research Center for Environmental Changes, Shaw Chen LIU, who was already Director of NTU – Computer Sciences and Information Engineering when he was 30, is also nominated this year.

Academia Sinica Distinguished Research Fellow Dr. Su-May YU at the Institute of Molecular Biology is nominated, too. She is the first scholar succeeding in gene transfer in rice with Agrobacterium tumefaciensin the world. Her specialties include mechanisms of sugar signaling and regulation in plants, rice functional genomics and biotechnology. Coming from a farm original family, the attachment to rice keep her spending her effort on rice improvement with gene transfer technology.

Six candidates in the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences are nominated for the first time, while the NTU Political Science Professor Yun-han CHU is nominated again. Albeit he was involved in a scandal of the reconstruction of National Palace Museum but was acquitted of all charges, Research Fellow at the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica Shou-chien SHIH is nominated.

Reference:
China Times E-paper 2012/04/15 (Chinese)

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