

**Ordinance for the Award of the Aachen Engineering Prize  
English-Language Version**

(Agreed by the Ordinance Committee of RWTH Aachen on December 12, 2013)  
Modifications proposed by the City of Aachen on March 19, 2014  
can be found in § 2 Section 3 "The Mayor" dated April 2, 2014  
Modified version dated October 24, 2014

Ordinance for the Award of the Aachen Engineering Prize  
of Rheinisch-Westfälischen Technische Hochschule Aachen (RWTH Aachen)  
and the City of Aachen

**Preamble**

Aachen and, in particular, RWTH Aachen have an international reputation for providing an excellent education in the engineering sciences. Each year, hundreds of graduates complete their studies at RWTH before entering the job market, most of them launching successful careers in business and industry. The City and the University now set out to bring this fact into the public spotlight: starting in 2014, the partners will award an annual prize, the Aachen Engineering Award. This award is to honor individuals whose achievements have significantly contributed to achieving a positive perception of engineering or advancing one of the engineering disciplines.

**Aachen Engineering Award**

- (1) The Aachen Engineering Award is annually awarded by the City of Aachen and RWTH Aachen.
- (2) The award recipient will receive an emblem and a certificate.
- (3) The award recipient is asked to give a keynote speech at the annual RWTH Aachen graduation celebration and express his or her perspective on what the prerequisites are for successful work. The speech should make it clear how an individual can have a successful influence on social development through skills and creative drive.

**§ 1 Advisory Board**

- (1) An advisory board selects the award winner. The Advisory Board is made up of ten members.
- (2) By virtue of their offices, the Rector of RWTH Aachen, the Mayor of the City of Aachen, and the President of the Association of German Engineers (VDI) are members of the Advisory Board.
- (3) In agreement with the Mayor of the City of Aachen and the President of the VDI, the Rector's Office of RWTH Aachen appoints eight further board members from science, business, politics, and the media. Their term of office is two years; reappointment is possible.
- (4) The President of the VDI chairs the advisory board.

## **§ 2 Selection Criteria**

- (1) As a rule, the award is to recognize the achievement of individuals with an engineering education or equivalent professional expertise.
- (2) Award recipients are expected to have left their mark in their engineering field through their impact and achievements in technology, business, and society. For the identification of extraordinary achievement for the positive perception and/or further development of engineering, their entire life's work is to be taken into account.
- (3) Apart from achievement in technology, an equally important selection criterion is the recipient's status as a role model for the younger generation, in particular for students at RWTH Aachen.

## **§ 3 Selection of the Prize Recipient**

- (1) Nomination proposals for the award can be made to the Rector's Office at any time. These have to include a CV of the candidate as well as an explanation on why the nominated candidate deserves the award.
- (2) Each year, the decision on the award recipient is made by the Advisory Board, whose members receive the nominations made to the Rector's Office. The nominations are passed on to the Advisory Board in due time before the award ceremony.
- (3) The selection on the award recipient is decided on a majority vote of all present Board members. However a decision in favor of a candidate against the vote of the Rector of RWTH Aachen, the President of the VDI, and the Mayor of the City of Aachen is not possible.
- (4) If candidates have an equal number of votes, then either the vote of the Rector or the vote of the Mayor will tip the balance in favor of a candidate. This right to have the "deciding vote" alternates each year between the Rector and the Mayor. In 2014, the Mayor's vote decides in a possible tie between candidates.

## **§ 4 Codes of Practice**

The Codes of Practice of RWTH Aachen University shall apply.

## **§ 5 Commencement**

The ordinance is published as an RWTH Official Announcements and takes effect the day following its publication.

The ordinance is based on the decision made by the Rector's Office of RWTH Aachen in agreement with the City of Aachen.