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# USI Alumni Award 2026

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The USI Alumni Award recognizes USI alumni who have particularly distinguished themselves in their professional careers and who represent USI's values of quality, openness, and responsibility in their work environment. The award, established in 2024, is given to an alumna or alumnus of one of USI's faculties on a rotating basis.

The 2026 alumni award, which will be presented during Dies academicus 2026 on Saturday, April 25, will be awarded to a graduate of the Faculty of Economics.

The entire USI community—graduates, faculty, students, and administrators—can submit nominations for the award, which will be evaluated by the ad hoc USI commission

## **Eligibility, Application process, evaluation and awarding, publication**

### 1. Eligibility

All USI graduates who have completed a degree programme at USI (BA/Master/PhD) are eligible.

### 2. Application Process and Evaluation

- Each year, all USI alumni and the USI community are invited to propose candidates for the Alumni Award for the designated faculty. They may propose themselves or any other former USI student from that faculty. Guidelines for submitting applications are published through the University's official channels and managed by the Alumni Service.
- The Alumni Service, in collaboration with the Pro-rector for Education and Students' Experience and the Dean of the designated faculty, along with the Institutional Communication Service, will create a shortlist of candidates. These candidates will meet the selection criteria and represent the selected faculty.
- The shortlist, along with a clear ranking from the working group mentioned above, will be submitted to the Rectorate, which ratifies the decision.
- The winner will be contacted. If they refuse or are unable to accept the award, the next nominee will be considered.

3. Awarding

The USI Alumni Award is conferred, exclusively in person, by the relevant Dean during the Dies academicus ceremony.

4. Publication:

The recipient of the USI Alumni Award will be announced in the honours section of the USI website and on the USI Alumni platform.

**Selection Criteria**

The applications of former students who meet one or more of the following criteria are considered eligible:

- Having distinguished themselves through excellence in their professional activities, reflecting USI's values of quality, openness, and responsibility;
- Having received national or international awards or recognitions conferred by organisations, institutions, or publications of undisputed independence and authority;
- Leading a successful entrepreneurial initiative or project at a national or international level;
- Leading a non-profit organisation or project that has achieved exceptional social impact at a national or international level.

Applications must be supported by publicly available and verifiable evidence. Nominations of former students who do not meet common standards of integrity will be deemed ineligible, regardless of compliance with the criteria mentioned above.