



Awards Asia 2026

Outstanding Support for Students

Institution Name	Chiang Mai University
Submission title or project name	Token to care – No money, no hunger
Nominee / key personnel	Prasert Rerkkriangkrai (vice-president and associate professor)
URL	https://web.sdd.oou.cmu.ac.th/service/tokenToCare
Submission	Life at university can be challenging: students sometimes face sudden financial difficulties, such as running out of money, losing their wallet or not receiving timely support from their family. These situations can cause stress and skipped meals, affecting both physical and mental health. The Token to Care (T2C) project provides emergency relief through a digital food token worth Bt100 per day, usable at campus outlets. Students submit requests via the CMU Mobile app, with approval completed in just 10 minutes. T2C also acts as a smart university tool, collecting and analysing data to connect students with repeated requests for assistance to other support programmes, including scholarships, dorm allocation or work opportunities. Over the past year, T2C has assisted more than 3,398 students, distributing tokens worth more than Bt1.2 million, significantly improving students' well-being, focus and engagement in university life.



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Institution Name	Christ University
Submission title or project name	Money Minutes – Financial Fluency in a Minute: A Student-Led Digital Literacy Initiative
Nominee / key personnel	David Joseph
URL	https://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-financial-consultancy-and-planning/?viewAsMember=true
Submission	Money Minutes is a student-led financial literacy initiative at Christ University Lavasa, combining education, digital media, and public engagement. Through daily LinkedIn posts, students research and share digestible insights on finance, promoting real-world financial awareness while developing their analytical and communication skills. Faculty-reviewed content ensures quality, while the digital-first approach increases outreach and accessibility. Since its inception in August 2024, Money Minutes has enhanced the employability and confidence of student contributors while supporting a national goal of improving financial literacy. The initiative's simplicity, scalability, and real-world impact position it as a replicable model across higher education.



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Institution Name	Hiroshima University
Submission title or project name	#Welcome to HU – student support project
Nominee / key personnel	Kazuhiro Tsuga (executive vice-president, community collaboration, funding and alumni association)
URL	
Submission	Hiroshima University supports students facing financial hardship through initiatives such as #Welcome to Hiroshima University. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the university launched the student support project, sending food packages to 200 students struggling with online classes and the loss of work. This experience inspired a sustainable programme that continues today, welcoming new students – 70 per cent of whom come from outside the prefecture – with boxes of locally produced food and heartfelt messages of encouragement. The packages are thoughtfully curated by students who have previously received them, ensuring relevance and empathy. Funding and support come from alumni, parents, local businesses and residents, who donate money and food. So far, about 3,000 students have benefited, supported by more than ¥11.4 million in donations. More than simple aid, the project nurtures gratitude, motivation and solidarity, strengthening bonds between the university and the local community while showing that true prosperity includes mutual care and compassion.



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Institution Name	KMITL – King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang
Submission title or project name	Ride Safe, Live Safe: KMITL’s student road safety initiative
Nominee / key personnel	Thitiphan Tritrakarn (executive vice-president for student affairs and alumni relations), with Thai Honda and the Department of Land Transport
URL	https://youtu.be/XBpqvpHgVyU https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1075483054798904&set=pb.100070116576276.-2207520000&type=3 https://osda.kmitl.ac.th/4436/ https://osda.kmitl.ac.th/4453/ https://www.youtube.com/shorts/2iLByHLzhMY https://www.instagram.com/p/DLcKLVlp5yl/
Submission	KMITL – King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang launched the Ride Safe, Live Safe initiative to address Thailand’s urgent road safety crisis while promoting sustainable student mobility. With more than 80 per cent of Thailand’s 17,477 road deaths in 2024 linked to motorcycles, the university recognised the need for preventive action. Partnering with the Thai Honda Driving Safety Centre, KMITL provides professional motorcycle training, licensing support and safety education for students and nearby communities. Complementing this, a campaign encourages parents to delay purchasing personal motorcycles for freshmen, while the pilot “AnyWheel” programme offers shared e-bikes and e-scooters on campus. These combined efforts reduce accident rates, promote behavioural change and integrate safety with environmental sustainability. The initiative aligns with SDGs 3.6 and 11.2, positioning KMITL as a national leader in holistic student well-being – empowering students not only to learn but to live safely and responsibly in a rapidly changing world.



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Institution Name	Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)
Submission title or project name	Redefining access: how LUMS' national outreach programme rewrote the rules of higher education equity
Nominee / key personnel	National Outreach Programme, Admissions and Student Success Initiative team: Rabia Ahmed; Bilal Ahsan Malik; Shandana Mehdi; Sadia Babar; Syed Ashar Hussain Zaidi; Syed Abdullah; Sheikh Khubaib Ahmed; Iqra Shafiq; Aqeel Amous; Numan, Salomi; Fatima Umar; Hirra Shahid; Misha Zahid Gondal; Lalain Farzoq Chaudhry
URL	https://nop.lums.edu.pk/
Submission	LUMS' National Outreach Programme (NOP) is a pioneering model that reimagines access to higher education for under-represented communities across Pakistan. Unlike conventional admission processes, NOP begins years before university entry; its teams visit remote towns and villages to cultivate aspiration among students, teachers and families who have never considered higher education to be attainable. In 2024 alone, LUMS reached 276 schools across 90 cities, fully supported through institutional funds. To date, more than 1,200 first-generation students from 160+ regions have entered LUMS, transforming their lives and communities. Yet access is only the beginning. Through the Student Success Initiative (SSI), LUMS ensures sustained growth and belonging by providing comprehensive academic, financial and psychosocial support. Together, NOP and SSI demonstrate what equity in action looks like – turning opportunity into long-term achievement and positioning Pakistan as a global leader in inclusive and transformative higher education reform.



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Institution Name	Lovely Professional University
Submission title or project name	Inclusivity, empowerment and support for students with spinal cord injury at LPU
Nominee / key personnel	Manish Gupta; Sourabh Lakhanpal
URL	https://www.lpu.in/spinal-cord-injury.php
Submission	Lovely Professional University launched the inclusivity, empowerment and support framework to advance equity for wheelchair-bound students with spinal cord injury (SCI). The initiative combines reservation and financial aid with a comprehensive support ecosystem covering accessible infrastructure, reserved hostel facilities with caregivers, on-campus ambulances, universal design principles incorporated in classrooms and payment systems, flexible academics, digital content sharing, and grievance resolution mechanisms. A dedicated web page centralises policies, resources and donor partnerships, strengthening support networks. LPU also emphasises holistic development, offering adaptive sports (including wheelchair basketball, para archery, cricket and boccia), cultural activities and leadership opportunities. Partnerships such as the VISTAAR Conference with the Spinal Cord Injury Association of India broaden impact. Achievements include SCI students winning medals at the Khelo India Para Games 2025 and excelling in technology and academics. Collaborations with state and national bodies further reinforce LPU's role as a model of inclusive education, empowerment and dignity.



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Institution Name	Nanjing Tech University
Submission title or project name	Nanjing Tech University: building a “full-chain, ecosystem-based” student support system to empower students’ journey of excellence from learning to innovation
Nominee / key personnel	Juncheng Jiang (president, Nanjing Tech University)
URL	https://cxcyxy.njtech.edu.cn/
Submission	Nanjing Tech University set out to address the traditional disconnect between knowledge and practice through a comprehensive student support ecosystem. Its “Empowering Students from Learning to Innovation through Ecosystem-Based Support” project takes a three-pillar approach that integrates: • Personalised mentoring via 120+ interdisciplinary teams and 200+ smart classrooms • Industry-research platforms linking students to real-world challenges through proof-of-concept centres and pilot facilities • An ISO9001-certified innovation entrepreneurship system that foster a culture of “encourage innovation, tolerate failure”. The results have been impressive: 100 per cent of engineering student participated across 12,000+ projects; alumni founded four unicorn companies, 13 gazelles and 24 listed enterprises; a 96.5 per cent graduate employment rate, with 78 per cent entering strategic emerging industries. This scalable model redefines student success beyond academics, creating a campus where everyone participates and innovates – offering a blueprint for systematic student empowerment across Asia.



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Institution Name	University of Makati
Submission title or project name	Building champions beyond competition – DUES + CBS: bridging learning and life
Nominee / key personnel	Virgilio B. Tabbu (principal); Dominador B. Lera, Jr; Wovi W. Villanueva; Nino E. Faustino; Gichelle Hanna Roxas; Pompeyo C. Adamos; Katrisha Pingol
URL	
Submission	The University of Makati (UMak) redefines higher education through its dualised university education system (DUES) and its credit banking system (CBS), a pioneering model that converts real-world experience into academic achievement. Guided by the tagline “RISE. Shine. Anywhere”, UMac recognises learning gained through work, community service, sports and the arts as creditable towards degree completion. Integrated into UMac’s holistic student development framework, CBS bridges academic learning with industry practice, promoting leadership, mental wellness and civic engagement. Through collaboration among student centres, learners gain credits for verified skills and workplace-based learning, fostering inclusivity and employability. UMac’s innovation empowers working students and first-generation learners to transform experience into opportunity. By valuing life and labour as learning, the university exemplifies how education can be inclusive and transformative, ensuring that every student has the chance to rise, shine and succeed – anywhere.