

Call for Nominations

The Max and Desiree Blankfeld Endowed Prize for Innovation in Aerospace

INAUGURAL DISTINGUISHED LEADER AWARD | JUNE 2027

The Stephen B. Klein Faculty of Aerospace Engineering at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology invites nominations for the inaugural Max and Desiree Blankfeld Endowed Prize for Transformative Innovation in Aerospace, to be awarded in June 2027.

About the Prize

The Max and Desiree Blankfeld Endowed Prize for Transformative Innovation in Aerospace is an international award established by the Stephen B. Klein Faculty of Aerospace Engineering at the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology. Awarded annually on alternating tracks, it recognizes either an internationally distinguished leader or an exceptional early-career researcher. Beyond honoring scientific excellence, the Prize promotes sustained engagement with the Technion through an invited residency, fostering collaboration, mentorship, and the exchange of ideas.

The 2027 Distinguished Leader Award

This year award will recognize an internationally distinguished aerospace engineer or scientist. Candidates may be drawn from any area of aerospace engineering or a closely related discipline, including interdisciplinary fields with substantial impact on aerospace research, technology, or practice.

Award and Residency

The recipient will receive a cash prize of US\$10,000 and will be invited to spend two to four weeks at the Technion. Travel, accommodation, and local hospitality associated with the residency will be provided by the Prize.

During the visit, the laureate will be expected to:

- Deliver the Blankfeld Prize Lecture and additional seminars;
- Engage in scientific discussions and collaborative activities with faculty;
- Meet with graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and early-career faculty; and
- Contribute to the broader academic life of the Faculty and the Technion.

The residency is intended to foster meaningful scientific exchange and encourage enduring international collaboration.

Eligibility

Nominees should have an internationally recognized record of scientific achievement, intellectual leadership, and impact in aerospace engineering or a closely related field. Nominations are welcomed from all countries. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

Nomination Materials

A complete nomination should include:

- A nomination letter of no more than three pages describing the nominee's principal contributions and their impact;
- The nominee's curriculum vitae;
- A list of up to ten representative publications, patents, or other major contributions; and
- Two letters of support from internationally recognized experts.

Selection Criteria

Nominees will be evaluated on the basis of:

- The originality and significance of their contributions;
- Their demonstrated impact on aerospace science, engineering, technology, or practice;
- Their international standing and record of scientific or technological leadership; and
- Their potential to contribute meaningfully to scientific exchange and collaboration.

Key Dates and Submission

Nomination deadline	02/11/2026
Notification of laureate	01/01/2027
Award ceremony	June 2027
Submission address	blankfeld-pr@technion.ac.il

Further inquiries regarding the Prize or nomination process may be directed to Ms. Laurie Speisky at blankfeld-pr@technion.ac.il