



YOUNG EXECUTIVE AWARD 2023 PROGRAMME DETAILS

Background and Objectives

Introduced in 2009, the ACI Asia-Pacific Young Executive Award (YEA) is an annual research paper competition which encourages young talents in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East to contribute innovative solutions for current aviation industry issues.

Topic of Young Executive Award 2023

“The Future of Airport Workforce”

The pandemic and its inherent effect on airports highlighted the need for adaptability, agility, and resilience in today’s workforce. The growing adoption of artificial intelligence, increasing pace of automation and adoption of new technologies further accelerates how work will change, requiring new skillsets for the airport workforce of the future. Having gotten used to a new way of working, the future workforce will increasingly seek greater flexibility in their work while giving importance to the values and cultures of their organisations. Against such a context, it is essential for airports to review and re-evaluate these shifts and the implications on the future of airport workforce to position your airports for success.

For Young Executive Award competition 2023, participating candidates shall in their submissions:

- The importance of the airport in leading workforce planning for airport stakeholders;
- Identifying trends impacting workforce;
- Describe how diversity, equity and inclusion matter in workforce;
- Review and analyse the current situation of airport workforce and its challenges;
- Recommend how airport(s) at national or regional levels might collaborate in addressing Future of Airport Workforce.

Eligibility

Each ACI Asia-Pacific airport member in good standing is entitled to nominate one candidate for this competition. Each entry must be accompanied by the completed Application Form, also signed by the CEO/ ACI Asia-Pacific Official Representative of the airport supporting the candidate's nomination. All candidates shall be at or under the age of 35 at the deadline of submission. They should be currently serving in a middle management position at any ACI Asia-Pacific airport member and have a minimum of two years of working experience in the aviation field.

Submission Guidelines

All papers must be written in English and shall contain no more than 5,000 words of A4-sized paper, using Arial font, size 11 and 1.5 line spacing. All papers must include an Executive Summary and references. Graphical illustrations such as tables, graphs and images are permitted. Papers must be submitted digitally in Microsoft Word and PDF format.

The compulsory Executive Summary shall be an overview of the research paper and include pertinent analysis of identified risks, drawn conclusions, and recommended course of actions in a complete manner. The Executive Summary should ideally be no more than 2 pages.

Tables, diagrams (including associated legends), appendices, references, footnotes and endnotes, the bibliography and any bound published material are excluded from the word count.

Submission Deadline

Each candidate must send his/her paper together with the completed Young Executive Award 2023 Application Form and supporting documents to young_executive@aci-asiapac.aero on or before **Friday 16 December 2022 12:00 noon Hong Kong Time (GMT+8)**.

Costs

There are no entry fees to enter the programme.

Assessment Criteria

Candidate submission shall be assessed based on insightful and structural analysis with detailed observations and thorough research on the topic. The candidate shall also demonstrate creativity and innovation to possible solutions, apply the concept at airports in general and show vision towards the future aviation industry. The paper submission will also be assessed based on overall paper structure and clarity in language articulation.

The Winner

The Winner of the Young Executive Award will be decided by a panel of judges comprised of relevant industry representatives. The winner will be awarded a cash reward of US\$1000 and a scholarship to Airport Operations Diploma programme (online self-study). The airport of the winning candidate will receive an additional scholarship for an ACI Global Training Leadership and Management Professional Certificate Course, virtual or classroom, of their choice (excluding travel fees).

The winning Young Executive will be announced at the ACI Asia-Pacific Regional Assembly, tentatively scheduled for May 2023. The winner will also be featured in ACI Asia-Pacific's publications and social channels.

ACI Asia-Pacific reserves the right to award Honorable Mentions.

Contact Us

For further information, please visit our website at www.aci-asiapac.aero or email young_executive@aci-asiapac.aero.

Panel of Judges

Panel Chair

Dato' Iskandar Mizal MAHMOOD
Managing Director
Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad, Malaysia



Dato' Iskandar Mizal Mahmood was appointed as Malaysia Airports' new Managing Director on 25 October 2021.

Malaysia Airports is a public listed company that manages 39 airports within Malaysia and 1 in Turkey with assets valued at USD 2.5 billion. Apart from its core airport business, Malaysia Airports' diverse operations include retail, hospitality, plantation, and consultancy services.

He is a corporate leader with over 32 years of experience and had served several companies from multinationals to GLCs, in multiple sectors, of which 18 years were in leadership positions. He had previously served Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad (MAHB) as General Manager (1999-2003) where he had led the Initial Public Offering (IPO) and listing of MAHB on Bursa Malaysia. His portfolio in MAHB had included Finance, Corporate Finance, Business Development, and Investor Relations. He was also involved in international ventures including taking over the operations of India's Hyderabad Rajiv Gandhi International Airport and as Board Member of Cambodia's Phnom Penh and Siem Reap airports.

Dato' Iskandar also has postal and logistics background having served as Group CEO of Pos Malaysia Berhad (2013-2015). He specialises in turnaround initiatives and was involved in the turnaround of several GLCS. He also led Media Prima Berhad's turnaround from 2019 to 2021 (2019-2020 as Group Executive Director, and 2020-2021 as Group Managing Director). He was involved in the technology sector as founding CEO of Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation Sdn Bhd and Chairman of Malaysian Bio-XCell Sdn Bhd (2005-2011). He had also served on boards of technology sector public listed companies, i.e. Theta Edge Berhad (Chairman 2017-2019, Independent Non-Executive Director (INED) 2019-2021) and Globetronics Technology Berhad (INED 2012-2021). He was also Managing Director of Manipal Education Malaysia Sdn Bhd (2011-2013).

Dato' Iskandar sat on Lembaga Tabung Haji Investment Panel (2016-2018) and had served leading financial institutions including Bumiputra Merchant Bankers Berhad and Commerce International Merchant Bankers Berhad (1991-1999). He began his career with Arthur Andersen & Co in 1989.

Mr. Nicolas CLAUDE
Chief Executive Officer
Airport International Group, Jordan



As CEO of Airport International Group, Claude leverages a longstanding 28-year career within the global airport industry to spearhead the expansion and operation project of Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA). Throughout his professional journey, Claude assumed numerous C-suite positions, the most recent of which was CEO of the Nuevo Pudahuel concession in Chile, where he guided the expansion of Santiago International Airport, which has crossed the 24 million passenger milestone. During his 2010-2015 tenure as COO of Airport International Group, Claude oversaw six key departments representing a total of 330 employees responsible for various operations; maintenance; commercial and real estate; information technology and telecommunications; security; and quality and safety functions. Prior, Claude served as COO of Grupo Aeroportuario Centro Norte - a group operating and managing 13 airports in Mexico - and contributed to multiple projects at Groupe ADP.

Claude holds a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from EFREI Paris and a postgraduate degree in Statistics from the University Paris VI. He also obtained a Master Plan and Terminal Design course and an Advanced Master in Airport Management, both from ENAC in Toulouse.

Dr. Manjit SINGH
Deputy Regional Director
ICAO Asia and Pacific (APAC) Office



Dr. Manjit Singh has been the Deputy Regional Director of the ICAO Asia Pacific Office in Bangkok, Thailand since April 2017. He had also previously served with ICAO Asia Pacific Office as the Regional Officer Technical Cooperation from May 2011 to December 2014.

He began his career in aviation with the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) Malaysia as an Air Traffic Control Officer in June 1984. Over the years, Dr. Singh held different positions of increasing responsibilities within DCA Malaysia including as Director Air Traffic Services Inspectorate Division and eventually as Director of the Malaysia Aviation Academy (MAvA), steering MAvA to earn important accreditations and recognitions, including as an ISO certified Approved Aviation Training Organisation and a full member of the ICAO TRAINAIR PLUS Programme.

He holds a M.Sc. (Air Transport Management) as well as a PhD from Cranfield University, UK . He was twice conferred the Chevening Scholarship, the UK government's international awards programme.

Prof. Sameer ALAM
Associate Professor
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore



Sameer Alam is an Associate Professor at the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. He is the Deputy Director of Air Traffic Management Research Institute leading research on AI & Data Analytics applied to Air Transportation. He is also the Co-Director of Saab-NTU Joint Lab leading research on Machine Learning for Digital and Remote Tower. He is leading a research team of 20 scientist and 6 PhD students to create the next generation of AI-Human Hybrid ATM system.

Sameer obtained PhD in Computer Sc. (2008) specializing in Artificial Intelligence from University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia and Master's. in Computer Sc. (1999) from BIT, Mesra, India. His post-doctoral research, on developing Artificial Intelligence algorithms for future air traffic concept evaluation, was sponsored by EUROCONTROL (2009-2010) and Air Services Australia (2010-2011).

In 2011, Sameer was appointed University Lecturer at UNSW, Canberra in Australia and was promoted to University Senior Lecturer in 2015. He has also been a visiting scientist at NASA Ames, California (2011, hosted by Dr Banavar Sridhar) and at École Nationale de l'Aviation Civile (French Civil Aviation University) in Toulouse (2016-2017, hosted by Prof Daniel Delahaye). He has also worked with Civil Aviation Affairs Bahrain as Senior Air Traffic Analyst (2002-2005).

His research interest are in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning algorithms applied to Air Traffic Management and Airport Operations. His expertise are in collision risk, conflict detection and resolution, aviation emission, air traffic sequencing/scheduling, runway optimization. He has over 100 peer-reviewed research publications in high impact journals and conferences.

He was appointed Editorial Board member of the Transportation Research-Part C Journal (2018) and to the Program Committee of the highly prestigious FAA-Eurocontrol's US & Europe ATM R&D Seminar (2020).

Mr. Stefano BARONCI
Director General
ACI Asia-Pacific



Mr. Stefano Baronci is the Director General of ACI Asia-Pacific. Appointed in December 2019 and based in Hong Kong SAR, he is responsible for driving and executing the strategic plan of the association and overseeing a team of 13 professionals at the Regional Office.

Mr. Baronci has over 20 years of analytic and representational experience at national and international levels in the aviation sector, representing both airport and airline industries. He is very familiar with the ACI community, having previously served as the Director of Economics at ACI World in Montreal and Senior Policy Manager at ACI Europe in Brussels. He also served as Secretary General of Assaeroporti, the Italian airport operators association, and Assistant Director and ATM Infrastructure Expert at the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Mr Baronci, a native of Italy, holds an Executive MBA from Warwick University in the United Kingdom and graduated with a Law degree from La Sapienza University in Rome, Italy. He is married with two children.