

Honorary Fellowship

1. What is Honorary Fellowship?

Honorary Fellowship is the highest recognition that CILIP can give to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the library and information world. It can sometimes be awarded to members of the profession as a reflection of the respect and regard of their colleagues for a particularly important contribution over a long period of time. It is also the means by which CILIP can recognise those people who are not in the information profession but have supported and contributed to its development and profile. Honorary Fellows do not have to be CILIP members but must have some kind of relationship or link to the profession.

2. What is awarded?

Honorary Fellows receive a certificate of recognition and are able to use the Hon FCLIP post-nominal. Honorary Fellows become lifetime members of CILIP, do not have to pay a subscription and can vote at general meetings. There are no financial or other rewards.

3. How does CILIP select Honorary Fellows?

3.1. The criteria

Nominations for Honorary Fellows have to demonstrate at least **one or more** of the following:

- That their work or activity has raised the **profile** of the information profession in some way.
- That their work or activity has had a significant and positive **impact** on the profession.
- That they have made a **difference** to the world of libraries, information and knowledge through their work or activities.

Examples:

- A person with a long history of outstanding leadership in the profession who has recognition in society and has raised the profile of information professionals.

- A person who has campaigned or supported campaigns in line with CILIP's charitable objectives to improve society by making better practice or services.
- A person who has made an outstanding contribution to change in society because of their role as an information professional.
- A person who is an 'unsung hero' who has perhaps supported others in a way that has 'gone the extra mile'.

3.2. Nominations

Honorary Fellows are nominated by CILIP members. There are calls for nominations annually and Honorary Fellowships are normally presented at the Annual General Meeting, usually in September.

A simple nomination form must be completed that provides clear evidence of how the nominee has met one or more of the **criteria**. Nominations are confidential.

3.3. Choosing the Honorary Fellows

The nominations are assessed by a small panel made up of CILIP's President, the Chair of CILIP's Professional Registration and Accreditation Board and the Chief Executive. The outcome of this assessment is a recommendation to CILIP Council of the people who should receive this award.

The bar is set very high for this award and it is unlikely that there would be more than between **one and three** Honorary Fellowships given each year.

The nominations are assessed very closely against the criteria and only outstanding candidates are put forward.

Nominations are proposed to CILIP Council who approves the candidates in reserved business before a public announcement.

4. What happens once honorary fellowships are agreed by CILIP Council?

- 4.1. The successful nominees are contacted and asked if they are willing to accept Honorary Fellowship. Arrangements will be made for a formal presentation, usually at CILIP's AGM/Members Day.
- 4.2. A public announcement will be made on the day of presentation. Until that time, the names of Honorary Fellows will be kept confidential and those who nominated the successful candidates will not be informed of the outcome before the announcement.

- 4.3. No feedback will be given to nominators about the reasons for success or otherwise of nominations and nominated candidates who were unsuccessful will not be told and should not know that they have been nominated.

All nominations will have merit or would not meet the criteria to be considered, but judgements have to be made about outstanding candidates and these are based on those who most comprehensively meet the criteria or go beyond them.

- 4.4. The new Honorary Fellows can ask to know who nominated them if they wish.