

DTU Scientist Wins 2019 Golden Globe Award

On July 6, 2020, the Ho Chi Minh City Communist Youth Union Central Committee and the Ministry of Science & Technology held the 2019 Golden Globe Awards ceremony for young scientists.



Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai (fourth from right) wins a 2019 Golden Globe Award

The award comprises the Golden Globe Cup, a certificate, a Creative Youth Medal from the Union Central Executive Committee and prize money. Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai, a DTU scientist, was honored to become one of the ten top winners for 2019, a testament to his enthusiastic, unceasing dedication to Vietnamese science and technology.

The Golden Globe Awards are awarded to talented scientists below the age of 35, with outstanding achievements in:

- information & communications technology
- medical & pharmaceutical technology
- biotechnology

- environmental technology
- new materials technology

The number and standard submissions increases year after year. The twenty candidates selected out of 45 in 2019 have all published in international publications and are all outstanding scientists in their fields. Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai's achievements include 64 scientific publications in journals indexed by Web of Science (WoS), with 70% of them ranked Q1 and a Scopus citation count of 1,500, including:

- "Mistakes and inconsistencies regarding adsorption of contaminants from aqueous solutions: A critical review", published in Water Research in 2017, cited 500 times and the journal's most-cited paper three years after publication
- "Thermodynamic parameters of cadmium adsorption onto orange peel calculated from various methods: A comparison study", published in the Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering, ranked Q1, selected as one of eight leading papers on water treatment using adsorption technology, and among the journal's popular papers, cited 200 times.



The Golden Globe Cup and Creative Youth Medal are awarded to Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai

"I became a scientist because of my love of science and a desire to explore the interesting things in life," said Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai. *"This is why being one of the top ten recipients of the Golden Globe Award makes me happy and honored, but it also puts a considerable pressure on me to keep up with its significance and reputation. DTU is always focused on investing in research and recognizing deserving scientists who publish high-quality papers. I am working to expand international partnerships and have brought together a group of professors from Australia, France, South Korea, Taiwan, Turkey, Brazil,*

Iran, South Africa, Belarus and Algeria, to share ideas and conduct practical research projects together in the near future.”

Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai works in the DTU Institute of Fundamental Science and Application in Ho Chi Minh city. Another of his papers is on arsenic treatment technology, entitled “Laterite as a low-cost adsorbent in a sustainable decentralized filtration system to remove arsenic from groundwater in Vietnam”, published in the leading journal in that field, Science of the Total Environment, and currently under implementation in Vietnam.

He is the leader of the project “General research into advanced composite materials (spherical carbon and layered double hydroxides) for the treatment of polluted water”, funded by the National Foundation for Science and Technology Development (NAFOSTED), which was initiated in 2019. The project has led to publications in leading journals in the field, including:

- Journal of Hazardous Materials, with the paper “Innovative spherical biochar for pharmaceutical removal from water: Insight into adsorption mechanism”
- Science of the Total Environment with the paper “Peanut shells-derived biochars prepared from different carbonization processes: Comparison of characterization and mechanism of naproxen adsorption in water”
- Environmental Technology & Innovation with the paper “One-stage preparation of palm petiole-derived biochar: Characterization and application for adsorption of crystal violet dye in water”

In addition to making his mark as a young scientist, Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai is also on the editorial boards of 17 international journals indexed by ISI and Scopus, including Science of the Total Environment and Chemosphere (Elsevier), Journal Separation & Purification Reviews (Taylor & Francis), Journal of Chemical Technology and Biotechnology (Wiley), Current Pollution Reports (Springer), Water Science and Technology (IWA) and six others.

Home > Journals > Science of the Total Environment > Editorial Board > Hai Tran Nguyen

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Hai Tran Nguyen

Editorial Board, Science of the Total Environment

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Dr. Hai Nguyen Tran (0000-0001-8361-2616) received his Ph.D. degree from Chung Yuan Christian University, Taiwan. He is currently a lecturer at Duy Tan University, Vietnam. His research interests include adsorption, Fenton-like reaction, photocatalysis, UV/chlorine process, green synthesis, and solid waste management. Especially, he focuses on (1) exploring the adsorption mechanism of various contaminants, (2) developing a variety of advanced materials, (3) characterizing them by various advanced techniques, and (4) applying them for water and wastewater treatments.

He is the author and coauthors of 60 reputable-journal publications. He is a regular reviewer for 60 prestigious environment-focused journals in 18 publishers (i.e., Elsevier, RSC, Taylor & Francis, Springer, Wiley, SAGE, IWA, etc.). He has been recognized as one of ten Vietnam young talents in the field of science and technology selected to be honoured with the 2019 Golden Globe Award.

Currently, he is an editorial advisory board member of 17 prestigious international science journals: Science of the Total Environment, Chemosphere, Separation & Purification Reviews, Current Pollution Reports, Journal of Chemical Technology and Biotechnology, Environment, Development and Sustainability, Water Science and Technology, Current Analytical Chemistry, Green Processing and Synthesis, Air, Soil and Water Research, Nanotechnology for Environmental Engineering, etc.

Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai publishes in the Science of the Total Environment journal

Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai also regularly attends conferences, forums and exchange meetings to make presentations on his research and was co-presenter at four online weekend conferences organized by the Center for Healthcare Improvement Research, CHIR, a non-profit company, on:

- international publications
- critique of medical literature
- ethics in scientific research
- selecting a scientific journal for international publication

Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai dedicates himself to bringing his “spiritual children” up to the top of the international rankings. In his position on editorial boards, he provides expert assessments of manuscripts

and invites others to review them. He insists that the papers are carefully prepared by their authors and demonstrate their relevance and importance. They must meet the two impact criteria of “good science and good writing”, presenting and explaining the data in detail. Dr. Tran Nguyen Hai concentrates on continuing to publish in the world’s leading journals, along with his other talented Vietnamese counterparts.

(Media Center)