Dr. Veerabhadrana Baladandayuthapani is the 2018 recipient of the H.O. Hartley Award given by the Texas A&M Department of Statistics. The H.O. Hartley Award is given annually to a former student of the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University for distinguished service to the discipline of statistics.

Veera is currently a Professor in the Department of Biostatistics at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, UTMDACC. Veera obtained his PhD from the Department of Statistics in 2005 under the guidance of Dr. Raymond Carroll and Dr. Bani Mallick.

Veera has established himself as an international leader in research in integrative genomics and proteomics, Bayesian graphical models, and functional and image data analysis as well as an impactful collaborative scientist on cancer research projects, with his status evidenced by his recognition and prolific success obtaining grant funding. Additionally, he is an outstanding teacher, advisory, and mentor, and has displayed a level of generosity, teamwork, and integrity that honors Dr. Hartley’s legacy.

As noted by one of Veera’s colleagues at UTMDACC, Veera has been an exceptionally good citizen in his eagerness and willingness to perform service to the department, institution, and profession. Since being hired, Veera has served as the departmental seminar coordinator, serves on faculty senate and various institutional review committees, has refereed a large number of papers, and has been active in organizing invited sessions at conferences. While productive in his research, Veera has also been a model citizen in his willingness to give back to the profession. Veera’s effectiveness as an instructor, researcher, and collaborator is enhanced by his outstanding personal characteristics: his communication ability, his integrity, honesty, earnestness, respectfulness, and care for others.

Veera has well represented the great name of the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University, and is an outstanding choice for the 2018 H.O. Hartley Award.