



LUPUS INSIGHT PRIZE

\$100,000

Request for Nominations 2018 Lupus Insight Prize

Due: February 15, 2018

Introduction

The Lupus Research Alliance requests nominations for the 2018 Lupus Insight Prize recognizing and honoring significant scientific insights relevant to understanding the causes, biology, or treatment of lupus. The Prize aims to stimulate further advances leading to improved outcomes for patients with lupus and ultimately to a cure.

The Lupus Insight Prize will provide research funds to an outstanding investigator with a documented record of creativity, innovation, and productivity and who has made a novel insight and/or discovery in an area of research that is applicable to the pathogenesis or treatment of lupus and who is judged to have a high likelihood of generating further significant advances by applying the insight to lupus. It is important to emphasize that ***the insight need not have been made specifically about lupus, but the insight should be applicable and applied, using the Prize funds, to understanding lupus pathogenesis or treatment.***

Prize Objectives

The primary objective of the Lupus Insight Prize is to identify and recognize an outstanding investigator who has developed a novel research insight in scientific domains relevant to lupus. The Prize is not a lifetime achievement award. The purpose of the Prize is to recognize a specific insight and/or discovery as well as to provide research funds to the institution of the awardee with the expectation that those funds will direct the talents of the Prize recipient toward further high impact research achievement and specifically application of the insight to lupus. This should shift the current paradigms and should significantly advance lupus understanding or treatment. Secondary objectives of the Prize are to: (1) raise the visibility of lupus as a significant medical condition among the general public; and (2) demonstrate the determination of the Lupus Research Alliance to surmount the challenges of this complex and debilitating disease.

Selection criteria

Nominees for the Lupus Insight Prize will be evaluated based on their scientific achievements, creativity and specific insight. The most important criteria for selection is the novelty of the discovery, the likelihood of its successful application to lupus, and the potential for future advances that will impact lupus patients.

Eligibility

Nominations of basic, clinical, and translational scientists will be considered. Nominations will be accepted for investigators of any age or rank affiliated with an academic, biomedical, research, or government institution in the United States. Nominations will not be accepted for investigators working in the biotechnology/pharmaceutical industry. Co-Investigators or teams of investigators are not eligible for this Prize. Only one nomination will be accepted per investigator. Nominations will only be accepted for investigators who are based in the United States. Self-nominations are not allowed.

Prize Funds

The institution of the Prize recipient will receive \$100,000 to be used at the discretion of the recipient with the expectation that those funds will be used to apply the insight for which the Prize was awarded toward advancing understanding of the genetic, environmental, molecular, immunologic or cellular aspects of lupus or its treatment. The Prize can be transferred to another institution (within the U.S.) if the recipient changes his/her affiliation, but the Prize cannot be renewed. The funds are to be spent within two years of the date of the award of the Prize.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nomination Materials

The Nominator and the Candidate should work together to prepare the nomination materials, which include: (1) Cover Page, (2) Letter of Nomination, (3) Research Outline, (4) Candidate's CV, and (5) two blind letters of support for the Candidate.

(1) Cover Page

The Cover Page template, provided at www.lupusinsightprize.org, must be used to complete this section of the nomination. The template will be made available by November 15, 2017.

(2) Letter of Nomination

The Nominator should submit a two-page Letter of Nomination, describing the specific insight and/or discovery for which the Prize should be awarded as well as the worthiness, expertise and achievements of the Candidate. The Letter of Nomination should specifically focus on the unique insight and/or discovery generated by the Candidate that might have an impact on advancing the future of lupus research.

(3) Research Outline

The Candidate should provide a brief explanation of the specific insight and/or discovery for which the Prize will be awarded as well as how her/his insight and/or discovery has the potential to impact critical understanding of lupus. As noted above, the insight need not have been made specifically

about lupus. However, the Research Outline should be used to describe the general plan of how this insight will be applied to understanding lupus pathogenesis or treatment by utilizing the Prize money.

The Research Outline should include a 1-page description of the following:

- The novel insight and/or discovery
- How the funds from the Prize will be utilized to either apply the insight to lupus or to further develop it in the context of lupus
- The innovative or unusually creative experimental approaches that will be applied to lupus by the Candidate
- The anticipated outcome of the proposed Prize project
- The potential of the proposed research to galvanize, change, and/or revolutionize lupus research or treatment.

The Research Outline should not be considered as a grant application, but should describe the Candidate's unique insight and its potential to move lupus research forward. The Research Outline should be a stand-alone document and cannot include any web links to additional materials. Appendices will not be accepted.

The Research Outline should not exceed one page and should be single-spaced (with one-inch margins, and typed in 12-point Times New Roman font).

(4) Candidate's CV

An up-to-date Curriculum Vitae for the Candidate must be provided.

(5) Letters of Support

Two blind letters of support for the Candidate (from people other than the Nominator) must be solicited by the Nominator. Each support letter must be submitted, before the nomination deadline, directly to the Lupus Research Alliance (Diomaris Gonzalez, dgonzalez@lupusresearch.org) by the individual writing the letter. Supporters should, ideally, be from institutions other than that of the Candidate.

Nomination Submission

The nominator must submit the complete nomination (items 1-4 above), excluding the letters of support, via email to Diomaris Gonzalez (dgonzalez@lupusresearch.org). Hard copies are not accepted.

All nomination materials, including the letters of support, must be submitted by 5pm ET on February 15, 2018. Hard copies are not accepted.

Selection

Representative scientific advisors will be selected by the Lupus Research Alliance and will constitute the Selection Committee for the Lupus Insight Prize. The members of the Selection Committee will review all nominations. The recipient of The Lupus Insight Prize will be selected by the members of the Selection Committee after careful consideration of each Candidate's unique insight as well as credentials and his/her likelihood of having a unique and important impact on lupus and the selection will be ratified by the Board of Directors of the Lupus Research Alliance.

Timeline

Call for Nominations:	November 3, 2017
Earliest Nomination Submission:	November 15, 2017
Nominations Due:	February 15, 2018
Nominations Review:	February – March 2018
Notifications:	March 23, 2018
Award Ceremony:	June 21, 2018

Prize Ceremony

The recipient of the Lupus Insight Prize will be honored at a public ceremony at the FOCIS meeting in June of 2018. This will include an opportunity for the recipient to deliver a lecture describing his/her insight, the past work that resulted in the insight, and the planned research as it relates to lupus.

Limitations on Use of Funds

A maximum of 20% of the total dollar amount of the Lupus Insight Prize can be utilized towards the winner's salary and fringe benefits support. In addition, a maximum of 20% of the total dollar amount can be utilized towards the purchase of laboratory equipment for the winner. Under no circumstances can any of the funds be used to pay institutional overhead or indirect costs. The total amount of the Prize must be utilized for the described research within two years of the date of the award of the Prize.

Additional Information

For further information about the Lupus Insight Prize, including a list of past recipients, please visit the Prize website: www.lupusinsightprize.org.

Inquiries

Scientific:

Teodora Staeva, PhD
Research Director
Lupus Research Alliance
tstaeva@lupusresearch.org
+1-646-884-6090

Administrative:

Diomaris Gonzalez
Director, Grant Programs
Lupus Research Alliance
dgonzalez@lupusresearch.org
+1-646-884-6056