



\$100,000

Request for Nominations

2020 Lupus Insight Prize

Due January 15, 2020

Introduction

The Lupus Research Alliance requests nominations for the 2020 Lupus Insight Prize recognizing and honoring significant scientific insights relevant to understanding the causes, pathogenesis, or treatment of lupus. The Prize also 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.

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. Instead, the Lupus Insight Prize will be given for a specific, significant and recent (within the past five years) discovery that is relevant to lupus** Please note that nominations for discoveries dating back to more than five years ago (prior to 2015) will not be considered.

In addition to recognizing a specific insight and/or discovery, the Prize also aims to direct the talents of the Prize recipient toward further high impact research achievement and further testing of the insight in 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.

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, government or biotechnology/pharmaceutical institution world-wide. Should an investigator currently working in the biotechnology/pharmaceutical industry be awarded the Lupus Insight Prize, recognition will be limited to the presentation of the Award plaque and the celebrations associated with this event at the FOCIS meeting. No monetary grant award can be given to investigators currently working in industry. Co-Investigators or teams of investigators are not eligible for this Prize. Only one nomination will be accepted per investigator. Self-nominations are not allowed.

Nomination

Each nominator can nominate only one candidate per year. Once a nomination has been submitted, it will remain active for up to three years (the original submission plus two additional years), unless withdrawn by the nominator. Nominations carried from prior years can be updated, if necessary, by the nomination deadline. There are no geographic restrictions on the nominee or the nominator. Nominators are discouraged from simultaneously serving as supporters for other Lupus Insight Prize nominees.

The Nominator should submit the following nomination materials, as a single pdf document, by the due date: (1) Cover Page, (2) Letter of Nomination, (3) Candidate's CV.

1. Cover Page

The Cover Page template, provided at www.lupusinsightprize.org, must be used to complete this section of the nomination, and must include a list of three supporters who can be contacted by the Prize Selection Committee and who can endorse the nomination.

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. Candidate's CV

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

Nomination Submission

The nominator must submit the complete nomination (items 1-3 above), as a single pdf file, via email to Diomaris Gonzalez (dgonzalez@lupusresearch.org) by 5pm ET on January 15, 2020. Hard copies are not accepted.

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 are the novelty, significance and recent nature (within the past five years) of the discovery, the likelihood of its successful further application to lupus, and the potential for future advances that will impact lupus patients. Please note that nominations for discoveries dating back to more than five years ago (prior to 2015) will not be considered.

Selection

Representative scientific advisors will be selected by the Lupus Research Alliance and will constitute the Selection Committee for the Lupus Insight Prize. The Committee will not include any nominators or supporters (as defined in #1 above) of an active nomination. The members of the Selection Committee will review all nominations and will solicit input from the supporters of each nomination. 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 her/his likelihood of having a unique and important impact on lupus. The selection will be ratified by the Board of Directors of the Lupus Research Alliance.

Terms of Award

The Prize recipient must agree to provide a brief (1-page) description of the research he/she will conduct using the Award money. This must be submitted via email within one month of the award notification letter. In addition, the awardee must agree to attend and give a lecture at the Lupus Insight Prize Award Ceremony to be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at the FOCIS meeting in San Francisco, CA. For further details see the Prize Ceremony section below.

Prize Funds

The institution of the Prize recipient—unless the recipient is working for a biotechnology or a pharmaceutical company—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 if the recipient changes her/his affiliation, but the Prize cannot be renewed. The funds are to be spent within one year of the start date of the award. All awards will be made in US dollars and no adjustments can be made to offset any currency fluctuations. As noted in the "Eligibility" section, no monetary grant award can be given to investigators currently working in industry.

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. In addition, a maximum of 20% of the total dollar amount can be utilized towards the purchase of laboratory equipment. 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—as stated in the Terms of Award section—within one year of the start date of the award.

Prize Ceremony

The recipient of the Lupus Insight Prize will be honored at a public ceremony at the FOCIS meeting on June 24, 2020. 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.

Additional Information

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

Key Dates:

Call for Nominations: October 1, 2019
Nominations Due: January 15, 2020
Nominations Review: February – March 2020
Notifications: March 2020
Award Ceremony: June 24, 2020

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