IUIS
Gender Equality Committee (GEC)
Paola Ricciardi-Castagnoli, Chair
Hannes Stockinger, Co-Chair
The mission of the GEC Committee is to encourage promotion of women immunologists around the world and to help with career development issues.

Objectives

- To organize and manage the new Menarini Prize to outstanding woman immunologist.
- To select and fund travel of 4 students to the FOCIS Course.
- To fund travel of 2 students to the AAI Basic Immunology Course and Advanced Immunology Course.
- To actively participate in programming of IUIS ICI 2022 to assure that gender equality is reflected in the scientific programme and to assure gender diversity among the invited speakers.
- To organize "Immunity and Gender symposium/satellite" at the next ICI.
- To select the new candidates for the GEC initiative “Travel for Techniques.”
- To assure that IUIS homepage has on the front page links to member societies databases for “WOMEN IN IMMUNOLOGY”:
Activities

1. On the occasion of the Day of Immunology on April 29th GEC proudly announced the “Menarini Prize for Outstanding Woman Immunologist” established thanks to the forward-looking vision and generous support of the Menarini Group. The USD 40,000 prize will be awarded for the first time at the 18th International Congress of Immunology in Cape Town, South Africa in 2022 and at future IUIS congresses thereafter. This award is the first and only IUIS prize that specifically recognizes women immunologists and their accomplishments.

2. Travel Award 2020: The 4 GEC Travel Awards were provided to Ricardo Mora Cartin, Gurvinder Kaur, Thanich Sangsuwannukul, and Pei-Shan Andrea Sung. The awardees have received a travel bursary of up to USD 2,000, complimentary registration, fully-covered four night’s accommodation and meals during the Advanced Course in Basic & Clinical Immunology on March 1 – 4, 2020 in San Diego, California, USA

3. IUIS-AAI travel fellowships 2020. The awards were allocated but AAI made the difficult decision to cancel the in-person 2020 AAI courses.

4. Travel for Expertise. Two grants have been awarded to applicants from developing countries to travel internationally to laboratories fighting COVID-19 to learn special techniques or use special instrumentations for their ongoing or soon to begin COVID-19 projects. The grants will provide $2,000 for travel and $500 per week for living expenses for two weeks (with a possible third week if justified in the proposal). The two winners are waiting for Visa and permission to travel due to COVID restriction.
- $15,000 for 2021 as part of our regular budget
- Held in escrow $15,000 for “Travel for Techniques”
- $40,000 for 2022 Menarini Award