



IUIS

# Gender Equality Committee (GEC) 2022-2023

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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 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 manage the travel of the 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"
- To launch a new initiative "IUIS-GEC National Gender Equality Campaign – Competition-4-Ideas"

## **1. 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.

## **2. Proposing and initiating a GEC-symposium at ICI2023**

## **3. SCGES membership**

IUIS became member of the Standing Committee for Gender Equality in Science (SCGES). The GEC-chairperson and the GEC-deputy chairperson actively participated in several symposia and the general assembly of SCGES.

## **4. Initiating the IUIS-GEC National Gender Equality Campaign – Competition-4-Ideas**

Details see next slide

### 4. IUIS-GEC National Gender Equality Campaign – Competition-4-Ideas

The International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) and its Gender Equality Committee (GEC) launch a Competition-4-Ideas to improve gender equality, in particular pro equal conditions for career development, access to funding and resources at the international and national level.

The call has a budget volume of USD 10,000 that can be split by the Selection Committee to a maximum of three prizes. The prizes will be awarded at the 18th International Congress of Immunology (IUIS 2023) in Cape Town, South Africa. The rules for application are described below.

#### Rules for Application

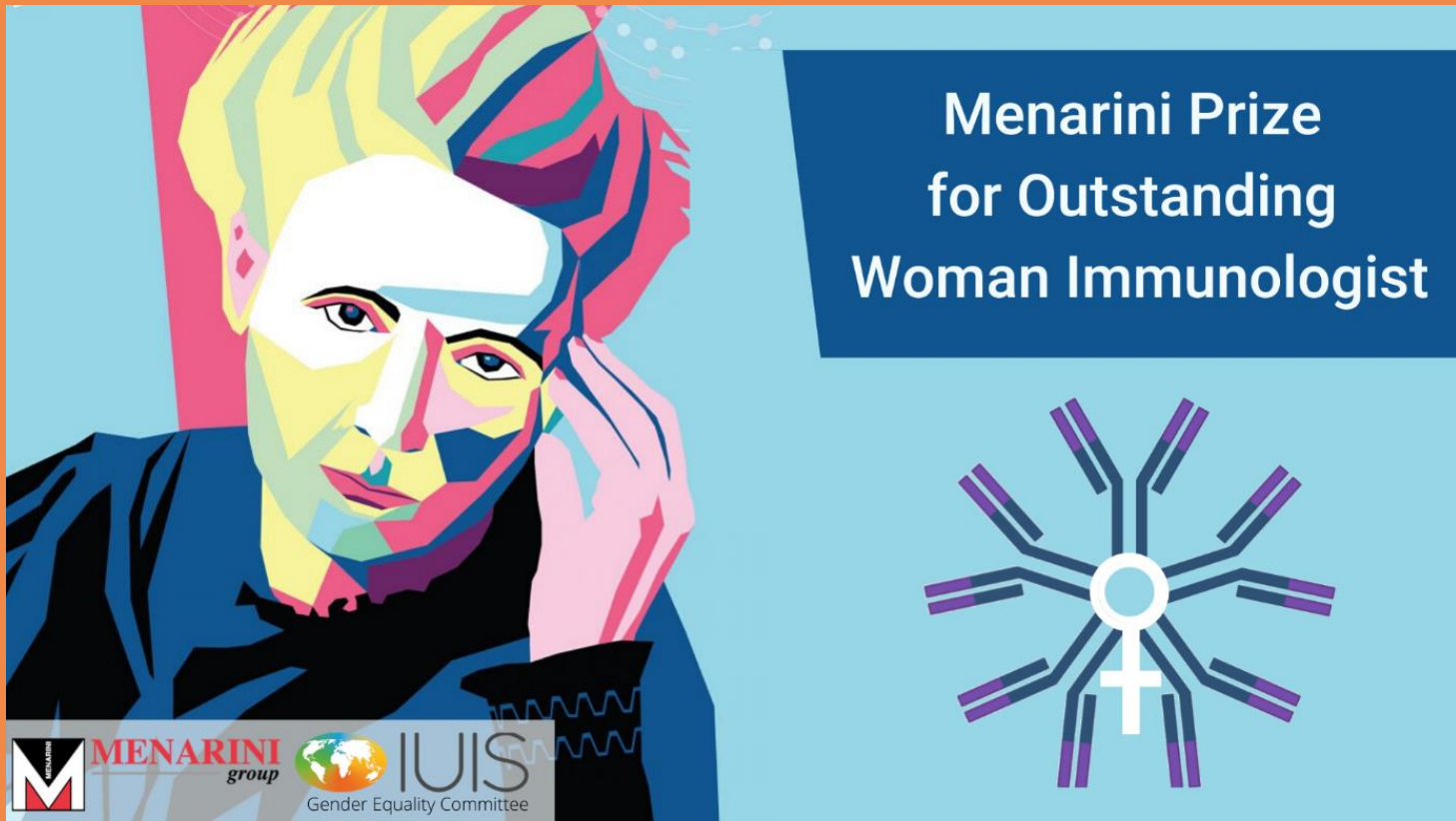
Each Gender Equality Committee of a National Society that is member of IUIS is eligible to submit a proposal consisting of the following:

- **The project proposal** in Pdf format of not more than three pages.
- **Short biosketches** of the applicants of the project proposal.
- **A support letter** of the National Society.

**The deadline for submission of the project proposal is March 31, 2023.**

#### Selection of the winner(s)

The IUIS-GEC Committee of IUIS will prepare a short list and the Selection Committee consisting of the chairpersons of IUIS-GEC together with the IUIS Executive Committee will identify the winner(s) from the shortlist.



**The inaugural US\$ 40,000 prize will be awarded at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Immunology, Cape Town, South Africa, 2023 (ICI2023).**

# What is IUIS-GEC doing to close the gender gap?



- **Support female scientists** in early career stages by **sponsoring participation** at schools, courses and meetings.
- **Encourage** regional societies to establish searchable ***Women in Immunology Databases*** of talented and expert women working in immunology, promoted on society homepages (EFIS, FIMSA, AAI, ASI databases established, ALACI and FAIS in progress) and the IUIS main menu.
- **Monitor** gender balance of **women speakers and chairs** at IUIS-affiliated congresses and meetings (*Women in Immunology Databases are a terrific resource for women specialists!*).
- **Initiate childcare supports** at immunological congresses and **highlight successes of women immunologists** by **organizing gender equity symposia**.
- **Enhance pressure on governments, universities and companies** to establish strategies to attract and retain talented women in immunology by providing flexible childcare options, encouraging gender equity for grants/fellowships/recruitment panels, increasing the time allotted for earning tenure. To pursue this activity more powerful and efficient, IUIS joint the Standing Committee for Gender Equality in Science (SCGES) representing at the moment 20 international scientific umbrella societies.
- **Roll out** these activities by encouraging national societies to **establish national GECs**.