

HUPO Awards committee report for 2021

HUPO Awards Chair: Prof. Robert Moritz (USA)

The HUPO Awards committee is chartered by the HUPO EC to solicit nominations, organize voting on suitable candidates and recommend candidates in one of 5 HUPO Awards categories. This committee is active each year and provides distinguished scientist engaged with HUPO recognition for the work conducted at the very highest levels.

2021 HUPO Awards Committee

For 2021, the HUPO Awards committee was retained from 2020 with members spanning all regions of HUPO (Eastern (Asia/Oceania/Arabia), Western (The Americas) and Central (Europe/Africa) and also represent an equal balance of gender (see <https://www.hupo.org/Awards-Committee-Members>) and totals 30 members. The HUPO Awards committee is made up of a broad selection of HUPO members being younger as well as older distinguished members of HUPO to provide a truly representative service to the organization. The 2021 Awards Committee was chartered to deliberate on potential nominees as put forward for consideration of four HUPO Awards (Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award, Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award, Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award, and the biannual Distinguished Service Award. The fifth HUPO Award, the Science & Technology award was selected by the HUPO Industrial Advisory Board and the result sent to the HUPO Awards committee and subsequently the HUPO EC for ratification.

Names of HUPO Awards committee members for 2021

2020 HUPO Awards Committee Members:

EASTERN REGION

Bonghee Lee, Republic of Korea
Fei Fang, China
Henry Lam, China
Hosseini Salekdeh, Iran
Laura Dagley, Australia
Mathias Rommel, Australia
Tadashi Yamamoto, Japan
Michelle Hill, Australia
Shamshad Zarina, Pakistan
Subhra Chakraborty, India

CENTRAL REGION

Concha Gil, Spain
Elena Ponomarenko, Russia
Jochen Schwenk, Sweden
Magnus Palmblad, Netherlands
Nicolai Bache, Denmark
Paola Roncada, Italy
Ruth Birner-Gruenberger, Austria
Yves Vandenbrouck, France
Manfred Raida, Germany
Adhari AlZaabi, Oman

WESTERN REGION

Robert Moritz, USA (Chair)
W. Andy Tao, USA
Birgit Schilling, USA
Catherine Fenselau, USA
Hannes Röst, Canada
Pierre Thibault, Canada

Ralph Bradshaw, USA
Reinhild Kappelhoff, Canada
Sergio Encarnacion-Guevara, Mexico
Susan Weintraub, USA
Tatiane De Rossi, Brazil
Yansheng Liu, USA

Committee objectives

Each year, a call is sent out from the HUPO office to all HUPO members for nominees for the categories presented and nominations are provided from HUPO members for one of 3 yearly awards and 1 biannual award (when the year coincides) bestowed by the HUPO organization to recognize achievements in the field of proteomics. Of the five HUPO Awards categories, four of these are selected by the HUPO Awards committee, whereas one of these (Science & Technology) is selected by the Industrial Advisory Board (IAB) for recommendation to the HUPO Awards committee. The five total HUPO Awards categories are:

1. Clinical & Translational Proteomics
2. Discovery in Proteomics
3. Distinguished Achievement in Proteomics
4. Science & Technology (IAB selection)
5. Distinguished Service (bi-annual considered for 2021)

Awards process

Again in 2021, the HUPO Office employed the web-based voting system called “Judgify” so that members can vote from their workstation, regardless of their geographical location and at their leisure, after reading each nomination and selecting the best candidate in each category. The HUPO Office tallies the votes and the HUPO Awards chair notifies the Awards committee of the result.

For the 2021 awards categories of Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award, Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award, Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award, and the Distinguished Service Award, any HUPO member can nominate candidates directly by providing names, possible seconders to support the nomination and short statements detailing why the person nominated is worthy of the award in the category chosen. The HUPO office collates all the responses from HUPO members and formulated the Judgify web voting tool to the chair of the HUPO Awards committee. In 2021, the HUPO Awards chair (Prof R. Moritz (USA)) offered to convene a discussion and tutorial sessions for the entire Awards committee in each region to instruct and assist the HUPO Awards committee members on their voting. In 2021, all members were comfortable with the voting and no sessions were needed. Each member is assigned a unique passkey to Judgify and the voting was conducted via the web. Each HUPO Awards category was voted on by single votes from the HUPO Awards committee and forwarded blinded to the HUPO Office. For conflict-of-interests (COI) with Committee members and candidates (COI was designated as someone who has published with a candidate in the last 3 years, someone who works at the same employer as the candidate, someone who is directly related to a candidate and someone who is proposed as a candidate) with any member of the HUPO Awards committee, that person abstained from voting in the HUPO Awards category in conflict and was recorded as a null vote.

For 2021, the HUPO award nominees were selected from the following totals nominees:

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. Clinical & Translational Proteomics | 2 |
| 2. Discovery in Proteomic Sciences | 10 |
| 3. Distinguished Achievement | 7 |
| 4. Distinguished Service | 3 |
| 5. Science & Technology (IAB selection) | 6 |

The HUPO Awards committee had conducted a single vote round based on an extensive field of candidates for four awards: Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award, Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award, the Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award, and the Distinguished Service Award. The vote was conducted and the result tallied. To also be transparent of the awards committee, several members abstained from voting in categories that represented a conflict of interest, these being Adhari AlZaabi, (Oman), Bonghee Lee (Korea), Nicolai Bache (Denmark), Michelle Hill (Australia) and Hannes Röst (Canada).

Outcomes of the voting were tabulated and sent to the HUPO Awards chair for tabulation and then presented to the HUPO EC during the monthly HUPO EC business call. The HUPO EC then deliberates and ratifies the HUPO Awards committee decisions. The HUPO EC also has veto power if there is a compelling reason to do so. Upon final HUPO EC ratification, the award is bestowed on the nominee by the HUPO President with the expectation that the person will be present at the upcoming ReConnect HUPO congress and a future face-to-face congress (currently Cancun 2022), is a standing HUPO member, and will provide a short lecture on the work leading to the nomination and award they are selected for. If by some chance the HUPO Awards nominee cannot attend the HUPO congress', as required for the award, then the award is then bestowed on the second-place nominee.

The final HUPO award for Science & Technology is determined from nominations of the IAB members and selected using a single member per vote system from the IAB members. The HUPO Science & Technology Award recognizes an individual or team in private industry who played a key role in commercialization of a proteomics technology, product, or procedure. The emphasis for the Science & Technology award is on making the technology, product, or procedure widely available, which is different from the basic scientific invention. Contrary to the rules for other HUPO Awards, the HUPO Science and Technology Award is only open to individuals and teams in private industry. The final selected nomination from the IAB is then forwarded to the HUPO Awards committee for deliberation and ratification of the IAB vote.

For 2021, we congratulate the winners of the following HUPO Awards:

Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award

Prof. Ying Ge, USA (HUPO member since 2014) - Female
(Nominated by Jennifer Van Eyk)

Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award

Prof. Paola Picotti, Switzerland (HUPO member since 2021) – Female
(Nominated by Anonymous)

Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award

Dr. Nicolle H. Packer, Australia (HUPO member since 2007) – Female
(Nominated by Morten Thaysen-Andersen)

Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Stephen Pennington, Ireland (HUPO member since 2015) – Male
(Nominated by Jennifer Van Eyk, Michelle Hill)

Science & Technology Award (IAB)

Ole Vorm & Nicolai Bache, Evosep, Denmark – Male
(Nominated by Michael Andersen)

Awards committee goals

In 2021, nomination form was streamlined to provide consistency in nomination details. The HUPO Awards committee members found it easy to read the descriptions, cast their votes, and the HUPO Office to tabulate the results all within the single form with the online voting page called “Judgify”. As its fourth year of use, the Awards committee is now used to the process and we will continue to use this system going forward. The reduced barrier to nomination provided increased nominations for 2021 providing a rich field of candidates. Again, the HUPO Award committee process and goals was truly remarkable given the breadth of participation, and with very worthy results in 2021 providing the upmost recognition for the best science in proteomics by its members.