

## HUPO Awards committee report for 2023

HUPO Awards Chair: Prof. Robert Moritz (USA)

HUPO Awards co-Chair: Prof. Ruth Birner-Gruenberger, Austria

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

### 2023 HUPO Awards Committee

For 2023, many of the members of the HUPO Awards committee was retained from 2022 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/HUPO-Committees>) and totals 23 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 2023 Awards Committee was chartered to deliberate on potential nominees as put forward for consideration of six HUPO Awards (Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award, Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award, Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award, the ECR Rising Star Award, and the Science & Technology (IAB selection). The sixth HUPO Award, the Science & Technology award was selected by the HUPO Industrial Advisory Board for nomination, and the result sent to the HUPO Awards committee, and subsequently the HUPO EC for ratification.

### Names of HUPO Awards committee members for 2023

#### 2022 HUPO Awards Committee Members:

##### **EASTERN REGION**

Subhra Chakraborty, India  
Shamshad Zarina, Pakistan  
Henry Lam, China  
Magnus Palmblad, Netherlands  
Laura Dagley, Australia  
Melanie White, Australia  
Tadashi Yamamoto, Japan  
Frank Schmidt, Qatar

##### **CENTRAL REGION**

Concha Gil, Spain  
Elena Ponomarenko, Russia  
Hosseini Salekdeh, Iran  
Nicolai Bache, Denmark  
Paola Roncada, Italy  
Ruth Birner-Gruenberger, Austria (co-Chair)  
Yves Vandenbrouck, France

##### **WESTERN REGION**

Robert Moritz, USA (Chair)

Ralph Bradshaw, USA

Birgit Schilling, USA

Susan Weintraub, USA

Hannes Röst, Canada

Pierre Thibault, Canada

Yansheng Liu, USA

Sergio Encarnacion-Guevara, Mexico

## **Award 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 5 yearly awards and 1 biannual award (when the year coincides such as in 2023) bestowed by the HUPO organization to recognize achievements in the field of proteomics. Of the six HUPO Awards categories, five 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 six total HUPO Awards categories are:

1. Clinical & Translational Proteomics
2. Discovery in Proteomics
3. Distinguished Achievement in Proteomics
4. ECR Rising Star Award
5. Distinguished Service (bi-annual to be considered in 2023)
6. Science & Technology (IAB selection)

## **HUPO Awards process**

Again in 2023, 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 2023 HUPO awards categories of Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award, Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award, Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award, and the ECR Rising Star 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 2023, 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 2023, 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 2023, the HUPO award nominees were selected from the following total nominees:*

1. Clinical & Translational Proteomics	6
2. Discovery in Proteomic Sciences	13
3. Distinguished Achievement	7
4. ECR Rising Star Award	5
5. Distinguished Service (bi-annual)	5
6. Science & Technology (IAB selection)	5

The 2023 HUPO Awards committee had conducted a single vote round based on an extensive field of candidates for five awards: Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award, Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award, the Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award, Distinguished Service Award, and the ECR Rising Star Award. The HUPO EC also ratifies the Science & Technology Award forwarded by the IAB. The vote was conducted and the result tallied. To also be transparent of the awards committee, a member abstained from voting in individual categories that represented a conflict of interest, being Hannes Röst, University of Toronto (Canada).

Outcomes of the voting were tabulated and sent to the HUPO Awards chair for tabulation, ensures compliance with the awards criteria for each category, 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 Busan, Korea HUPO congress, the 2023 face-to-face congress, 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, an awards criteria, then the award is bestowed on the second-place nominee who is also expected to be present at the upcoming HUPO Congress.

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 and not academic partners. The final selected nomination from the IAB is then forwarded to the HUPO Awards committee, for compliance with the award criteria (see HUPO website), and ratification of the IAB vote.

**For 2023, we congratulate the winners of the following HUPO Awards:**

Clinical and Translational Proteomics Award

**Prof. Rebekah Gundry**, (HUPO member since 2015) - Female (Nominator wishes to remain anonymous)

Discovery in Proteomic Sciences Award

**Dr. Hannes Röst, CA** (HUPO member since 2015) – Male (Nominated by Ruedi Aebersold)

Distinguished Achievement in Proteomic Sciences Award

**Dr. Bernhard Küster, Germany** (HUPO member since 2015) – Male (Nominated by Fuchu He)

ECR Rising Star Award

**Dr. Nicholas Riley, USA** (HUPO member since 2022) – Male (Nominated by Carolyn R. Bertozzi and Joshua Coon)

Distinguished Service Award (bi-annual)

**Henning Hermjakob**, UK (HUPO member since 2002) – Male (Nominated by Fuchu He and Juan Antonio Vizcaino)

Science & Technology Award (IAB)

**Alexey Chernobrovkin and Tomas Friman, Sweden “Pelago Biosciences”**– Male (Nominated by HUPO IAB Johan Lenggqvist, Pelago Bioscience) (IAB HUPO member since 2020)

**Awards committee goals**

In 2023, the HUPO Awards committee put forward the streamlined nomination form to provide consistency in nomination details per candidate. The HUPO Awards committee members easily read the descriptions, casted their votes, and the HUPO Office then tabulated the results all within the single form with the online voting page called “Judgify”. As its sixth year of use, the Awards committee has found the program too restrictive and the HUPO Awards process will define a new voting system going forward into 2024.

The reduced barrier to nomination with smaller text fields for input of nominees’ achievements for the particular award category, provided increased nominations for 2023 providing a rich field of candidates. Again, the HUPO Award committee process and goals were truly remarkable given the breadth of participation, and with very worthy results in 2023 providing the upmost recognition for the best science in proteomics by its members.

It is noted that the gender balance of the 2023 HUPO Awards was poor, mainly due to the overwhelmingly male nominees in 2023. It is hoped that gender equality for both nominations and selections will improve in 2024.

Finally, the HUPO Awards committee actively seeks new committee members from all regions to contribute to the awards process and asks all HUPO members to consider becoming a HUPO Awards committee member to ensure a balance in gender and geographical representation.