

Cyprus Institute of Neurology & Genetics - Cyprus School of Molecular Medicine

Genovation Competition for Undergraduates, Postgraduates and Graduates

The Cyprus Institute of Neurology & Genetics (CING) and the Cyprus School of Molecular Medicine (CSMM) are pleased to announce the second annual **Genovation competition**, aimed at students (undergraduates/postgraduates) as well as graduates of disciplines which are associated with the activities of the Institute. The winner of the competition will have the opportunity to be hosted by Laboratories and Departments of the CING during the summer months and to experience from first-hand the high calibre work conducted by the Institute's leading scientists in the process of diagnosing and researching hereditary diseases. The winner will be treated to the opportunities usually reserved only for the MSc and PhD students of the Cyprus School of Molecular Medicine. In addition, the winner will also be entitled to a tuition scholarship worth €500 in the event that he/she applies to the CSMM and is successfully accepted and registered onto one of the School's seven postgraduate programs. The CSMM will also contribute towards/cover the cost of the airfare for the first place winner if they are not resident in Cyprus during the period of the placement, up to €300 (*terms and conditions apply).

Competition Description: To enter the competition, students must address the following topic in a written essay of no more than **400 words in English** (any text over this amount will not be considered):

Recent media attention has brought to light the case of Keri and Royce Young from Oklahoma USA. The couple are parents of an unborn baby diagnosed with anencephaly. Anencephaly is a fatal disorder characterized by the absence of a major portion of the brain, skull, and scalp that occurs during embryonic development. The couple have rejected aborting the baby and are proceeding with giving birth in May 2017 to a girl named Eva. A few minutes after her birth Eva will donate all her organs. Eva will live only for a few minutes, during which time she will save the lives of 19 people.

This case has raised several ethical and legal issues in the USA. What is your opinion about newborn organ donations? What are the risks and benefits behind it?

Criteria: Answers should be concise and will be evaluated on the student's ability for **critical thinking** of a topic which has both scientific significance but also ethical implications.

Deadline: All applications must be submitted electronically to the CSMM by **Friday 21 April 2017**. Entries received after the deadline will not be considered. The essay must be presented in Word format and must be accompanied by the official CSMM entry form. Both documents must be submitted via email to: **csmm@cing.ac.cy**

Entrants: The Competition welcomes entries from undergraduates, postgraduates as well as graduates. Students, who are currently registered on a program of the CSMM, are not permitted to enter the competition.

Prize: The winner of the competition will be awarded a tuition scholarship amount of €500 plus a summer placement with the CING with a maximum duration of 3 months (to take place during the period June, July, August). The summer placement must be carried out either in the year that it is awarded or in the following year at the latest. This is a voluntary placement with no remuneration.

Terms and conditions for scholarship:

- 1) The tuition scholarship amount of €500 cannot be exchanged for cash or for any other prize
- 2) The scholarship amount will ONLY be awarded if the winner of the competition applies to the CSMM, undergoes all the admissions processes of the CSMM, is successful in their application and proceeds to register onto one of the School's seven postgraduate programs. The CSMM and CING reserve the right not to offer the scholarship under any other circumstances
- 3) The winner will have up to two academic years in which they will be allowed to redeem their scholarship prize. For example the winner of the 2017 Genovation competition will have to apply, be accepted and register with the CSMM during one of the two academic years immediately following - i.e. academic year 2017-18 or academic year 2018-19
- 4) Once enrolled as a CSMM student, the winner maintains the right to apply for further scholarships available to CSMM students

***Terms and conditions for airfare cover:**

The CSMM will contribute towards/cover the cost of the airfare for the first place winner if they are not resident in Cyprus during the period of the placement, up to a maximum amount of €300. This is provided that:

- 1) The winner will indeed be present at the CING for the entirety of the agreed period of the placement
- 2) The winner will present the airfare receipt
- 3) The winner lives abroad and he/she provides evidence of this (e.g. is a registered student of an academic program in a university overseas. In the case of graduates, other evidence will need to be presented regarding their country of residence)
- 4) The winner's airfare starting destination matches with the country of residence e.g. he/she is flying from the UK and is registered as a student of a university in the UK.

Information Tel: 00357 22 392843 Email: csmm@cing.ac.cy