
Public Resolution IMFAHE'S Excellence Fellowships 2019



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OVERVIEW AND GOALS OF IMFAHE'S EXCELLENCE FELLOWSHIPS

A key goal of the International Mentoring Foundation for the Advancement of Higher Education ([IMFAHE](#)) is to encourage and support the professional development of European university students.

To advance this goal, IMFAHE, in collaboration with the Spanish universities of Valladolid, La Laguna, Europea Miguel de Cervantes, Politécnica de Valencia, Sevilla and Málaga (Campus de Excelencia Andalucía TECH) and Autónoma de Madrid, has created 12 fellowships for the academic year 2018-19.

Through these fellowships, students affiliated with those universities will be exposed to valuable professional experiences at top international institutions in order to learn about different working methods and cultural values, improve their communication skills in English, expand their professional network, and improve their soft skills among others.

50% of the students who have received these fellowships in the past have been hosted by Harvard University and MIT.

FELLOWSHIPS RESOLUTION

1. RESOLUTION OF THE 12 FELLOWSHIPS SPONSORED BY THE SPANISH UNIVERSITIES:

12 students/mentees from the universities and IMP specialties indicated in the chart below have been awarded, after a competitive process, with an excellence fellowship.

| Fellowships University-UMFAHE | IMP-Engineering | IMP-Biomedicine | IMP-Economics/Entrepreneurship |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| UVA-IMFAHE | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| ULL-IMFAHE | 1 | 2 | |
| UEMC-IMFAHE | | 1 | |
| UPV-IMFAHE | 1 | | |
| Campus Excelencia Andalucia TECH (US & UMA)-IMFAHE | 1 | 1 | |
| UAM-IMFAHE | | 2 | |

Each fellowship will allow the awardee to carry out an internship at a top international organization. The benefits of the fellowship include a stipend of \$3000 to be used at the discretion of the awardee to cover the travel, accommodations and living expenses for 2 months, and in the case that the hosting center is in US, cover a J1 visa and medical insurance for 2 months.

*Note: Campus de Excelencia Andalucia TECH (Universities of Sevilla & Malaga) sponsors \$4000 fellowships in order to cover 3-month internships

STEPS IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS:

1. January 14th 2019: IMFAHE published the public call of the IMFAHE's Excellence Fellowships 2019.
2. January 15th-February 4th 2019: The applicants submitted the following documents: an updated CV in [standard format](#) (**Doc 1: CV**) and a 1 page maximum personal statement (**Doc 2: personal statement**)
3. February 5th-February 19th 2019: A committee of at least 2 independent professionals from each IMP-specialty evaluated each application with a maximum of 250 points (100 points de CV and 150 points the Personal Statement). Each member of the evaluation committee used the same criteria that included: level of motivation o the candidate, proactivity (participating in the quarter courses and in the IMFAHE's Nodal Award-Idea Competition-Shark Tank), professional experience, volunteer work, courses, publications, conferences, mobility, skills, etc.
4. February 20th 2019: IMFAHE contacted the mentors of the top1-evaluated students to request a recommendation letter for the mentee.

5. February 22nd-March 17th. IMFAHE communicated (confidentially) the resolution to the winners. Next, the winners proposed a list of hosting centers based on their field of expertise/interests. IMFAHE contacted with the hosting centers to propose the fellowship winners to carry out an internship in their institutions.
6. March 18th-March 19th. IMFAHE Releases the name of the awardees at IMFAHE Connects and the International Conference at ULL, Tenerife, Spain.

THESE ARE THE WINNERS OF THE EXCELLENCE FELLOWSHIPS 2019:

| FELLOWSHIP WINNER | UNIVERSITY (SPECIALTY) | *HOSTING CENTER (*TBC) |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Génesis Palacios Cortés | ULL (Biomedicine) | University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas, USA |
| Judith Hernández Garcés | ULL (Biomedicine) | Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA |
| Carmen Corbella Pardo | ULL (Engineering) | Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA |
| Noa Feas Rodríguez | UVA (Biomedicine) | BWH/Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA |
| SARA UZQUIANO Pérez | UVA (Engineering) | Harvard University, MA, USA |
| Laura Barrero Bayon | UVA (Economics) | Mirai,-Bi-Geek Boston, MA, USA |
| Patrycja Michalska | UAM (Biomedicine) | The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA, USA |
| Verónica Miguel Herranz | UAM (Biomedicine) | Beth Israel Medical Center-Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA |
| Nieves Lara Ureña | US (Biomedicine) | Trinity College Dublin, Ireland |
| Francesca Cascone | UMA (Engineering) | Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA |
| Raimon Calabuig Moreno | UPV (Engineering) | Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA |
| Laura Barrero Santiago | UEMC (Biomedicine) | TBA |

2. RESOLUTION OF THE “WOMEN IN STEM & ENTREPRENEURSHIP FELLOWSHIP” SPONSORED BY IMFAHE FOUNDATION:

Women in important fields such as Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) & Entrepreneurship are underrepresented. In order to promote STEM vocations, gender equality, professional opportunities of excellence and career success for women, IMFAHE has created an “IMFAHE's Women in STEM & Entrepreneurship Fellowship 2019”

All women mentees participating in the IMP program 2018-19, regardless of whether their University sponsors an IMFAHE Fellowship or not, were eligible to apply.

This fellowship will allow the awardee to carry out an internship in a top international organization. The benefits of the fellowship include a stipend of \$4000 to be used at the discretion of the awardee to cover the travel, accommodation and living expenses for 3 months, and in the case that the hosting center is in US, cover a J1 visa and medical insurance for the 3 months.

STEPS IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS:

1. January 14th 2019: IMFAHE published the public call of the IMFAHE's Excellence Fellowships 2019.
2. January 15th-February 4th 2019: The applicants submitted the following documents: an updated CV in [standard format](#) (**Doc 1: CV**) and a 1 page maximum personal statement (**Doc 2: personal statement**)
3. February 5th-February 19th 2019: A committee of at least 2 independent professionals from each IMP-specialty evaluated each application with a maximum of 300 points (100 points de CV and 200 points the Personal Statement). Each member of the evaluation committee used the same criteria that included: Actions taken by the candidate to empower women in STEM, level of motivation, proactivity (participating in the quarter courses and in the IMFAHE's Nodal Award-Idea Competition-Shark Tank), professional experience, volunteer work, courses, publications, conferences, mobility, skills, etc.
4. February 20th-February 24th: Each IMP specialty proposed 1 candidate (the best evaluated) and a committee composed by 5 evaluators, following the same evaluation criteria, ranked each finalist with a maximum of 300 points (100 points de CV and 200 points the Personal Statement). The winner of the women in STEM fellowship is the candidate that obtained more points (see table of the finalists below).
5. February 24th 2019: IMFAHE contacts the mentor of the top1 candidate to request a recommendation letter.
6. February 25th. IMFAHE communicates the winner the results. Next, the Women in STEM fellowship winner propose a list of hosting centers based on her field of expertise/interests. IMFAHE contacts with the hosting center to propose the fellowship winners to carry out an internship.

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7. March 18th-Mach 19th. IMFAHE Releases the name of the awardee at IMFAHE Connects and the International Conference at ULL, Tenerife, Spain.

The winner of the IMFAHE's excellent fellowship for women in STEM/entrepreneurship 2019 with 263 points (out of 300 maximum) is **Yolanda Larriba González** (PhD student in the department of statistics and operations research at University of Valladolid).

Among some impressive parts of her personal statement, Yolanda stated:

"Science fascinated me since I was a child. I still remember my first Cell Biology lesson at school where I imagined cells orchestrating all biological processes -everything makes sense, I thought"

THESE ARE THE FINALISTS OF IMFAHE'S WOMEN IN STEM & ENTREPRENEURSHIP FELLOWSHIPS 2019:

| Ranking Applicants | IMP Specialty | University |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Yolanda Larriba | IMP-Biomedicine (Spain) | University of Valladolid |
| Marguerita Rosa | IMP-Biomedicine (Portugal) | University of Aveiro |
| Laura Barrero Bayón | IMP-Economics (Spain) | University of Valladolid |
| Olaya Mediavilla Santon | IMP-Engineering (Spain) | University of Valladolid |