



# IUIS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

## For Future Leaders in Immunology

1st Edition - October 25-28, 2026 | Oaxaca, Mexico

### Organizers

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Co-organized by:

- IUIS & Junior Community
- ALACI & ALACI Junior Community
- SMI (Sociedad Mexicana de Inmunología)
- CSI (Canadian Society for Immunology)
- AAI (American Association of Immunology)

### Why a Leadership Academy?

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Immunology increasingly shapes global health, yet future leaders in the field lack structured training opportunities in the soft skills critical to running successful research programs. Positive, inclusive, and well-led scientific environments have been shown to improve research outcomes. The IUIS Leadership Academy was designed to fill this gap, offering training in:

- Leadership skills and strategic mindset
- People management, conflict resolution and mentoring
- Professional networking and science communication
- Collaborative environments and funding strategies

### Program Format

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#### Online Webinar Series (August–October 2026)

A series of 4 open webinars accessible to a worldwide audience via YouTube live stream (and accessible for asynchronous review on YouTube). Speakers will cover key leadership themes led by distinguished faculty.

#### In-Person Workshop (October 25–28, 2026 | Oaxaca, Mexico)

A 4-day, 3-night immersive workshop for ca. 20 rising immunology leaders. Includes:

- Workshops, seminars and training sessions
- Night Science workshop (Oliver Bogler)
- Cultural event Networking with faculty and peer cohort

### Faculty

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#### In-Person Component

- Marion Brunck (UNAM, MX)
- Anne Hahn (University of Melbourne, AUS)
- Oliver Bogler (Night Science, US)
- Christina Termini (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, US)
- Lee-Hwa Tai (EDI-CSI, Université de Sherbrooke, Canada)

- Juan Quintana (University of Manchester / Venezuela, UK)
- Matthew Sinton (University of Manchester, UK)
- Eva Salinas (President of SMI, MX)
- Laura Palomares (UNAM, MX)
- Monica Guzman (Weill Cornell University, US)

### Online Webinar Series

- Miriam Merad (Mount Sinai Medical School, US)
- Yasmine Belkaid (Institute Pasteur, France)
- Camila Cohelo (Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, US/Brazil)
- Carolina Lucas (Yale University, US)
- Wal Dutra (President of ALACI, Brazil)
- Victor Sojo (University of Melbourne, Australia)
- Fred Ramsdell (Nobel laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2025)

## Application process for the In-Person component

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The program targets senior postdoctoral researchers and early-stage group leaders working in immunology across the PanAmerican region (ideally 2-3 years and max 10 yrs of full-time equivalent postdoctoral, individual career interruptions taken into account). Applicants must hold an appointment in the country of the sponsoring national society with clear intention to foster research and education in their respective region.

Up to 15-20 participants will be selected for the in-person component. Selection will be coordinated through national immunological societies.

With your application, every participant commits to

- Participate in the live webinar series
- Participate in the in-person course in Oaxaca
- Actively commit to engage with the course material, the faculty and other participants
- Participate in the booster sessions 6- and 12-months after the course
- Participate in mentoring activities
- Contribute in local, national and regional activities

## How to Apply

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1. [– Fill out form](#) with your personal details and institutional information. You will be prompted to answer the following questions (200 words each)
  - What motivates you to participate in this leadership academy? Describe any relevant previous leadership experiences or engagement that demonstrate your commitment to creating positive change in your community, organization, or field beyond your immediate workplace.
  - How will you use and share the knowledge, skills, and connections gained through the program to advance your leadership goals and benefit others locally or in the region? Please describe a project, initiative, or idea that you would like to strengthen or launch after participating in the academy and who would benefit.
  - What issue or challenge would you like to see addressed in immunological research across the Americas over the next decade, and what role do you hope to play in making it happen?
2. Send a copy of your responses together with a 2-page CV to your national society (see contact details below) and CC [junior-community@iuis.org](mailto:junior-community@iuis.org) and [alacijuniorcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:alacijuniorcommunity@gmail.com)

## **Deadline July 31 2026**

We will inform all applicants about their application status by **August 15**.

## **Costs Covered**

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The following costs are fully covered for selected participants:

- Accommodation (3 nights in same-sex shared room, single occupancies subject to availability)
- Full board catering and coffee breaks during the 4-day workshop
- Meeting room and all program materials
- Access to the online webinar series

Travel (flights): Participants are expected to seek support from their national immunological society or self-fund their travel expenses. In exceptional cases, limited travel support may be available based on individual assessment.

## **Preliminary Program for In-Person Component**

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### **Faculty Talks**

Effective communication by Monica Guzman

Being a IUIS Rising Star - on the importance of networking by Matthew Stinton

The process of writing a winning grant application by Juan Quintana

Organizō by Christina Termini

Fostering diversity and collaborations in immunological research by Lee-Hwa Tai

Research beyond academia - building powerful collaborations with industry by Laura Palomares (TBC)

### **Activities:**

Leadership Styles & Self-Assessment

Mentoring & Coaching

Conflict Management

Time and Self-Management

Setting a 10-year vision for immunology in the ALACI region

### **Workshops:**

Night Science: the Creative Scientific Process by Oliver Bogler

EMBO Lab Leadership Teaser

Red of Investigadores Indigenes (REMII)

### **Cultural Activities**

City Walk in Oaxaca

Trip to Monte Alban (Optional)

### **Networking**

Presidential Dinner

3 Minute Science Talks

## **Contacts**

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[junior-community@iuis.org](mailto:junior-community@iuis.org)

[alacijuniorcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:alacijuniorcommunity@gmail.com)

See a Table for ALACI's national societies and contacts below

National Society	Contact	President and Secretary
Sociedad Argentina de Inmunología	<a href="mailto:sai.secr@gmail.com">sai.secr@gmail.com</a>	Rosanna Ramhorst Soledad Gori
Sociedade Brasileira de Imunologia	<a href="mailto:sbi@sbi.org.br">sbi@sbi.org.br</a> / <a href="mailto:comunicacao@sbi.org.br">comunicacao@sbi.org.br</a>	Karina Ramalho Bortoluci Alexandra Ivo de Medeiros
Asociación Chilena de Inmunología	<a href="mailto:dsauma@uchile.cl">dsauma@uchile.cl</a> / <a href="mailto:paolamurgas@gmail.com">paolamurgas@gmail.com</a>	Daniela Macarena Sauma Mahaluf Paola Patricia Murgas Alcaíno
Sociedad Mexicana de Inmunología	<a href="mailto:contacto@sociedadmexicanadeimmunologia.org">contacto@sociedadmexicanadeimmunologia.org</a>	Eva María Salinas Miralles Marion E. G. Brunck
Asociación Colombiana de Alergia, Asma e Inmunología	<a href="mailto:acaai@acaai.co">acaai@acaai.co</a>	Manuela Olaya Margarita Acevedo
Sociedad Cubana de Inmunología	<a href="mailto:anbepediaz2007@googlemail.com">anbepediaz2007@googlemail.com</a>	Ana Beatriz Pérez Díaz Belinda Sánchez Ramírez
Sociedad Peruana de Inmunología	<a href="mailto:administracion@spi.org.pe">administracion@spi.org.pe</a>	Jorge Estanislao La Serna Infantes Marie Angelique Lazo Betetta
Sociedad Boliviana de Inmunología	<a href="mailto:cristina.alonso.vega@gmail.com">cristina.alonso.vega@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:charitomanzur@gmail.com">charitomanzur@gmail.com</a>	Cristina Alonso Vega Maria del Rosario Manzur Soria
West Indian Immunology Society	<a href="mailto:info@westindianimmunologysociety.org">info@westindianimmunologysociety.org</a>	

If you don't have a national society or can't find your contacts please reach out to [alacijuniorcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:alacijuniorcommunity@gmail.com)