The Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize

Administered by the University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine

The Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize was created by an estate gift made to the University of British Columbia (UBC) by Leonard Herbert Margolese.

1. Purpose of the Prize:
The Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize will be awarded annually to a Canadian physician or scientist who makes outstanding contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or cure of brain disorders. The prize is awarded with the expectation that the recipient will continue to make outstanding contributions in the future, since this is not a lifetime achievement award. Among the criteria that will be considered is impact on policy and practice, forging partnerships with scientists and others to foster brain disorders research and/or to implement discoveries, and cultivating future leaders in the field.

2. Monetary Award for the Prize:
One prize of $50,000.00 CAD will be awarded annually. The value of the prize will be re-evaluated every third year.

3. Eligibility Requirements:
To be considered for a prize, candidates must be nominated by an expert in their field. Self-nominations will not be accepted. The Selection Review Committee reserves the right to rule on the eligibility of nominees.

A prize will be awarded to a person employed by the University of British Columbia once and only once out of every six years. The Margolese National Brain Disorders prize was last awarded to a person employed by UBC in 2017. Therefore, only persons employed by UBC are eligible for the prize in 2023. UBC may decline to award a prize in any given year if the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine is of the opinion that awarding a prize is impractical or undesirable.

3.1. Eligible Candidate Nomination Criteria:
3.1.1. Must be a Canadian citizen;
3.1.2. Must hold an academic appointment in good standing and be active and productive in their career;
3.1.3. To receive the prize, the candidate must have made outstanding contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or cure of brain disorders.

3.2. Ineligible Candidates:
3.2.1. Those who have previously received a Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize at any time. No individual may be awarded the prize more than once;
3.2.2. Members of the Selection Review Committee during their term as members;
3.2.3. UBC employees if another UBC employee has received a Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize within the last five years. UBC employees are defined as primary affiliated faculty at UBC.

4. Nomination Process:
The nominator is responsible for gathering all of the relevant documentation and submitting a Nomination Package in English, which must include a completed Nomination Form and supporting material as follows:

4.1. Nomination Form Documentation:
   4.1.1. The nominator’s contact details;
   4.1.2. The nominee’s full home and office addresses, telephone number, and email address;
   4.1.3. The category of nomination;
   4.1.4. The signed declaration of the nominator;
   4.1.5. The names and contact details of two experts willing to provide a letter of support. One expert must be from outside Canada and outside the nominee’s institute.

4.2 Nomination Supporting Documentation:
   4.2.1. A letter of nomination stating the nominee’s contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or cure of brain disorders, the nominee’s cultivation of future leaders, and the nominee’s impact on their field of work, including a list of the nominee’s five most significant publications and the reasons why the nominee should receive the award (a maximum of three pages); including a statement of impact.
   4.2.2. The nominee’s curriculum vitae, including a complete list of publications;
   4.2.3. Two letters of support from experts in the nominee’s field of work. At least one letter must be from an expert outside Canada and at least one from outside the nominee’s home institute (Please Note: Letter from outside Canada can be the same as the one from outside home institute);
   4.2.4. Proof that the nominee is a Canadian citizen (for example, a photocopy of nominee’s identifying passport page).

A completed nomination package must be received by the UBC Faculty of Medicine via the online submission portal by the predetermined deadline. Late or incomplete nominations will not be accepted.

5. Resubmissions
The nominations of eligible candidates may be considered for up to three years. Candidates may be nominated for up to three consecutive years, and then may be re-nominated after a three year pause from the competition. Nominators are required to submit the following documents for reconsideration:

5.1. An updated letter of nomination stating the nominee’s contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or cure of brain disorders, the nominee’s cultivation of future leaders, and the
nominee’s impact on their field of work, including a list of the nominee’s five most significant publications and the reasons why the nominee should receive the award (a maximum of three pages); including a statement of impact.

5.2 The nominee’s updated curriculum vitae, including a complete list of publications.

6. Adjudication Process
The eligible nomination packages will undergo adjudication by a Selection Review Committee with members both internal and external to UBC. The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, in consultation with the Selection Review Committee, will select the prize recipient through a majority vote. In the event of a tie, the Dean will make the final decision as to the prize recipient. Selection of the prize recipient is final and without appeal.

7. Notification of Results
The Faculty of Medicine will notify the prize recipient and their nominator by telephone or email. The Faculty of Medicine will notify all remaining nominators of the results by email. The name of the recipient will formally be announced to the public once the nominators and selected nominees have been notified. Except for notifying prize recipients, the Faculty of Medicine will not contact nominees.

8. Conditions of Receiving the Award

8.1. Publicity:
8.1.1. Recipients and nominators must not reveal the results of the prize competition until the Faculty of Medicine releases the official public announcement;
8.1.2. Prize recipients agree to the use of their name and information in all official prize related communications. Prize recipients agree to the use of photography and other public information about themselves and their research to be used for all promotional materials as they relate to the prize and other promotional initiatives;
8.1.3. The recipient must agree to fully participate in all prize activities, including public lectures, media conferences, ceremonies and receptions. In particular, recipients are expected to attend a prize ceremony the year they are the recipient of the prize, and provide some reflections on their career, the field, and the significance of the prize;
8.1.4. The recipient must also agree to participate in prize related activities in future years at the request of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, including public lectures, media conferences, ceremonies and receptions;
8.1.5. If the selected prize recipient dies before the prize is awarded at the ceremony, the prize will be awarded posthumously on the basis that it may not have a financial aspect.

8.2. Spending Conditions:
While there are no restrictions with regards to how the monetary prize may be used, it is expected that prize recipients will continue to demonstrate excellence in health research and make further contributions in their field of work.