GRANT FUNDING TO ATTEND OMERACT 2018 MEETING

PURPOSE
The EULAR Grant to Fellows to attend the OMERACT 2018 meeting aims to promote the international exchange of rheumatic expertise and knowledge and exposure of young, clinical scientists and epidemiologists to strong and rigorous methodology in outcomes science. The program provides meeting registration support to outstanding rheumatology fellows, recently graduated fellows or other health professionals who are interested in research, and exposes them to the work that is being done by colleagues overseas. This opportunity allows participants to share knowledge and experience, and creates opportunities for collaboration between them. In addition, the program fosters collaboration between EULAR and OMERACT.

The OMERACT 2018 meeting is scheduled for May 14 – 18, 2018 in Terrigal Australia.

Fellow Eligibility Criteria & Role

We accept 2 categories of Fellows (application form will be made available on the website):

WG-SPONSORED (i.e. already linked with a WG)

WG-NOT PRE-SPONSORED (i.e. without any prior link with a WG)  Common rules and activities:

A Fellow (WG-SPONSORED or WG-NOT PRE-SPONSORED) is anyone in a training scheme (an attestation letter from the supervisor or the institution secretary should be provided) or having already completed the training, who is “young” in his/her research career and not older than 40 years.

We will not set a limit and we will accept as many as apply and if there are more than 20 fellows, then extra Senior OMERACTers will help run parallel orientation and daily sessions.

Fellows must attend the First Day meeting and present their work as poster or oral presentation.

Fellows must attend and feedback to the daily sessions.

Fellows will be invited to present the summary of the previous days SIGs at the beginning of each day to the main meeting.

Fellows are expected to participate in the ENTIRE program, ALL sessions.

A Fellow can only attend the OMERACT Fellow Daily program once – they are most welcome at subsequent OMERACT meetings.
Specific criteria:

A) WG-SPONSORED

All WG-SPONSORED Fellows are required to submit an abstract and participating to the Fellow First day and Daily Sessions Program (if they apply for the first time) which make them eligible for the subsidized rate.

A WG-SPONSORED Fellow should expect to present for at least some part of the WG presentation in the main meeting of the group (SIG, WS, Module, etc).

The abstract work submitted to the Fellow Program should NOT be identical to their presentation in the main meeting but may be a spin-off from that work or a more detailed version of what is going to be presented in the main OMERACT WG meeting (exceptions to this may be first time SIGs).

WG leads are required to review and endorse the WG-SPONSORED Fellow’s abstracts prior to submission.

WG-SPONSORED Fellows who are attending a second or subsequent OMERACT may still submit an abstract of their work for discussion and for receiving the reduced rate, if not already being supported by their WG. These fellows would attend the Fellow First Day but would not attend the Fellow Daily Sessions.

All WGs presenting at the meeting must help support the WG-SPONSORED Fellow financially to come. **B) WG-NOT PRE-SPONSORED**

All WG-NOT PRE-SPONSORED Fellows are required to submit an abstract and present a poster during the First Day Meeting, which make them eligible for the subsidized rate.

WG-NOT PRE-SPONSORED Fellows who are not submitting an abstract or participating in the poster review session will not receive the reduced rate and cannot participate to the Fellow Program.

A letter of support is required from current or most recent past supervisor at time of registration.

The abstract should be in the spirit of OMERACT activities and feedback and revision will be supervised by a senior OMERACT panel.

If WG-NOT PRE-SPONSORED Fellows do not have found by themselves a WG of interest, we will allocate them one before they come to the meeting (meaning that in some instances WGs will have more than one Fellow).
Application and Documentation

- **OMERACT**: An international initiative to improve outcome measurement in rheumatology
  1. Complete the application
  2. Applicants must submit an abstract with their application; those without abstracts will not be considered. Work described in the abstract should be related to outcome measures.
  3. Abstracts submitted should follow EULAR guidelines.

Abstract guidelines: the abstract limit is 2,750 characters, including the title and authors, not including spacing or disclosures. In addition, if you import tables and graphics, your character count will be decreased by 250 characters from the total limit allowed. Your abstract will be considered “incomplete” if you exceed the limit.
  4. Current curriculum vitae (limited to 3 pages – please include publications).
  5. All applications and documents must be received by **5pm Eastern Standard Time (EST) on February 15th 2018**.

**SELECTION PROCESS**
Selection for the 2018 OMERACT meeting will be conducted by the EULAR-OMERACT Fellow Program Committee. The committee will review all applications and make its selection of participants by March 1, 2018. Selected applicants will receive a 1,000.00 bursary from EULAR to apply to the cost of their meeting registration fees & travel.

**NOTIFICATION**
Selected applicants will be notified by e-mail on or just before March 1, 2018. At that time, the selected participants will receive more details about arrangements for the May 2018 meeting.

Sincerely,

Maria Antonietta D’Agostino & Lyn March
Co-Chairs OMERACT 2016 Fellows Programming
on Behalf of OMERACT Executive