Panchi’s Postdoctoral Prize

Description: Dr. Francisca Diaz, also known as “Panchi”, passed away on March 5, 2021 after a year-long battle with endometrial cancer. Panchi grew up in Venezuela and did her Ph.D. in the USA. After two postdoctoral periods at the University of Miami, she became a Research Assistant Professor in Neurology and was soon after promoted to Research Associate Professor upon securing an R01 grant. She made many important contributions to the study of mitochondrial diseases, pioneering the production and characterization of mouse models and their use to develop treatments. She also trained students and postdoctoral fellows. She was particularly sympathetic to outstanding postdocs who faced difficult projects or unexpected personal issues that made them underdogs in the race for jobs.

In her honor and with the support of her family, friends and colleagues, an annual award was established to recognize two UM Postdoctoral Fellows who have faced difficult odds and continued to persevere in pursuing a scientific career.

Prize: $1,000 for each award (two awards), to be used as desired.

Application: Submit a personal statement, CV and a support letter from either the current or a previous mentor (the mentor letter to be sent directly to the email below). Email the application documents to the PPP steering committee (c/o cmoraes@med.miami.edu) with the title “PPP-YOUR LAST NAME”

Deadline: December 1st, 2022

Selection announcement: December 22nd, 2022

Award presentation: January 31st, 2023. Each awardee will make a 15 minutes scientific presentation.

For more information and contributions to the fund, please visit: https://www.gofundme.com/f/panchis-postdoctoral-award