The Eric and Wendy Schmidt Postdoctoral Award for Women in Mathematical and Computing Sciences

The Program will offer support for promising women who have recently received their doctorate from a university in Israel and intend to pursue academic research careers in the mathematical and computational sciences or engineering in Israel. Each recipient will receive US $50,000 when she starts a fellowship in her discipline outside of Israel within a year of the award announcement, with a possibility of another $50,000 for a second year based on research progress and Program guidelines.

The goal of the Program is to increase the number of women faculty members in research universities in Israel in the fields of mathematical and computational sciences and engineering. Carrying out research in a center abroad is an important step in a research career, as it provides exposure to broader currents in a researcher’s field, increases visibility and participation in professional networks, and establishes a position in the global field.

Approximately 10 women per year will be competitively selected and assisted in pursuing a postdoctoral or early career research fellowship abroad in specified areas by supplementing their annual income. This will enable them to pursue and focus on their research while maintaining other obligations they might have.

An international committee of distinguished researchers will assist in evaluating the applications and identifying the top candidates:

- Yoelle Maarek (Chair; Yahoo Research)
- Shiri Artstein--Avidan (Tel Aviv University)
- Hagit Attiya (Technion)
- Ron Brachman (Jacobs Technion--Cornell Institute)
- Rivka Carmi (Ben Gurion University)
- Israel Cidon (Technion)
- Moni Naor (Weizmann Institute)
- Jennifer Rexford (Princeton University)
- Jeff Rosenschein (Hebrew University)

Applications will be accepted through June of each year during the Program term from women who plan to complete their PhDs the subsequent year and would like to apply for a postdoctoral fellowship abroad for the following year. Applications will also be accepted from early-career (less than three years after receiving their PhD) untenured women faculty members in universities in Israel, who are considering a research leave abroad. Applicants will complete an online form and provide CV, research plan, and letters of reference -- the same information they would submit when applying for postdoctoral positions. The applicants’ research must be belong to the areas of computer science, or related fields of engineering.
Recipients of the awards will be announced in the fall, ideally in time to permit them to apply for appropriate fellowships abroad and reference the award on their applications.

The Program will award each recipient US $50,000. The award only will be made to women who take an offer of a fellowship in her discipline outside of Israel within a year of the award announcement and will be paid when they start their stay abroad. Support will be offered for one year with a possibility of a renewal and another $50,000 for a second year based on research progress and Program guidelines. The Program also will assist awardee travel to universities where they may seek a postdoctoral position. For women who are approved for a second postdoctoral year, the Program also will assist in paying for a return trip to Israel to reinforce ties with one or more universities.

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