

Policy No. 1.1: Title of Policy: IFSHT Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy	
Origin: Peggy Boineau and Nicola Goldsmith	
Developed:	Reviewed: <i>(date)</i>
Revised: <i>(date)</i>	
Governing Authority: EXCO	
References: Cristina Alegri Award Scoring Criteria, IFSHT Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy Committee Member Job description	
Corresponding Policy:	

Purpose: To describe the selection and award process for the Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy

Policy: At each Triennial Congress the IFSHT awards the Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy. The Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy recognises an occupational therapist (OT) or physio-/physical therapist (PT) who has made an innovative contribution to the specialty of hand therapy

Procedure:

- 1) Eligibility: The following criteria should be assessed when considering a nomination for the Cristina Alegri Award
 - a) Consideration will be given for innovations in practice assessment, treatment methods, therapeutic approaches, splinting, adaptive equipment design, or therapeutic equipment related to hand therapy practice.
 - b) The innovation must be a current development, having been developed within the past 5 years.
 - c) Candidates for this award are OT's or PT's who are in good standing within their professional organisations, as will be documented in the application.
 - d) A group project may be nominated, if a therapist was a major contributor to the innovation.
 - i) The nominated therapists must be alive at the point of receipt of the nomination. No posthumous awards will be accepted
 - e) Exceptions
 - i) No current member of the IFSHT Executive Committee may be nominated.
 - ii) No current member of the IFSHT Awards Committee may be nominated.
- 2) Process of nomination
 - a) Completion of the online application is done as a collaboration between the nominating person and the candidate.
 - b) The candidate must be nominated by a professional colleague, and self-nominations will not be accepted.
 - c) The candidate will provide a 400-word maximum description of the project.

- d) The candidate will provide 3 images maximum for review by the committee
 - e) The candidate will provide 1 PowerPoint slide that summarises the innovation, to be shown by the President Elect during the awards presentation portion of the opening ceremony at the Triennial Congress
- 3) Awards Committee:
- a) IFSHT President, the Awards Committee Chair, works in collaboration with the EXCO to appoint committee members and develop the scoring system.
 - b) President sends blinded applications to committee members.
 - c) President provides the scoring criteria to each committee member in online survey format
 - d) Committee members work independently to score the applications
 - e) President gathers the scored applications from the online platform for scoring
 - i) EXCO reviews scores by Awards Committee and identifies the winner.
 - ii) Winner is not announced until IFSHT opening ceremony, and this information is kept confidential until the Congress.
- 4) Awarding the Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy
- a) The Secretary General informs the nominating persons and the nominees of the acceptance or rejection of the nomination within five months of the congress date.
 - b) Nominees are invited by the Secretary General to attend the Awards Ceremony at the Opening of the Congress.
 - c) The President Elect presents the nominations at the Congress during the Opening Ceremony, using one slide provided by each nominee, and announces the winner.
 - d) The winner comes forward to accept the award and be photographed.
 - e) The award is a framed certificate, which will be presented at the IFSHT Triennial Congress. Should the recipient not be able to attend, they may designate a person to receive the award on their behalf, or an unframed certificate will be posted to their home address
 - i) Following the congress the award will be made public via official IFSHT communication platforms which may include IFSHT website, social media platforms and the newsletter.
- 5) Timeline: (times noted are the time before the next Congress)
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| 24 months | Information Officer updates website |
| 12-18 months | President works with Information Officer and Secretary-General to encourage applications via IFSHT website, REACH, Constant contact, social media, interim council meeting etc. |
| 10 months | President overseas the call for committee members |

9 months	President, in collaboration with EXCO, appoints committee members
6 months	Application deadline. President sends them with the scoring tool to committee
5 months	Committee completes scoring and EXCO completes selection process and awardee and keeps this confidential.
At Congress	President Elect announces the nominees and presents the award. Photo taken.
After Congress	Information Officer updates website with awardee's name. Secretary-General mails certificate to winner if winter not able to attend. Information Officer includes the winners in IFSHT publications.

Addenda: A. Cristina Alegri Award Scoring Criteria
 B. Job Description: Cristina Alegri Award Committee Member

Addendum A

Cristina Alegri Award Scoring Criteria

Originality of Innovation: Please rate the nominee on the following aspects of originality, 1 very little originality to 5 maximum originality.

- new concept
- unique to hand therapy
- developed independently

Practicality of its application: Please rate the nominee on the practicality, using scale of 1 low to 5 maximum practicalities.

- Ease of integration into existing practice
- Cost effectiveness

Impact of the innovation: Please rate the nominee on the following aspects, 1 low – 5 maximum impact.

- Minor change or fundamental change to practice
- Potential for use in other areas

Applicability: Please rate each candidate on the following aspects of applicability, 1 very little applicability – 5 maximum applicability.

- Innovation that can be applied in other clinics and other countries
- Innovation has or could lead to a change in practice

Addendum B

Job Description:

IFSHT Cristina Alegri Award for Innovation in Hand Therapy Committee

Member

Reports to: IFSHT President

About the award: This award for innovation in hand therapy was created in honour of Cristina Alegri, an Occupational Therapist in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She is credited by many in South America for her innovations and contributions to the practice of hand therapy.

The Cristina Alegri Award was awarded for the first time in 2016 at the IFSHT Triennial Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The award will be given to an Occupational Therapist or Physio- / Physical Therapist who has made an innovative contribution to the practice of hand therapy. The innovation may be tangible or intangible and involve the development or use of methods, materials, systems, technologies, or services that are new and enhance the practice of hand therapy. It might involve a new product, creation of new outcome measures, new educational approach to consumers or colleagues, or creation of a new model to deliver a hand therapy service. The contribution should be creative and unique and must have been developed during the past five years.

The award will be a framed certificate, which will be presented at the IFSHT Triennial congress. Should the recipient not be able to attend, they may designate a person to receive the award on their behalf, or an unframed certificate will be posted to their home address. Following the congress the award will be made public on the IFSHT website, in IFSHT publications and on IFSHT social media platforms.

Number of Nominations to score: We anticipate five to ten nominees.

Committee Member Task: Committee members are expected to treat the nominations confidentially and to evaluate them fairly and objectively. The IFSHT Secretary General will send each committee member a confidentiality agreement to sign. Committee

members must sign and submit their confidentiality form to the Secretary General. Committee members are tasked with reading and evaluating each nomination form. After reading the nomination forms, committee members rate the nominee using an online evaluation process. Committee members work independently from each other and will not meet. There will be approximately 10 committee members from around the world.

Timeline and commitment: This is a one-time commitment to score five to ten nominations based on criteria provided via an online platform.

Reading and scoring each application may take up to one hour. Therefore, the time required to fulfil this roll is between five and ten hours.

Nomination deadline: Seven months prior to Congress

Nominations Sent to Committee: Seven months prior to Congress (to be sent as soon as possible after the deadline closes). Committee has two weeks to complete the scoring.

EXCO reviews nominations and scoring from the Awards Committee: Six- and one-half months prior to Congress.

Results announced to awardees and those who nominated them: Six months prior to Congress.