

Dear Colleagues

It is with great pleasure to address you with our call for applications for the UEG Research Prize 2018

Every year, UEG awards € 100,000 for excellence in basic science, translational or clinical research in the areas of gastroenterology, hepatology and related disciplines. The prize addresses active, well-established researchers whose science has had or will have crucial impact on digestive health. The prize is designated to support a future scientific research project from early stage to successful conclusion. Please find all details on criteria and election process as well as your application form [online](#). Application deadline is May 1, 2018.

The UEG Research Prize will be awarded during the Opening Session of UEG Week Vienna 2018 on Monday, October 22, 2018 and will briefly present the winning project on this occasion. [Watch the interview with Jesper Lagergren](#) who received the distinguished UEG Research Prize last year, for his outstanding project "The aetiology, prevention and treatment of oesophageal cancer". UEG is looking forward to receiving your application!

Research in digestive health is crucial. Gastrointestinal diseases remain one of the most common reasons for morbidity and hospitalisation in Europe and are, due to demographic changes, still on the rise. Many digestive diseases remain poorly understood and, in relation to their substantial prevalence and global impact, attract insufficient attention from a policy and funding perspective.

UEG is dedicated to improving the prevention and care of digestive diseases in Europe. In this spirit, it has established the UEG Research Board to achieve coordinated research facilitation and stimulate funding in the field of digestive health.

The UEG Research Board will concentrate on revealing the major undercurrents of gastrointestinal diseases, defining research gaps and needs in our field. In collaboration with the UEG Public Affairs Committee, it will advocate these findings to Brussels' decision makers, to stimulate funding for digestive health research in future EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation.

Furthermore, the UEG Research Board is committed to inspire and connect research(ers) in gastroenterology. It invites you to meet and exchange with role models, peers and partners at the annual **Horizon 2020 Session at UEG Week**, with key participation from researchers across the different EU funding streams (from post-doctoral to multi-investigator collaborative awards), and to join the **UEG Researchers Network**, a new platform for exchange, to launch second half of 2018.

The UEG Research Board has successfully introduced the **Horizon 2020 Application Support**, to provide money for pan-European consortium forming initiatives in the exploratory phase of applications to Horizon 2020 funding via simple, competitive grants (investing up to € 10,000 per consortium). Applications are considered on a rolling basis, to cater the various EU submission deadlines.

Visit our website at www.ueg.eu/research to learn more about the various support initiatives from the UEG Research Board!



Paul Fockens
UEG President



Arthur Kaser
UEG Research Board Chair