

KHORANA PROGRAM FOR SCHOLARS 2023

IUSSTF received an overwhelming response of 536 applications during the 2023 call under the Khorana Program for Scholars. Out of these, 505 applications that met the eligibility criteria were reviewed by a Screening Committee comprising of subject-area experts that further shortlisted 145 applications for final review. The Selection Committee met on February 20, 2023 at IUSSTF Secretariat, reviewed the applications, and selected 75 meritorious students who were awarded the scholarship.

It was fascinating to note that young students from academic institutions pan-India, including IITs, IISERs, NITs, IIITs, public-funded universities and private institutions were interested in building skills in cutting-edge research areas such as designing novel gene circuits for treatment of ovarian cancer, hematopoietic stem and progenitor cell function, bio-materials and their characterization for cardiovascular applications, use of stem cells for neuronal regeneration due to injury or disease, CAR T-cell therapy for cancer treatment, etc. which are at par with the biotechnology priorities in healthcare of the Indian and U.S. governments. Further, it was encouraging to note the staggering participation of female candidates, which is coherent with IUSSTF's efforts to promote gender diversity in scientific research, innovation and societal advancement through its programs. ●



Selection committee reviewing the proposals at IUSSTF

Application Data for 2023

| S. No. | Institution | Female | Male | Total Number of Application |
|--------|---|------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | BITs | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| 2 | IIITs | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| 3 | IISERs | 43 | 25 | 68 |
| 4 | IITs | 38 | 39 | 77 |
| 5 | NITs | 20 | 18 | 38 |
| 6 | Public Institutions (includes State & Central Universities) | 68 | 59 | 127 |
| 7 | Private Universities/Colleges | 98 | 45 | 143 |
| 8 | Other Educational/Research Institutions | 17 | 22 | 39 |
| | Total | 290 | 215 | 505 |

The Khorana Program for Scholars is a prestigious internship program for Indian students currently enrolled in graduate and post graduate programs in biotechnology, life sciences and allied areas to undertake a summer research internship at leading U.S. Universities for a period of 10-12 weeks. It is funded by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, and implemented by IUSSTF in partnership with WINStep Forward.