Regulations M.W. Beijerinck Virology Prize

Article 1: General provisions
1 The M.W. Beijerinck Virology Prize (hereafter: the Prize), established in 1965 in memory of virologist M.W. Beijerinck (1851-1931), is awarded to an internationally recognised researcher in the field of virology in the broadest sense of the word.
2 The Prize is awarded every two years.
3 The Prize consists of a medal engraved with the image of M.W. Beijerinck and a monetary award of 35,000 euros (in words: thirty-five thousand euros), to be spent at the laureate’s discretion.
4 The Prize is made available by the M.W. Beijerinck-Virology Fund, which is administered by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW).

Article 2: Conditions for nomination
The Prize is intended for:
- internationally recognised researchers who have made a groundbreaking contribution to research in the field of virology in the broadest sense of the word and who have an appointment at a university or research institute in the Netherlands or elsewhere.

Article 3: Nomination
1 Each of the following individuals/bodies/institutions may nominate candidates for the Prize:
   - Members of the Academy
   - Boards of management and deans of universities in the Netherlands
   - Directors of research institutes in the Netherlands
   - Individual professors from universities in the Netherlands and elsewhere
   - Academies and other scientific and scholarly institutions in the Netherlands and elsewhere
2 Nominations must be provided in Dutch or English and must be submitted by email using the designated nomination form along with the requested attachments. A nomination is considered to have been submitted when the nominator receives confirmation of receipt from the Academy.
3 The form must be submitted before the deadline set by the Academy. Nominations that have not been submitted by the stated deadline will not be considered.
4 Members of the Academy Board and members of the advisory committee may not submit nominations, either individually or jointly, and may not be nominated as candidates.

Article 4: Advisory committee’s task, composition and procedures
1 The Academy Board will appoint an advisory committee. The advisory committee’s task is to assess the nominations for the Prize and to make a recommendation to the Academy Board concerning the award of the Prize.
2 The advisory committee will consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of five members, including the chairperson. The advisory committee members will be appointed for a four-year period. The advisory committee’s chairperson will be appointed to that position and must be a member of the Academy.
3 The advisory committee will consist of experts in the field of virology.
4 All decisions by the advisory committee will be taken by majority vote. In the event of a tie, the chairperson will decide.
5 Advisory committee members must adhere to the Academy Conflicts of Interest Code of Conduct relating to Prizes, Memberships and Funding [Gedragscode belangenverstrengeling prijzen, lidmaatschappen en subsidies].
6 The Academy will appoint an executive secretary to assist the advisory committee.
Article 5: Assessment criteria

1. Candidates who have been nominated for the Prize will be assessed according to the following criteria:
   a. The quality of their research, with quality being measured by the following criteria:
      - their contribution to virology, specifically their contribution to groundbreaking research or groundbreaking publications in the field of virology;
      - their importance as keynote speakers at international scientific conferences;
      - their membership of juries, review committees, editorial boards of science journals, science academies or other organisations and the importance of such memberships; and
      - marks of recognition they have received from the scientific community, including science prizes and funding awards.
   b. The extent to which they support young researchers and the extent to which their work encourages young researchers’ research, both now and in the future.

2. The advisory committee will prepare a report on its assessment, including its reasons for selecting the candidate it is recommending. The advisory committee will submit the assessment report containing its recommendation to the Academy Board.

Article 6: Award and award ceremony

1. Based on the advisory committee’s recommendation for the award of the Prize, the Academy Board will appoint the laureate.

2. The award ceremony usually takes place during the Dutch Annual Virology Symposium.

Article 7: Concluding provisions

1. The present regulations were adopted by the Board of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences on 17 August 2020.

2. In any circumstance not provided for by these regulations, the Academy Board will decide.