ARO Awards Committee Minutes
Monday, October 28, 2024, | 12:00-1:00 PM ET

Attendance:

Katie Kindt (chair), Victoria Bajo, Jianxin Bao, Wei Dong, Elisabeth Glowatzki, Hainan Lang, Elizabeth Olson (council liaison), Maria Rubio, Joel Snyder, Daniel Sun, John Brigande (guest), Rhiannon McNeely (executive office)

Minutes:

The committee began the meeting with a discussion on the Clinical Innovator Awards, where insights were shared about the top two candidates. A long-time ARO member and expert in the field was present to provide valuable perspectives on each nominee. A suggestion was made to consider jointly awarding the Clinical Innovator Award to representatives from each team involved, emphasizing both historical significance and current advancements. This idea prompted an open discussion, and while the committee may revisit it in the future, they ultimately decided to proceed with awarding one individual for 2025.

The committee then shifted their focus to the top candidates for the Young Investigator Award and the Pioneer Award in Basic Science. Each candidate's qualifications and contributions were thoroughly evaluated, allowing all committee members the opportunity to share their insights. The merits of the candidates for these prestigious awards were discussed in detail, with the committee noting the exceptional qualities of each nominee. Factors considered included the candidates' contributions to the field, their potential for future growth, and their involvement in the ARO community.

The committee voted on their top candidates for each category and determined winners to be recognized during the 2025 Awards Ceremony at the MidWiner meeting. The committee meeting extended beyond the scheduled hour, but all members remained engaged to ensure comprehensive discussions were concluded.

The executive office will work with the current ARO president to reach out to the award winners and notify them of their prestigious accomplishments.