

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program: *Summer program of the International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) of the Weizmann Institute*

Participation awarded as a prize in the context of the National Jonk Fuerscher contest 2024

Year: 2024

Please present your activity report according to the following lines. The whole report will not exceed 2 or 3 pages (as word document).

Name of the Program: *"Summer program of the International Summer Science Institute (ISSI) of the Weizmann Institute
Participation awarded as a prize in the context of the National Jonk Fuerscher contest 2024"*

Year of activity: *2024*

Name of the report's writer: *Daniela Arcone*

Function of the report's writer: *Program Leader - International Cooperation*

Mail: *daniela@fjssl.lu*

Phones: *00352 661 562 732*

Website / Facebook address of the organization: *<https://www.fjssl.lu>*

Number of active participants in the program: *1 - Bartłomiej Nowak*

Estimated number of impacted participants: *1 - Bartłomiej Nowak*

Give the actual state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines).

The Matanel Foundation sponsorship enables the Fondation Jeunes Scientifiques Luxembourg to award one exceptional young laureate who participated at the national Jonk Fuerscher contest with the opportunity to participate in the ISSI's summer program, which takes place once a year, during 4 weeks (30.06-25.07.2024).

This year the program was offered as a hybrid format, meaning two weeks online and two weeks on campus. Due to the current situation however, both the Fondation Jeunes Scientifiques Luxembourg, in collaboration with the participant, decided it would be safer to participate only in the online part of the program.

The virtual format however still provides a rich mix of informative and interactive science presentations, as well as social, fun and cultural activities. The exceptional organization allowed the attendees to still participate in science projects, inspirational lectures as well as to have fun cultural exchanges, despite the virtual format.

The program's main focus is working on a group project with participants from a variety of different nations and backgrounds. The program not only allowed Bartłomiej an incredible opportunity to learn about the world of science from impressive tutors and lecturers, but also to exchange with like-minded youngsters between the ages of 18 and 21 through various online activities. This year the final projects were presented online, which was very interesting for the students as they could have parents and teachers follow their achievements.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc

The program Bartłomiej followed at the ISSI, presented a great opportunity for personal and professional growth by having the opportunity to discuss with prestigious scientists of the Weizmann Institute, as well as meeting and collaborating with like-minded peers from around the world, and getting crucial insight into the the reality of the scientific world.

The main achievement during these uncertain times is, even if not perfect, to continue giving a Jonk Fuerscher contest winner the opportunity to deep dive into a project with spectacular mentors and like-minded participants. This year, there were around 26 participants between the ages of 18 and 21, from 10 different countries, including: Luxembourg, the US, the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Ireland, Israel, Hong Kong, Mexico, and Canada.

Bartłomiej's project was to implement a tool to support medical personnel in treating patients with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which affects around 3.9% of the world population.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future

The advantages if the ISSI program consist in the learning experience the participants gain both through a theoretical and a practical approach, and by additionally focusing on the importance of the social aspect of Science:

On the one hand, the participants are attending lectures by scientists of the Weizmann Institute, and can interact with them directly. On the other hand, they get to do a group project together with other participants, and whose results they present at the end of the program.

Furthermore, socializing activities allow them to get to know other participants, on a more personal and social level, build new friendships and thus underlining the

importance of the social and human part of science - the team work necessary to move science forward.

After one year of cancellation and two years of an online program, our previous Jonk Fuerscher, had the amazing opportunity in 2023 to participate in person to the program. Unfortunately, although a two week on campus program was offered, neither the Foundation or our Jonk Fuerscher felt comfortable to participate in person. Although even online, this event is a great opportunity, as Bartłomiej rightly says in his statement, no computer screen can match being with someone in the same room. We do hope that the situation improves and we can provide a full experience to the next Jonk Fuerscher.

Similar to the evaluation programs of 2021 and 2022, the virtual format is an alternative and best possible adaptation of the program, however it would be even more of an enrichment for the participants to interact directly in-person with both the scientists and their peers. At this point in time, it is difficult to predict the situation for next year.

Provisional guidelines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

The main improvement that could be made would be, as previously stated, to return to an in-person format of the ISSI's summer program to enable the best possible experience for the national Jonk Fuerscher's laureate. However, due to the current unstable situation, it is difficult to predict how this will continue..

Closing ceremony of the Program with presentation of the various projects:
[Hybrid ISSI 2024 - Scientific Seminar 25Jul24](#)

Please join the Evaluation Report, the Financial Report and the list of the participants to the program (as **PDF documents**)

Please see the documents "5.Evaluation report", "6.Financial report"
The participant is: Bartłomiej Nowak

Please join photos – as **JPG files** – and any link or any other document connected to the program which seems relevant to you – as **PDF document**

Please see the attached document "Issi Images" and "Photo of the Project"

Please join a 5 minute movie which presents your institution and the particular project supported by the Matanel Foundation. The movie should be accessible to the philanthropic world and to other potential donors.

Short movie of the FJSL's National Jonk Fuerscher Contest 2024:

[53rd National Jonk Fuerscher Contest - Aftermovie](#)

Short movie of Bartłomiej's presentation at the FJSL's National Jonk Fuerscher Contest:

[53rd National Jonk Fuerscher DAY1 : Bartłomiej Nowak](#)

Please see the Digital ISSI 2024 - Journal of Scientific Reports for more information
on all the projects.