



## **19th ISPAD Science School for Physicians Report**

September 8 to September 12, 2019, in Rotterdam (the Netherlands)

**The ISPAD science school for physicians 2019 was held in The Netherlands, in the city of Rotterdam where we convened in Rotterdam Brain Park, close to Erasmus University Rotterdam. Dr Dick Mul from Diabeter, Rotterdam convened this meeting. Apart from the 20 participants, we welcomed 4 colleagues from ISPAD's JENIOUS network, serving as mentors.**

**The participants were selected from around 40 applications, and came from all continents: 5 from Europe, 5 from North America, 1 from South America, 3 from Africa and 6 from Australasia.**

### **The course included**

- **plenary lectures by members of the faculty and invited speakers from The Netherlands and invited international members of ISPAD, covering a variety of themes: e.g. research methodology, statistics and publishing, addressing different methodological aspects of trials in the area of psychology, hypoglycemia and pump/CGM studies. Others subjects included immunology, drug development and value based health care, as well as clinical items (complications, comorbidity). Finally, a JDRF representative presented on JDRF's research portfolio and potential.**
- **preparatory sessions for the participants with the mentors: aimed at discussing and preparing each individual research proposal for plenary presentation, leading to lively conversations and improving quality of the proposals**
- **plenary presentations by the participants: both clinical case studies and the research proposals. These were rewarding sessions with proposals of good quality. One presentation was rewarded the JDRF/ISPAD research fellowship, and 2 participants were encouraged to submit their proposal in the regular submission rounds.**

- **Most importantly: networking: during the course hours and in the several networking activities around the course (with water, mills and bridges), there was opportunity to meet and discuss with other participants, mentors and members of faculty and speakers.**

**In summary: the ISPAD science school for physicians 2019 has contributed to disseminating skills and knowledge around the globe, and is a valuable reach of ISPAD towards diabetes care and research in low(er) resource countries. By training people we form local hubs of trained fellows with skills and network aimed at improving diabetes care and research collaborations worldwide.**

**We are indebted to the sponsors, both nationally and internationally, for their valuable contributions making this Science School for Physicians a good tradition, to be cherished in the future.**

**On behalf of the local organizers, Dick Mul**

