

The Catalina Mendoza Award, a boost for research on Integrative Medicine

Because knowledge is a result of innovation, Congregación Mariana Trinitaria convenes the Catalina Mendoza Awards to promote research on Integrative Medicine

The General Education Law mentions that Mexico must invest at least 1 percent of its GNP on scientific research and technological development, however, the legislation is not complied. CMT is committed to develop healthcare on the least favored ones, so we decided to promote research; and in particular we developed the Catalina Mendoza Award to promote integrative medicine.

Doctor Honoris causa Catalina Mendoza Arredondo, the woman who founded Congregación Mariana Trinitaria with the objective of improving healthcare on vulnerable people, was aware that it was not possible to get that far if we lack from the basic welfare items such as food, housing, education, basic services, among others.

The Catalina Mendoza Arredondo Award promotes research on integrative medicine, and it is a way to honor a woman who dedicated her life to work for the most disadvantaged sectors in the society, a professional woman with no boundaries, a human being who left this world to become a legend.

“In order to honor the ideals of our founder, the Catalina Mendoza Arredondo Award promotes scientific research on health topics, specifically on traditional and complementary medicine”, states Erika Leyva Mendoza, President of the CMT Management Board.

Following the guidelines on the World Health Organization Strategic Plan, this award aims to guarantee better assistance to patients whose treatments and traditional practices are currently their main source to get health care services, and also to contribute to their integration on the national health systems.



Encouraging research is the objective

The Catalina Mendoza Award to promote research on Integrative Medicine aims to gather experts on medicine, professionals of health, scientists, researchers, psychologists, economists, politicians with experience in health, and all the ones related to research.

We aim to develop transdisciplinary participation on research projects related to health, and to promote knowledge on traditional, alternative, and complementary medicine; which have been scarcely developed by professional studies.

In addition, we foster a closer, more dynamic, and collaborative relationship between CMT and the academic and scientific community.

	<h3>Lines of research</h3> 
<h3>1. Corporate Health</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical cases that benefit corporate health. • Research, development, and innovation on efficient therapeutic options that may be affordable in the area of corporate health. • Psychological and psychosocial welfare. • Strategies and implementation of a culture related to the welfare of workers. • Economic impact of the health problems in companies. • Other relevant issues in corporate health.
<h3>2. Community Health</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies of projects on Community Health in developing countries. • Design and implementation of Public Policies in Community Health. • Pedagogical approaches that involve Community Health. • Community Mental Health. • Design and evaluation of health programs that have impact on the community. • Other relevant topics in Community Health.
<h3>3. Health Economics</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economical evaluations based on decision models and specific case studies. • Measurement and valuation in the health sector. • Budget impact on health. • Quality of life related to health. • Analysis of sanitary policies (regulation of markets related to health). • Evaluation of Sanitary Technologies and Systematic Reviews. • Other relevant topics in Health Economics.
<h3>4. Complementary and Alternative Medicine</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical studies on CAM. • Use of CAM in different health complaints. • Therapeutic options of CAM. • New technologies applied to CAM. • General issues on CAM.

Promoting research is a need

According to the information under the article 25 on the General Education Law, the state must invest at least 8 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GNP) in matters of education, and 1 percent of that must be addressed to scientific research and technological development in public universities.

The previous data is explained in the research “*The Mexican crisis of investment on scientific knowledge*” developed by the Observatory of Educative Innovation, part of Tecnológico de Monterrey. “Technically, CONACYT manages and distributes the resources to produce scientific knowledge” the analysis mentions.

That goal has not been reached in more than a decade. The investment on knowledge shows a national deficit that means a disadvantage if we compare the resources addressed to scientific communities in other countries, the analysis finds.

That analysis developed by Tecnológico de Monterrey details that the federal investment on science and technology has not been consistent to reach the 1 percent stated on the General Education Law in more than a decade.

“The funds invested oscillated between 0.2 percent and 0.3 percent of the GNP before 2014. It increased between 2014 and 2015, and the amount increased to 1.5 percent; but later, we noticed a remarkable decrease on the budget in 2019, then in the project presented by the President in 2020, only 0.8 percent of the federal budget (0.4 percent of GNP) was addressed to academic and scientific production”, Tecnológico de Monterrey reports.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) mentions that Mexico invests 0.4 of its GNP on research and development, which represents 9 thousand 458.5 million Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) dollars.

All the researches must include tangible results or they must imply a benefit to the society after the application of their results. They all must be send from June 1 to December 18, 2021 to the email cmt@cmt.org.mx

On the webpage www.premiocatalinamendoza.org you can get further information about the Award Catalina Mendoza to promote Research on Integrative Medicine.