

"la Caixa" Foundation Fellowships

ICFOnians receive fellowships in the framework of the doctoral INPhINIT and the postdoctoral Junior Leader Programs

March 20, 2025

Three ICFOnians are among the 100 recipients of doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships from the i¿½la Caixai¿½ Foundation's 2024 calls. The doctoral INPhINIT and postdoctoral Ju ior Leader fellowships pursue the twofold aim of supporting young talents to carry out t eir research in Spain or Portugal and attracting international researchers to these countries.

INPhiNIT Doctoral Fellowships

The 'la Caixa' Foundation received a total of 1,502 applications and awarded 60 fellowship across all disciplines for the INPhINIT Doctoral Fellowships program. ICFO PhD student, Harini Raghavan in the Atomic Quantum Optics research group led by ICREA Professor at ICFO Dr. Morgan Mitchell, was awarded an INPhINIT fellowship to pursue a project in atomic sensor development for non-invasive brain imaging (read more) ?

Junior Leader Postdoctoral Fellowships

In total, 597 applications were received and 40 fellowships were awarded in the fields of Health and life sciences, technology, physics, chemistry, engineering and mathematics.? ICFO recipients of Junior Leader Fellowships include

Antonio Rubio Abadal is a Postdoctoral researcher in the Ultracold Quantum Gases group led by ICREA Professor at ICFO Dr. Leticia Tarruell. His first experience at ICFO was as a Summe Fellow in 2013 in the Quantum Information Theory group led by ICREA Professor at ICFO Dr Antonio Acin. He went on to received his Master in Physics from ETH Zurich and his PhD fro the Max Planck Institute of Quantum Optics in Garching. He returned to ICFO as postdoctoral researcher in the Ultracold Quantum Gases Group in 2021. With this fellowship he will pursue the project, i¿½Boosting quantum simulation with an optical atomic clocki¿½ (read more)

Carmen Rubio-Verdu leads the STM on 2D quantum materials research group at ICFO since Spring 2023 that uses low-temperature (~350 mK) STM to study the correlated phases that emerge in two-dimensional and moire systems, aiming to understand the mechanism behind the superconducting state in magic-angle graphene, among other aspects of 2D quantum materials. Prior to arriving at ICFO, earned her PhD at nanoGUNE (San Sebastian, Spain) focusing on fundamental studies of magnetism at the atomic scale, the effect of dimensionality in superconductors, and interactions between single spins and superconductors. In 2019, she obtained a Marie Sk?odowska-Curie Individual Fellowship an was a postdoctoral fellow at Columbia University (US) later moving to Freie Universitat Berli (Germany), where she concentrated on the study of electronic correlated phases in moir materials. (read more)

The i¿½la Caixai¿½ Foundation Fellowships not only offer competitive salaries but also inc ude a robust cross-curricular training program. In the case of doctoral fellowships, aspects uch as scientific communication, emotional well-being of researchers, leadership, and fun ing opportunities are reinforced. Postdoctoral fellowships, on the other hand, are designe to boost an independent scientific career, promoting innovation and leadership as fundame tal pillars for professional developm

nt."These fellowships represent a first-class opportunity for the researchers who have received them, but also for society as a whole, because by supporting their research, we are committed to disciplines that contribute to the well-being of citizens and the construction of a better future for all," explained Josep Maria Coronas, CEO of the i¿½la Caixai¿½ Foundat on, during the scholarship presentation ceremony at the CosmoCaixa Science Museu in Barcel

na. The "la Caixa" Foundation Fellowship Program is one of the largest among those promote by private entities in Spain and Europe, both in terms of the number of grants awarded and the diversity of disciplines covered. In total, the organization will allocate more than ?21 millio to this cohort of doctoral and postdoctoral fellows. Both programs have been co-finance

by the European Commission through the Marie Sk?odowska-Curie COFUND Actions, within the context of the Horizon 2020 framework program.



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Harini Raghavan, Prof. Carmen Rubio-Verdu and Dr. Antonio Rubio Abadal