

#WeAreISSNAF





What is ISSNAF?

ISSNAF is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization that aims to promote scientific, academic and technological cooperation between Italy and North America in all disciplines.

Its mission is to *connect, empower* and *celebrate* the Italian Intellectual Diaspora in North America, and help retain a shared Italian identity and culture.

- Established in 2007 by 36 founding members including 4 Nobel Prize winners, under the auspices of the Embassy of Italy in USA.
- Can reach over 3600 scholars, researchers and technologists from Italy who operate in US and Canada
- 8 Chapters in the USA support the ISSNAF mission in their geographical area with networking and educational events
- Can rely on the commitment of experienced members with a proven ability to develop institutional-level programs
- Partner of the Italian Embassy in the US in initiatives supporting or involving the Diaspora

Italian Diaspora in North America





Board of Directors Cinzia Zuffada, president Enrica D'Ettorre, vice president Pierluigi Zappacosta, treasurer/secretary Elisa Bertino Elena Orlando Alessandro Ratti Marcello Romano Alberto Salleo Alberto Sangiovanni-Vincentelli

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History

Established in 2007 36 founders including 4 Nobel prize winners

At a Glance (1)

Honorary Board

Ambassador Mariangela Zappia, chair Vito Campese, executive chair Giorgio Bellettini Emilio Bizzi Guido Calabresi Federico Capasso Rita Colwell Giorgio Einaudi Mauro Ferrari Giulia Galli Silvio Micali Massimo Piattelli-Palmarini Camillo Ricordi Andrew Viterbi



At a Glance (2)

Membership Over 3600 members/affiliates Affiliations (top 10) New York University Stanford University National Institutes of Health Columbia University Harvard Medical School UCLA University of Miami UCB Massachusetts General Hospital LBNL Over 500 professors 17 Business Directors/CEO/GM 39 Research Directors/Senior Leaders 20 Academic Directors/Senior Leaders

BAC (San Francisco Bay Area) CAIF (Fermilab) DMV (DC Maryland Virginia) Los Angeles New York PND (Pennsylvania, Ney Jersey, Delaware) San Diego West South Center (Texas)

Chapters

Programs
Mentoring for Early Career Members
Mentoring for Italian Students
Visiting Opportunities
Young Investigator Awards
Lifetime Achievement Awards

Partnerships Since 2020 Collegio Ghislieri **Fondazione Marche** Politecnico di Torino Università di Firenze Università di Pisa Scuola Superiore Studi Avanzati Sapienza Before 2020 Ministero dell'Ambiente Ministero della Salute ASL CNI **Fondazione Bracco**

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What does ISSNAF do?

ISSNAF makes the Italian Intellectual Diaspora of academics, researchers and technologists in North America accessible, recognized and nurtured.

ISSNAF facilitates connections

- Proactively connects with the Diaspora
- Organizes events to promote networking and enrichment across disciplines
- Facilitates academic, scientific and technological cooperation between Italy and North America

ISSNAF supports the newer generations to reach their full potential

- Young ISSNAF Mentorship Program for high-potential early-career researchers in NA, as well as Italian students interested in study/work opportunities in NA
- Administers fellowships and internships funded by our donors

ISSNAF celebrates achievements and gives visibility to outstanding talents

- ISSNAF Career Achievement Award
- ISSNAF Awards to outstanding Early Career researchers in various fields



Why partner?

ISSNAF facilitates the creation of a bridge between Italy and North America to support R&D and innovation.

ISSNAF provides values to universities, foundations, and professional organizations by

- Facilitating technology scouting and accessing the Diaspora, including for recruiting purposes
- Organizing outreach, networking and sector education events
- Creating and/or administering programs for talented researchers and students in advanced research centers in NA
- Providing strategic consulting on trans-Atlantic programs

ISSNAF provides value to industrial partners by

- Supporting workforce development and education
- Connecting them with talented researchers, including for recruiting purposes
- Facilitating technology sourcing and co-development



Young Investigator Awards

Since 2011 ISSNAF has administered the Young Investigator (YI) Awards to recognize on a yearly basis outstanding early career Italian researchers who work in North America in fields selected by our sponsors

- Applicants evaluated by rigorous review process led by high profile Award Chairs and Juries.
- Finalists present their research at Award Symposia and are invited to attend the ISSNAF Annual Event (held at the Embassy of Italy in USA and honored over the years by the High Patronage of the President of the Republic).
- Winners receive a \$3000 award.
- Winners and finalists benefit by gaining a stronger network and higher visibility via press and social media.
- The sponsors are featured at the ISSNAF Annual Event and have access to valuable talent.

2024 Young Investigator Awards and Sponsors

- Embassy of Italy Award for research in Artificial Intelligence, MAECI
- INFN Bruno Touschek Award for research in fundamental physics, Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare
- Franco Strazzabosco Award for research in engineering with focus on sustainable energy, Strazzabosco Family
- Mario Gerla Award for research in computer science, Gerla Family
- Paola Campese Award for research in hematologic malignancies, Campese Family
- RnB4Culture Award for innovation in the study of Italian culture, RnB4Culture



Mentorship

Program for Early Career Members

- Application call open throughout the year
- One year duration

Program for Students at Italian universities and recent graduates

- Two application calls per year
- Six months duration

In recent years over 200 mentees have been mentored by ISSNAF members. Large mentor pool can lead to close match in discipline/specialty and professional path.

Success stories from former mentees

- Helped identify institution/advisors (other than mentor) for PhD program
- Helped write a successful application for Assistant Professor position
- Helped identify prospective US host in application for prestigious fellowships

For additional information visit <u>https://www.issnaf.org/young-issnaf</u>



Mobility Programs (1)

In support of the internationalization programs of Italian universities, ISSNAF facilitates visiting opportunities in North America benefitting exceptional and highly motivated students and recent graduates of partner universities. These programs are designed to foster networking and collaboration between research groups in Italy and North America.

Recognizing the importance of these initiatives, the Italian Ministry for University and Research (MUR) provides support through a grant to facilitate their implementation and expansion.

Programs are tailored and collaboratively developed to align with the partner's objectives, formalized through MOU and Implementation Agreement

- Application call managed by participating partners
- Awardees selection conducted jointly by ISSNAF and partners representatives
- ISSNAF identifies the hosts who are typically ISSNAF members
- ISSNAF Chapters are engaged in welcoming awardees and give them a hand

ISSNAF welcomes interested partners/sponsors who want to start a program

- Provide access to large network for optimal placement of awardees
- Support initiatives to augment expertise in Italy by training personnel in selected field



Mobility Programs (2)

The ISSNAF Mobility Programs are, or have been, sponsored by

- Italian universities
- Ministero dell'Ambiente, Agenzia Spaziale Italiana ASI, Thales Alenia Spazio, Consiglio Nazionale Ingegneri CNI, Fondazione Marche, Fondazione Bracco

ISSNAF has multi-year agreements in place to jointly manage mobility programs for graduate students with

- Politecnico di Torino (only for PhD students)
- Scuola Superiore Studi Avanzati Sapienza
- Università di Firenze
- Università di Pavia
- Università di Pisa

In the last two years 24 outstanding students from UNIPI e POLITO have been awarded visiting opportunities at prestigious universities and research centers in NA, including Princeton, University of California Berkeley, Harvard Medical School, University of Chicago, Purdue, Stanford, Cornell, Fermilab.



Why sponsor?

Institutions and industries interested in increasing their visibility and connecting with researchers in North America may consider various sponsorship options:

- **Named Awards**: provide an opportunity for sponsors to increase their brand recognition and connect with the US community while honoring outstanding early-career Italian researchers working in North America
- **Curated Mobility Programs**: offer sponsors the opportunity to invest in the professional development of talented individuals by providing them with exposure to innovative environments identified by ISSNAF. These programs can be tailored to the sponsors' requirements.
- **Support of R&D projects**: ISSNAF can assist sponsors in identifying suitable potential collaborators within its network for sponsor-driven R&D projects.

Our volunteers provide invaluable help in developing and implementing our programs. This results in low administrative costs, and donations having a bigger impact.



#WeAreISSNAF

Thank you for your attention

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