The RNA SOCIETY
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DECRETO DEL DIRETTORE GENERALE - N. 4311 del 30/10/2026 - Allegato Utente 1 (A01)

Giulia Biancon
Milan RNA Salon

September 26, 2026

Dear Dr. Giulia Biancon ,

Congratulations, your application for sponsorship by the RNA Society for your RNA Salon activities has been selected for support. The RNA Society is pleased to award your Salon 'Milan RNA Salon' $1,500.00 USD for 2026/2027 and three, one-year student/postdoc RNA Society memberships. In addition, you have also been selected for the two-year funding option, and you will $1,500.00 USD and three, one-year student/postdoc RNA Society memberships again in 2027/2028 without having to re-apply.

As outlined in the Guidelines for Application, the RNA SOCIETY requires that the sponsorship monies be used to support recurring local and/or regional RNA science-based gatherings at your institution. **RNA SOCIETY** support of your RNA Salon must be used for its intended purpose - to cultivate year-long interaction, engagement, and the sharing of knowledge among RNA researchers.

In acceptance of **RNA SOCIETY** support for your RNA Salon activities, you agree to the following stipulations:

- ☑ The funding will be used for promotional material, student awards, catering, and/or invited speakers specifically associated with RNA Salon events. No more than 40% of the funding shall be used for speaker-related expenses and no more than 20% will be used in the purchase of alcohol. Unused funds or funds not used for these purposes must be returned to the **RNA SOCIETY**.
- ☑ RNA Salons must hold no less than **three** events per year.
- ☑ RNA Salon activities must foster engaging relations among local/regional RNA researchers with diverse scientific backgrounds, experiences and/or interests. You are therefore expected to invite colleagues from other departments and/or institutions to your RNA Salon and to cultivate an open, welcoming environment.
- ☑ The **RNA SOCIETY** promotes ethnic, gender and geographic diversity. We therefore request that organizers make every effort to ensure that invited speakers and presentations from participants reflect the diversity within the disciplines represented at your site and by the RNA community, if possible.
- ☑ **The RNA SOCIETY requires that the organizers display the RNA SOCIETY logo provided upon signing the RNA Salon contract at each event, on their website, in advertising**, and

in any print material provided to participants as an indication of our support. The RNA Salon organizer is required to name a contact person who is responsible for correspondence of the RNA Salon with the **RNA SOCIETY**. The contact person can be the RNA Salon organizer or other person involved in the administration of the RNA Salon activities and must respond within seven days of receipt to RNA Salon related inquiries.

- ☑ To enhance participation and inclusion at RNA Salon events, RNA Salon organizers must strive to promote RNA Salon activities on Twitter and include the hashtag #RNASalon and @RNASociety in their content posts.
- ☑ The main organizer will forward an invitation to each RNA Salon participant to become **RNA SOCIETY** members for the 2027 calendar year (at an exclusive RNA Salon discount) when requested by the **RNA SOCIETY** in January 2027.
- ☑ The **RNA SOCIETY** does not assume responsibility for activities supported by the RNA Salon sponsorship. The organizers will be responsible for complying with regulations pertaining to use of the award funds.
- ☑ Sponsorship funds in their entirety are to be used to support RNA science-based events. No overhead or indirect costs will be provided or allowed to the hosting institution of RNA Salon events.
- ☑ At the completion of the academic year, RNA Salon organizers must report their activities through an on-line survey. Information will be used by the **RNA SOCIETY** as a metric for the program and may be published on the **RNA SOCIETY** website and/or the **RNA SOCIETY** Newsletter. This information will be due by May 2nd, 2027.
- ☑ Failure to comply with the above requirements will disqualify the applicant and/or institution from RNA Salon sponsorship in subsequent years.

To receive the annual $500.00 in sponsorship support from Lexogen, Salon organizers agree to:

a) display the Lexogen corporate logo alongside the **RNA SOCIETY**'s logo (a joint logo provided upon signing the RNA Salon contract) on the Salon's website, other on-line and print material, and all advertising of RNA Salon events.

b) mention @lexogen alongside @RNASociety in any RNA Salon social media posting such as on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram.

c) display a 20-min video by Lexogen at a minimum of one event (real life or virtual) per academic year. Such video will provide educational content related to Lexogen's products as well as a disclaimer that the **RNA SOCIETY** does NOT promote Lexogen's products. Lexogen will provide a range of videos on different transcriptome-analysis related topics to select from.

d) allow a representative from Lexogen to contact, via e-mail, the RNA Salon organizer three times during the academic year to discuss opportunities for Lexogen either to present a promotional seminar at an RNA Salon event or to organize (and pay for) an academic speaker to present at an RNA Salon event. These seminars and presentations can also have a virtual format. RNA Salon organizers retain the right to refuse a suggested topic or speaker, and agreement to these opportunities is not required to receive the supplemental funding provided by Lexogen. In addition, any

arrangement will be based on mutual agreement between Lexogen and the RNA Salon organizer will in no way involve the **RNA SOCIETY.**

e) share product literature provided by Lexogen at two RNA Salon events. Material will be mailed at the expense of Lexogen or shared online. RNA Salon organizers agree to provide to Lexogen a shipping address and an approximate number of Salon participants to facilitate this process. Alternatively, Lexogen can also provide product literature digitally, in form of a PDF document, which is then forwarded by the RNA Salon organizer to the RNA Salon participants at two times during the Salon season.

f) agree to announce and share (at a minimum of one event) entry forms for a prize drawing for Lexogen products (e.g. RNA sequencing products and services). Also here, a digital format can be chosen by Lexogen. In this case, a short description of the prize draw and a link to the respective entry form will be e-mailed to the RNA Salon organizers to be forwarded to the RNA Salon participants. Participation (i.e. completion of the entry form) by Salon participants is completely voluntary. RNA Salon organizers agree to send two reminders to RNA Salon participants to fill out the prize draw.

g) Two-year RNA Salons must fulfill the requirements for Lexogen funding in both year 1 and year 2 in return for receiving $ 500.00 each year from Lexogen.

PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER YOU WISH TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT WITH LEXOGEN, OR NOT, BY INITIALING ONE OF THE TWO STATEMENTS BELOW. PLEASE NOTE THAT BY OPTING OUT, YOUR RNA SALON EVENTS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A MAXIMUM $1,000.00 USD IN SPONSORSHIP FUNDS.

____X__ **YES, WE WANT TO ENTER INTO THE LEXOGEN CO-SPONSORSHIP ARRANGEMENT, AS OUTLINED ABOVE.**

_____ **NO, WE DECLINE THE LEXOGEN CO-SPONSORSHIP AND WILL FORGO THE ADDITIONAL $500 IN SUPPORT.**

If you are in agreement with these points, please countersign and return a copy of this signed letter electronically to Minna-Liisa Änkö at RNASalon@rnasociety.org within 7 days of receipt. Upon receipt of the signed contract, the RNA Society will disburse funds to your RNA Salon using the payment method and information you have provided.

Thank you for your participation and commitment in the RNA Society. We are pleased to be able to support your activities and promote RNA Science across the globe.

Best wishes,



Kristian Baker, Ph.D.
CEO
Organizer
RNA SOCIETY



Minna-Liisa Änkö, Ph.D.
Membership Committee, RNA Salon Program

RNA SOCIETY



Accepted by (print and sign)

September 30, 2026___
Date

Prof. Fabio Blandini, Chief Scientific Officer

Date