



5 March 2015 - On 18 March, the L'Oréal and [UNESCO](#) will present [The Women in Science Awards](#), acknowledging five outstanding women scientists and giving 15 grants to promising young researchers. These are women who have greatly contributed to scientific progress in a field still largely dominated by men where much progress remains to be made to reach gender balance.

In this year's statement for International Women's Day Ban Ki-moon states that "To be truly transformative, the post-2015 development agenda must prioritize gender equality and women's empowerment. The world will never realize 100 per cent of its goals if 50 per cent of its people cannot realize their full potential."

Only 30% of the world's researchers are women and many barriers and obstacles discourage women from entering or pursuing a career in science. Dedicated to both honouring distinguished women scientists and supporting promising young researchers, the L'Oréal-UNESCO program accelerates the careers of 15 exceptional young women chosen

among over 230 Fellowships awarded every year all over the world.

The independent jury consists of 12 prominent international scientists who were personally chosen by the President of the Jury and 1999 Nobel Prize winner, Prof. Ahmed Zewail. Since 1998, the For Women in Science program has honored 2,250 greatly talented women in over 110 countries.

This year's L'Oréal-UNESCO For women in Science Awards Ceremony will be held on the evening of March 18th at the Sorbonne in Paris.

As of March 3rd, the identities of the scientists were revealed to millions of passengers going through the terminals of the Charles de Gaulle and Orly airports through a series of photographs of the scientists created by world-renowned photographer [Brigitte Lacombe](#) .

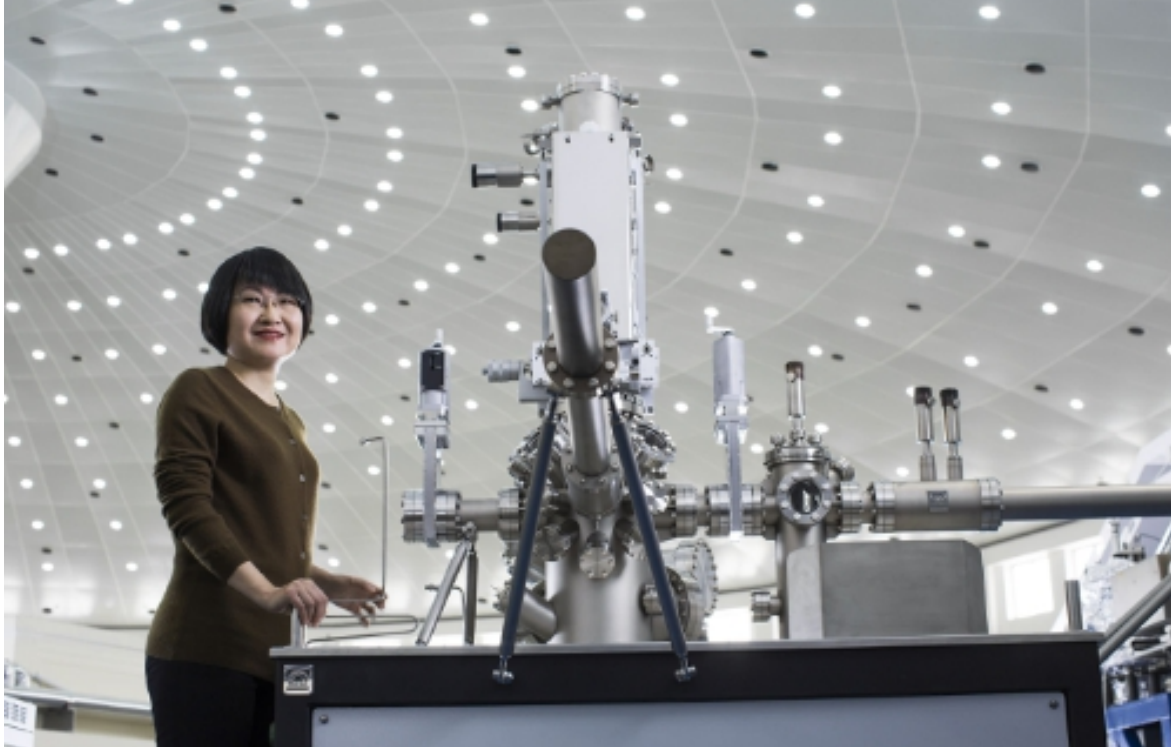
Prof. Rajaâ Cherkaoui El Moursli is being honored for her key contribution to one of the greatest discoveries in physics: proof of the existence of the Higgs Boson, the particle responsible for the creation of mass in the universe.

Five Women in Science Laureates revealed for 2015 awards

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Rachael Yeates, a chemist, is being honored for that developed a drug to cure malaria

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