The Program

Established by the U.S. National Committee (USNC) for the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) in 1977, the Young Observer program fosters interactions with internationally acclaimed scientists in various fields. The program strives to introduce the work of IUPAC to a new generation of distinguished researchers and to provide them with an opportunity to address international scientific policy issues.

Through the Young Observer Program, young scientists and engineers can build international collaborations, gain knowledge of global research activities and participate in IUPAC activities. The goal of this program is to introduce the best young researchers from the United States to the union, encourage them to become involved in the union’s activities, and prepare them to assume leadership roles in IUPAC.

Young Observers are given the opportunity to attend meetings of IUPAC Divisions and Standing Committees in their particular areas of interest during the General Assembly and to familiarize themselves with IUPAC activities and projects. In addition they are able to attend the World Chemistry Congress held in parallel with the General Assembly.

To date, the program has supported over 225 Young Observers, many of whom have continued to serve on IUPAC committees.

A Unique Opportunity

2019 will be an important year for IUPAC and for the Chemistry Community. It is the 100th anniversary of the founding of IUPAC. 2019 has also been proclaimed the International Year of the Periodic Table by the United Nations in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the Periodic System by Dmitry Mendeleev in 1869.

Guidelines

The program is open to U.S. scientists and engineers (U.S. citizens and permanent residents) under the age of 45. Applicants are drawn from industry, academia, and national laboratories.

Young Observers are expected to have a specific interest in one or more of the business meetings and technical sessions to be held at the General Assembly and World Congress. They should also have a strong interest in international collaboration and in continuing to be active in IUPAC.

Young Observers selected for 2019 will...

- Receive a travel grant of up to $2,500, pending funding availability. However applicants are encouraged to pursue funding opportunities which may be available within their organizations.
- Benefit from the personal mentorship of a past YO or a USNC member on IUPAC’s mission and activities
- Attend an orientation session and welcoming reception with YOs from other countries
- Participate in business meetings of various IUPAC Divisions and Standing Committees
- Contribute to the technical sessions of the IUPAC World Congress in Paris
- Network with IUPAC leaders, USNC members, and an international community of colleagues
- Share their experiences with the U.S. scientific community during briefing sessions held at national ACS meetings

Contact us for more information:

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More information is available online at:  
http://www.nationalacademies.org/usnc-iupac/yo

Applications will be available on the NAS website in Fall 2018.

Sign up for our newsletter to receive the most up to date information.  
http://eepurl.com/dd3ABD