

Young Chemists to the 44th IUPAC Congress

The 44th IUPAC World Chemistry Congress, to be held 11–16 August 2013 in Istanbul, Turkey, will have as its theme “Clean Energy Through Chemistry.” To encourage young chemists to participate in this unique congress, the organizers have established two different programs, both offering travel assistance. The first program is especially targeted to young scientists from developing and economically disadvantaged countries; the second is open to chemists from any country. Awards of up to USD 1500 will be made available to qualified candidates as a contribution to the cost of their travel to attend the Congress and to meet Congress registration fees.

Applications from candidates under age 40 are welcomed. Scientists from academia, government, or industry may submit applications directly to the address below. Those successful will be expected to submit an abstract of a poster or paper to be presented at the Congress. Such abstracts will be subject to adjudication as will all other submissions for presentation at the meeting.

There is no specific application form, but applicants are required to provide:

Young Observers at the IUPAC General Assembly

Concurrent with the Young Chemists initiative, IUPAC and individual National Adhering Organizations (NAOs) are offering a Young Observer program to provide young scientists with the opportunity to participate in sessions of the IUPAC General Assembly. Such sessions are generally reserved to IUPAC members of specific divisions and committees, but Young Observers can participate in these meetings—a unique opportunity to learn about IUPAC activities, establish international collaborations, and gain knowledge of global research activities.

IUPAC Young Observers will be invited from the pool of Young Chemists awards granted by the IUPAC Congress. Other NAOs, such as the USA, may have their own selection process. Those who are interested should inquire with the NAO from their country: www.iupac.org/nao.

- letter of application
- brief CV
- confirmation of their current status and affiliation
- publication list
- letter of support from the appropriate department head, dean, or laboratory supervisor

Estimates of the economy airfare to and from the Congress should also be provided.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 31 March 2013. Applications should be sent to Tahsin Kizilay <taum74@gmail.com>.

 www.iupac2013.org

John D. Petersen Appointed IUPAC Executive Director

Effective 1 August 2012, Dr. John D. Petersen is the new IUPAC Executive Director. Petersen succeeds Dr. Terrence A. Renner who has elected to retire at the end of this year.

Petersen comes to IUPAC from the neighboring Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina, where he was vice president of University Collaborations, Development, and Outreach. He obtained his Bachelor



of Science degree in Chemistry from California State University, Los Angeles. Thereafter, he completed his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry at the University of California, Santa Barbara, as a student of Prof. Peter C. Ford.

Petersen's distinguished career includes positions as executive director of the RTP Solar Fuels Project, president of the University of Tennessee System, and academic appointments at the University of Connecticut, Wayne State University, Kansas State University, and Clemson University.

Petersen commented that "our world is facing some critical issues: developing renewable energy sources, maximizing sustainability, minimizing environmental issues such as global warming, as well as expanding the workforce of the future. The six long-range goals of IUPAC's strategic plan set the framework to meet these issues directly. It is exciting when one has the opportunity to interact with creative individuals and groups while assisting in the formulation of the strategies to implement goals. I believe that the breadth of my experience in all sectors of chemistry, my international connections, my ability to work with local and central governments, and my skill in assisting others in translating their visions into practice are assets for the job of executive director."



John Petersen (left), IUPAC Executive Director, Fabienne Meyers (center), IUPAC Associate Director, and Morton Hoffman, IUPAC member and U.S. representative on the Committee on Chemistry Education, at the ACS Northeastern Section event held on 11 October 2012 at Nova Biomedical Corp. in Waltham, Massachusetts, USA.

Mozambique and Argentina Join IUPAC as Full Members

In July 2012, the Academy of Sciences of Mozambique became the 59th National Adhering Organization to join IUPAC. The Academy was officially launched by the Head of State in February 2009. This event was followed by the First Plenary Session, which elected the Governing Body (Directive Council) and approved the internal regulations.

In September 2012, the Asociación Química Argentina also became a full NAO. Fittingly, AQA acquired full IUPAC membership and became the 60th NAO the same year that it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

Winners of 2012 IUPAC Prizes for Young Chemists

In early July 2012, IUPAC announced the winners of the 2012 IUPAC Prizes for Young Chemists, which are awarded for the best Ph.D. theses in the chemical sciences as described in 1000-word essays. The six winners are as follows:

- Khalid Albahily, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- Tzahi Cohen-Karni, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA
- Alexander Spokoyny, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, USA
- Judy I-Chia Wu, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA
- Lei Yang, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA
- Charles Yeung, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

The winners will each receive a cash prize of USD 1000 and travel expenses to the 44th IUPAC World Chemistry Congress, 11-16 August 2013, in Istanbul, Turkey, where they will present posters describing their award-winning works. They will also be invited to submit a short critical review on aspects of their research topic to be published in *Pure and Applied Chemistry*.

The essays describing the winners' theses can be found on the IUPAC website and cover a wide range of subject matter: