

The John Dolphin Fellowships

Paul Ferguson, Vice President of the Chromatographic Society and Chair of the John Dolphin Fellowship programme

In the June edition of *Chromatography Today*, Dr John Lough of the Chromatographic Society highlighted the formation of the John Dolphin Fellowship programme. The programme was inaugurated in honour of ex Treasurer and Chairman Dr John Dolphin who sadly passed away in 2007. The Fellowships were only made possible through a generous donation from John's estate with the request that the funds were to be used "towards sponsorship of students undertaking their PhD's". To this end the executive committee of the Society deliberated on how this request could be best put into practice. It was decided that the most appropriate use of the funds would be to sponsor UK based doctoral researchers to attend major separation science conferences where they could share and promote their science on an international stage. It is believed that the Fellowship programme would be entirely in keeping with John's thoughts on promoting UK based excellence in separation science through young chromatographers.



As an integral part of the symposium, Tuesday saw 12 scientific vendor companies with tabletop displays of their latest product offerings. On Wednesday, it was the turn of the bioanalytical CROs which included ABS Labs, Cyprotex Discovery Ltd, Quality Assistance, York Bioanalytical, Quotient Bioresearch, Covance, BASI and HLS.

The Scientific Program

Over the last few months, the Society have been ironing-out the detail and mechanics of how the Fellowships will operate. It was agreed that two tiers of Fellowship funding will be available which would correspond to a researchers attendance at conferences within Europe or America/rest of the world. For conferences within Europe, a minimum

Fellowship of £500 will be granted (maximum £750), while attendance at conferences in the USA will be granted a Fellowship of £1000. In some cases higher value Fellowships may be granted, but these will be reviewed by the executive committee on a case-by-case basis.

This Fellowship programme will begin for conferences in the calendar year 2010 and the Society will be accepting formal requests for the programme from 1st December 2009. To be considered for a Fellowship, applications should be made following the links on the Chromatographic Society website (www.chromsoc.com) and follow the links to 'John Dolphin Fellowships'. In short summary, the following are required:-

1. The applicant must be a UK registered PhD/DPhil researcher and working in the area of separation science or demonstrate a significant use of chromatography or related separation techniques in their work. The applicant's research must be predominantly undertaken in the UK and it must be their own work that is being presented at the conference.
2. The application form must be completed in full including details on the anticipated budget required.
3. A letter of endorsement from the applicant's academic supervisor (preferably within 2 weeks of the application).
4. The Chromatographic Society to be acknowledged for Fellowship funding on the applicant's poster or in their oral presentation.

5. If there are no confidentiality issues, an electronic copy of the applicant's poster or presentation should be sent to the Chromatographic Society for display in the members section of the Society's website.
6. Copies of receipts for conference registration, air travel and accommodation must be provided to the Society within 4 weeks of the researchers return.

Full requirements and guidance notes may be found on the Societies website (address noted above). Once completed, applications and supervisor endorsements should be emailed to Chromsoc@meetingmakers.com or sent to The Chromatographic Society, c/o Meeting Makers, Jordanhill Campus, 76 South Brae Drive, Glasgow, G13 1PP. For speed of response, it is advised that email be used where possible.

By following these guidelines, utilising additional funding from Society funds and potential donations from commercial bodies, we hope that Fellowships will be available for a minimum of 15 years. The Chromatographic Society welcomes applications and we look forward to helping support UK research in separation science.

If you have any additional queries not covered in the Fellowship guidance notes or on the Chromatographic Society website, please direct these to Chromsoc@meetingmakers.com.