



## **Annual Karen Wetterhahn Memorial Award Guidelines for Nominating a Superfund Basic Research Program-Supported Graduate or Post Doctoral Student**

### **What is the Karen Wetterhahn Award?**

Dr. Karen Wetterhahn was a renowned metals researcher, and a dedicated teacher and mentor. She was also committed to increasing women's participation in the biological sciences, mathematics and engineering. As a way of honoring the life and scientific accomplishments of Dr. Wetterhahn, the Superfund Basic Research Program (SBRP) has established an award to recognize an outstanding young research scientist.

### **Who is eligible for the Award?**

To be eligible, each nominee must be:

- a graduate or post doctoral student
- supported by the SBRP
- conducting SBRP research in any discipline

### **What does the recipient of the Award receive?**

1. Support for travel to the SBRP Annual Meeting December 7-9, 2008 in Pacific Grove, California.
2. The honor of presenting their research at a plenary session of the Annual Meeting.
3. Support for travel to NIEHS to meet with senior staff and to learn about NIEHS.
4. Support for travel to one major national scientific conference.
5. In addition, the mentor of the awardee will be provided with travel funds to this year's SBRP annual meeting.

### **Who can nominate graduate and post doctoral students? :**

Program Directors, Project Leaders and Core Leaders can nominate students.

### **What are the steps in the nomination process?**

A. The following information should be provided for each nominee:

1. A brief description, prepared by the nominee, of the research she or he is conducting. This should include how the research is relevant to Superfund or the cleanup of hazardous waste sites. It should also include information on how the nominee best demonstrates the qualities of scientific excellence exhibited by Dr. Wetterhahn (<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/sbrp/training/training6.cfm>). (Two page maximum)
2. A statement from the nominee indicating her or his future aspirations in either research or in hazardous waste management issues. (One page maximum)
3. A letter of support and recognition of the nominee from the Program Director, Project Leader, or Core Leader. The letter should state the outstanding attributes and accomplishments of the nominee, and the status of her or his training. If

- applicable, include her or his involvement in activities that promote the advancement of women in science. (One page maximum)
4. A biographical sketch or *curriculum vitae* for the nominee.
- B. All nominations should be submitted by the Program Director to Kathy Ahlmark ([ahlmark@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:ahlmark@niehs.nih.gov)).

### **How many students can each Program nominate?**

Programs are limited to two nominations.

### **When is the nomination deadline?**

**Nominations must be submitted by August 15, 2008.**

### **How will the recipient be selected?**

It is our intent to bring together a small ad hoc group of reviewers from within and from outside of the Institute to critically evaluate the nominations put forth. It is important that the nominee present her/his material in a manner readily understood by scientific, literate colleagues; however, nominees should not assume that all reviewers are experts in their area of research. Also, it is important to stress the relevance of this work to the Superfund goals and objectives.

### **What are the Review Criteria?**

Applicants will be reviewed on the following criteria:

1. Cutting edge, scientifically relevant research.
2. Scientific merit of research being conducted in metals.
3. Ability to present work in a clear, concise and readily understandable format.
4. Potential of the nominee to contribute to the field.

In recognition of Dr. Wetterhahn's commitment to the advancement of women in science, special consideration will be given to nominees who have demonstrated similar commitment or have been involved in activities that promote the recruitment and/or advancement of women scientists. Mentoring of younger scientists will also be considered.

### **When will the Award Announcement be made?**

The announcement of the Wetterhahn Award recipient will be made at the Annual Meeting in December; however, the recipient will be notified in early October.

### **Who do I contact if I have questions?**

Feel free to contact either Beth Anderson (919-541-4481; [tainer@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:tainer@niehs.nih.gov)) or Claudia Thompson (919-541-4638; [thompsol@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:thompsol@niehs.nih.gov)).