RECOGNITION AWARDS & PRIZES

2019 REGIONAL POSTDOCTORAL COMPETITION
BLAVATNIK AWARDS FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Life Sciences • Physical Sciences & Engineering • Chemistry

DEADLINES
Expressions of Interest (Candidate’s Name & Department) by November 6, 2018 (required)
Internal Competition Deadline: November 27, 2018 at 5:00pm (no exceptions)
Sponsor deadline: January 30, 2019

SPONSOR’S WEBSITE
Regional Postdoctoral program webpage: http://blavatnikawards.org/awards/regional-awards/
Sub-disciplines to be considered: http://blavatnikawards.org/awards/regional-awards/regionaldisciplines/
FAQ: http://blavatnikawards.org/awards/regional-awards/regional-faq/

FUNDING
One winner in each category will be awarded $30,000 each in unrestricted funds. (3 total)
Two finalists in each category will receive $10,000 each in unrestricted funds. (6 total)

NOMINATION LIMITATION
Yale is invited to nominate fifteen (15) candidates.

PURPOSE
The Regional Postdoctoral Competition celebrates the excellence of the most noteworthy young scientists and engineers in NY, NJ, and CT. The awards recognize high-impact and innovative accomplishments in the life sciences, physical sciences and engineering, and chemistry by postdoctoral-rank candidates under 42 years of age. Recognition is of specific high-impact research conducted and published during the postdoctoral years only. Research carried out during doctoral training will NOT be reviewed.

The candidate and his/her work will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- **quality** – the extent to which the work is reliable, valid, credible, and scientifically rigorous
- **impact** -- the extent to which the work addresses an important problem and is influential in the candidate’s field
- **novelty** -- the extent to which the work challenges existing paradigms, employs new methodologies or concepts, and/or pursues an original question
- **promise** – the candidate’s potential for an independent career and further significant contributions to science or science-related fields

**Note:** Work completed as part of the candidate’s graduate training will not be evaluated.

To be eligible, candidates must:

- Have been born on or after January 1, 1977
- Have earned a doctoral degree (PhD, DPhil, MD, DDS, DVM, etc.)
- Currently hold a postdoctoral-rank position at a research institution located in NY, NJ, or CT
- Have made significant research contributions during postdoctoral training and currently work in one of the sub-disciplines supported within the life sciences, physical sciences and engineering, or chemistry.
- Previously nominated individuals who were not selected as winners or finalists may be nominated again.

*Internal competition procedures ... see pages 2 and 3*
Expressions of Interest and Internal Applications should be emailed to: melanie.smith@yale.edu with cc to: osp@yale.edu

**STEP ONE:**
**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST** (Candidate’s Name & Department) by November 6, 2018  *(required)*

**STEP TWO:**
**INTERNAL COMPETITION:**
Submit the following items as PDFs on or before NOVEMBER 27, 2018 at 5:00pm. *(no exceptions)*

Most of the requirements below mirror the information requested by the sponsor of the three candidates to be nominated by Yale.

This is an open internal competition. There are no restrictions on the number of candidates to be submitted by any department or section.

The internal nomination must be prepared by the candidate working with a senior faculty member, in particular with respect to the requested “Rationale for Nomination” statement (item 2 below).

**Page 1 – Candidate Information**
- **First & Last Name:**
- **Email Address:** The candidate's professional/institutional email address.
- **Preferred Phone Number:** The preferred phone number where the candidate can be reached directly.
- **Street Address (work):**
- **Official Title:** The title or position as designated by Yale.
- **Primary Department:**
- **Date of Birth:** MM/DD/YYYY. Candidates must be born on or after January 1, 1977, no exceptions.
- **Disciplinary Category:** The major focus of the candidate's research. List one sub-discipline from those listed under the 3 categories at: [http://blavatnikawards.org/awards/regional-awards/regionaldisciplines/](http://blavatnikawards.org/awards/regional-awards/regionaldisciplines/)

**Page 2 – Rationale for Nomination**
- **Recommender’s Name, Title and Primary Department.** For the internal competition, this can be a written by a chair, section/division chief, or senior faculty member well-acquainted with your work. The “Rationale for Nomination” should be prepared as if written by Associate Provost James Slattery, the University’s nominator for the Blavatnik awards.
- **Rationale for Nomination.** Please prepare a statement – 200 words maximum -- describing the candidate and his/her work according to the following evaluation criteria:
  - **Quality:** Extent to which the work is reliable, valid, credible, and scientifically rigorous.
  - **Impact:** Extent to which the work addresses an important problem and is influential in the candidate’s field.
  - **Novelty:** Extent to which the work challenges existing paradigms, employs new methodologies or concepts, and/or pursues an original question.
  - **Promise:** The candidate’s potential for an independent career and further significant contributions to science or science-related fields.

  The Rationale for Nomination should address the candidate’s selection based on his/her strong record of significant specific scientific contributions made during the postdoctoral years, early career success, and promise of sustained or accelerated progress in the future. Research conducted and published during doctoral training will not be reviewed.

*Internal competition procedures ... continued on page 3*
Page 3 – Candidate’s Research Summary

• Candidate’s Name, Title & Primary Department
• A summary of research accomplishments. (1,000 word maximum, 10-point Arial font).

This is a summary of up to five (5) of the candidate’s most significant specific postdoctoral scientific contributions and research accomplishments -- written for PhD-level scientists or engineers working in the candidate’s general disciplinary area.

Key results, their impact on the candidate’s field of study, and the candidate’s specific role in the described work should be included.

• Focus should be on the candidate’s specific achievements and outline the main themes of the candidate’s research and most significant results. The following questions should be addressed:
  o Quality: What indicates high quality of this research?
  o Novelty: What does this contribute to the candidate’s field that has not been done before?
  o Impact: Why is this research significant and how does this work influence the candidate’s field of study or science, technology, health or other, more general, areas of knowledge?
• Collaborations initiated by the candidate and his/her individual contributions to collaborative work may be included.
• Candidates are also encouraged to outline their vision of future research activities and how these activities will be founded in their current achievements.
• The Statement should not duplicate the candidate’s CV (e.g. positions, awards, and service should be excluded).

Supporting Documents

• Key Publications and Patents (sequential 1–4): Please label files LastName_FirstName-Pub1.pdf
  Up to 4 (four) full-text published papers or filed patents representing the candidate's best work.
  Publications must not be larger than 10MB apiece.
  Publications and patents from research conducted during doctoral training should NOT be submitted.
• Curriculum Vitae: Use the format detailed in the link below. (4 page maximum, 10-pt Arial).
  Please label file: LastName_FirstName-CV.pdf.
See CV Format Example under 2019 Guidelines: http://blavatnikawards.org/media/filer_public/31/ae/31ae05d3-bdc1-444a-819c-803ec5fc544b/regional_cv_example_final.pdf
• Names and institutions of 2–4 potential writers of letters of recommendation who have or have had a professional relationship with the candidate and can discuss the candidate’s significant postdoctoral research contributions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Melanie.Smith@Yale.edu • Funding Resource Center • Office of Sponsored Projects • Yale University • (203) 785-4978
Last update: October 24, 2018