Press Release

2012 Fellowship, Grant and Career Development Awards from the Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP)

The International Human Frontier Science Program Organization (HFSPO) is pleased to announce the names of the recipients of HFSP international postdoctoral fellowships, Career Development Awards and research grants. HFSP awards are made in each category only after rigorous selection in a global competition.

HFSP postdoctoral fellowships are given to young scientists within 3 years of the PhD degree who wish to broaden their training in a laboratory in another country. This year, 85 Fellowships have been awarded. Of these, 80 are Long-Term Fellowships for life scientists planning to extend their expertise into another field of biology and 5 are Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships for young scientists with PhDs in physics, chemistry, computer science or engineering. The Long-Term and Cross-Disciplinary Fellows are of 24 different nationalities and will be receiving training in 11 different countries.

A special feature of the HFSP programs for young scientists electing either to return to their home countries or to move to another HFSP member country after their postdoctoral training abroad is the competitive Career Development Award to support their transition to independence. This year awards have been made to 8 young scientists returning to 6 different countries. Awardees will each receive a total of $300,000 spread over three years.

HFSP collaborative research grants are given for a broad range of projects under the umbrella theme of “Complex mechanisms of living organisms”. Particular emphasis is placed on cutting-edge, risky projects. Two types of research grants are awarded: Young Investigator Grants for teams of scientists who are all within 5 years of obtaining their first independent position and Program Grants, which are open to teams of scientists at any stage of their careers. The grants are awarded to international teams and strong preference is given to intercontinental collaborations.

This year, 8 Young Investigator teams were approved (involving 23 scientists) together with 25 Program Grants (involving 86 scientists). Each team member receives on average $110,000 - $125,000 per year for 3 years. The awardees’ laboratories are located in 20 countries, including 4 in Australia, 10 in Asia, 37 in N. America and 50 in Europe. Three non-member countries are represented in this year’s awards: 6 scientists in Israel and one each in Namibia and Singapore.

Full lists of the new awards are available on the HFSP web site at http://www.hfsp.org/awardees/newly-awarded

The Human Frontier Science Program is an international program of research support implemented by the International Human Frontier Science Program Organization (HFSPO) based in Strasbourg, France. Its aims are to promote intercontinental collaboration and training in cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research focused on the life sciences. HFSPO receives financial support from the governments or research councils of Australia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, UK, USA, as well as from the European Union.