
The International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Wood-Whelan Research Fellowships

30 March 2000

Supported by grants from IUBMB, International Council for Science (ICSU) and American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB).

Objectives

The Wood-Whelan Research Fellowships are designed to support young biochemists and molecular biologists, from countries that are full or associate members of IUBMB who need to travel to other laboratories in the IUBMB/ICSU region for the purpose of carrying out experiments that require special techniques or for other forms of scientific collaboration or advanced training.

Conditions of Fellowships

The fellowships will be awarded for travel lasting 1 - 4 months. A fellowship is intended to cover travel and incidental costs to a total of \$2,000. Travel costs will provide for the cheapest airfare available; incidental expenses directly related to the travel, local bus fares to and from airport; and a hotel charge for one night at airport if well substantiated. The costs do not cover insurance or living expenses at the laboratory to be visited. Travel should commence within four months of the award being made.

Applicants for fellowships are required to make a full declaration to IUBMB of all other support received in connection with the proposed visit. A fellowship cannot be used to supplement scientific visits otherwise fully covered. Fellowships will not be awarded to attend courses, symposia, meetings or congresses: Applicants must be residents of countries that are members of IUBMB and should generally be graduate students or young researchers less than 35 years old. Retroactive applications will not be considered.

Applications

The following four documents (A-D) should be provided. The original application (Documents A and B, see below), written in English, should be sent by the applicant, if possible by e-mail (prepared as PDF files that can be read by the ACROBAT reader), to the three Members of the Committee. In addition, Documents C and D (see below) should be sent directly, by the head of the receiving

institute (C) and by the head of the applicant's institute (D) respectively, to all three Members of the Committee

- A) Details of the research proposal of about two A4-sized pages indicating clearly: (1) the nature of the project and the type of experiments to be carried out; (2) why it is necessary to travel to a particular laboratory to conduct the experiments rather than to perform them in the applicant's own laboratory or simply to ship the materials; (3) why the project will require the particular time period requested; (4) documentation about the cost of the proposed travel and any incidental expenses. An estimate of the travel costs should be provided by a travel agent and be based on the costs of the cheapest flight available. The type of flight (e.g. apex, Super-Apex, student fare) should be stated.
- B) A short curriculum vitae of the applicant with a list of publications.
- C) A letter of acceptance from the head of the receiving institute countersigned by the leader of the group in which the applicant will work, stating that the institute will receive the applicant.
- D) A letter of recommendation from the head of the department of the applicant's institution indicating the reasons why the fellowship would be beneficial. This letter should also list all other fellowships previously received by the applicant, especially for travel abroad to attend meetings or to study at another institution.

Applications in English can be submitted at any time but they should reach the Committee Members at least two months before the intended visit to the host laboratory .

Report

No later than three months after the visit, a brief report should be sent to Dr. Y. Anraku (Chairman of the Committee on Wood-Whelan Research

Fellowships) detailing the length of stay, results achieved or expected, and any publication that may result. Acknowledgement of receipt of the Fellowship should be made in any publication(s) that arise(s) as a result of the visit.

Addresses of Members of the Wood-Whelan Research Fellowships Committee

Dr. Yasuhiro Anraku, Professor of Biochemistry, Dept. of BioSciences,
Teikyo University of Science and Technology, Uenohara 2525,
Kitatsuru-gun Yamanashi 409-0193, Japan
Phone: +81-554-63-6832, Fax: +81-554-63-4431
e-mail: anraku@ntu.ac.jp:

Dr. Horst Feldmann, Adolf-Butenandt-Institut, Molekularbiologie,
Schillerstrasse 44, D-80366 Munchen, Germany
Phone: +49-89-5996-451/437, Fax: +49-89-5996-316
e-mail: horst.feldmann@bio.med.un-muenchen.de

Dr. Armando J. Parodi, Instituto de Investigaciones
Biotecnologicas-UNSAM Avda Gral Paz s/n entre Albarellos y
Constituyentes, INTU-Edif. 24-Casilla Correo 30, 1650 San
Martin-Pcia.de Buenos Aires Argentina,
Phone: +54-11-4580-7255 to 7257, Fax: +54-11-4752-9639,
e-mail: aparodi@inti.gov.ar

Visit the IUBMB homepage at <<http://www.iubmb.unibe.ch>> for updates on IUBMB activities.

In Memoriam: Douglas W. Russell
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Dalhousie
University

Douglas W. Russell, a longtime, devoted member of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology died on June 10, 1999. The department has established a prize in his memory, to be awarded to the student with the highest standing in Biochemistry 2200, a class which owes its existence in large part to Doug's efforts.

When Doug came to us from Twyford Laboratories in England, he brought with him a wealth of experience in "secondary metabolism," the production of unusual compounds characteristic of only a single species. He continued to explore these biochemical byways in collaboration with colleagues at the National Research Council and with several graduate students.

Doug brought an admirable degree of rigor to his teaching; he resolutely refused to water down his approach to his subject. His attitude was to keep the discussion as simple as possible, but never to fudge the facts. In the late 1970s he took the unusual step of enrolling for a Bachelor of Education at Dalhousie, with a view to strengthening science teaching in the high schools. After he obtained this degree and a teaching certificate, he served for five years as the coordinator for secondary science in the Department of Education.

When a case-oriented curriculum was introduced by the College of Pharmacy, Doug (himself originally a pharmacist) enthusiastically plunged into the new method of teaching, and made very important contributions to developing suitable cases for the instruction of pharmacy students.

Doug was also an able amateur musician. He was a stalwart member of the bass section of the Dalhousie Chorale. His vocal sight-reading was fluent and accurate – he could read a line of music as easily as most of us can read an English sentence. Over the last few years, he also took up musical composition and did so vigorously and seriously, adding courses in music to his already wide-ranging store of skills and knowledge. With outstanding sensitivity to the nuances of English poetry, he produced a series of choral and solo vocal works in a melodious tonal idiom somewhat reminiscent of Elgar. He took great pride in the small annual royalty cheques he received when conductors bought copies of his published music for performance by their choirs.

Doug's health was for many years precarious, but despite his longstanding cardiovascular problems he was a tireless, energetic worker. After his retirement he did not slow down, but continued to teach and innovate till the very end. He left us with plans for next year, sadly now to be implemented by others in the department. "Blessed are the dead, for they rest from their labours"; rest well, Doug Russell.