

SWST Emerging Countries International Travel Grants Program

Purpose: To promote the participation of SWST Members from Emerging Countries in the International Annual Convention (IAC) of the Society in those years in which the Meeting is held in North America

Rationale: The program will provide opportunities for International Members to participate in the IAC and will provide a further incentive for membership in the Society. This program is patterned after the Student Travel Grants program initiated in 2008 to assist students with travel expenses to the IAC in Concepcion, Chile. It is anticipated that the Student Travel Grants program will be continued in the even-numbered years coinciding with Annual Meetings held outside of North America. The Emerging Countries International Travel Grants Program is proposed to operate in the odd-numbered years coinciding with Annual Meetings held in North America.

Proposed Guidelines for the Program: The Emerging Countries International Travel Grant Program (ECITGP) will be open to International Members of SWST who are residents of SWST's list of approved emerging countries (see list at <http://www.swst.org/about/internationalBrochure5.html>). International Members selected for support under this grant program will be expected to present a research poster at the Convention. Each grant will consist of an award of \$1000 with up to five grants to be awarded.

Application procedure: Any International Member of SWST who is a resident of an emerging country may apply. Applicants must be International Members of the Society of Wood Science and Technology upon application and receipt of the grant. Non-members may apply by submitting a membership application and dues at the time of application. In addition, each Member is asked to pre-register for the Annual Convention and to pay the registration fee.

Each application will consist of a completed SWST ECITGP Application Form and an abstract of 250 words or less describing the research topic to be presented in poster format at the IAC. *Abstracts will be evaluated for research hypothesis, scientific merit, organization and clarity of expression.* Applications will be reviewed by the SWST Visiting Scientist Committee, with recommendations for funding made to the Executive Board of the Society.

Applications to the ECITGP must be received by the SWST Office in Madison by 12:00 Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), 90 days prior to the International Convention. Applications will be reviewed within 15 days of receipt, with recommendation to the Executive Board within 60 days prior to International Convention. It is anticipated that grant awards will be announced within 60 days of International Convention. Grants will be made on a cost-reimbursement basis following the IAC. Awardees of Emerging Countries International Travel Grants will receive funds upon submission of travel expense receipts to Vicki Herian, Executive Director, SWST, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53726-2398 USA, email vicki@swst.org.

Approved 6/25/09