Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. The notes (in duplicate) should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the International Union of Crystallography (J. N. King, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England).


COSTED Travel Fellowship Programme

COSTED, the Committee on Science and Technology in Developing Countries of the International Council of Scientific Unions, initiated in 1974 a travel fellowship programme to help young scientists from developing countries participate in international conferences, workshops and training programmes. The scientific areas chosen for support are those in keeping with the scientific priorities of developing countries. The travel fellowship programmes are restricted to scientists below 35 years of age and the following conditions must be met:

1. The applicant must have a permanent job in a developing country to which he can return after the visit is completed.
2. The applicant must have had a paper accepted at an international conference, or the applicant must have been accepted as a participant in an international training workshop.

Guidelines for applicants

Applications must be sent in duplicate at least three months before the scheduled date of the seminar/workshop/training programme in order to allow enough time for the application to be processed. All applications must be sent to the Scientific Secretary, COSTED, Physics Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras 600 036 (Telephone 414543, Telex TECHMAS-MS(041) 7362). Applications may be made on plain paper but must be accompanied by the following documents:

(a) A brief curriculum vitae giving details of research interests, publications and experience. The age of the applicant must be clearly indicated.
(b) A statement (one page) on how the fellowship is likely to help expand the scope of his work when he returns home.
(c) A letter indicating acceptance of a paper submitted by the applicant to a conference or selection of the candidate for an international workshop/training programme. (This partly transfers the responsibility of judging the quality of the candidates to the sponsors.)
(d) Names and addresses of two professional scientists who are willing to act as referees. (Letters of assessment should be sent by the referees directly to the COSTED Secretariat at the address given above.) If possible, one of the referees should be a senior scientist in the candidate’s field in his home country and the other the Director/Convenor of the conference/workshop/training programme.
(e) An estimate of travel costs on the basis of low-cost economy fares. Candidates who have secured some travel assistance from other organizations will be given preference. No other expenses such as registration fees, local per diem expenses etc. will be provided by COSTED.

It should also be noted that
(a) There will be no restriction as to the country to be visited by the Fellows.
(b) Fellowships will not be available for candidates to participate in programmes in their own countries.
(c) Fellowships will not be available for any programme which is of more than 3 months’ duration. Candidates will be informed of their selection or otherwise within one month of their application.

Guidelines for organizers of international conferences/training programmes/workshops

COSTED provides support to international organizations to enable scientists from developing countries to participate in their programmes. To obtain support from COSTED an organization must meet the following general criteria:

(a) The organizers should involve COSTED as a co-sponsor of the activity.
(b) Applications received by the organizing committee should be considered with reference to the conditions and general guidelines given above and a list of candidates in order of priority sent to COSTED. The list should also include estimated travel costs. The final selection will be made on the basis of the number of applications received and their geographical distribution.
(c) Candidates selected for joint COSTED Organizing Committee awards will be provided with 50% of their travel costs by COSTED and 50% by the organizer.
(d) COSTED’s contribution to travel costs will be sent to the organizers who will distribute either the money or the tickets to candidates who finally participate in the workshop/seminar.

Further information may be obtained from the Scientific Secretary, COSTED, Physics Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras 600 036, India.