

RSC ran a multi-stage scenario planning process, working with a range of people from across the chemical sciences. As a result, they came up with four surprising, but plausible scenarios to help challenge our thinking. As Robert Parker, RSC Chief Executive, explains in the Foreword: “The idea was not to gaze into a crystal ball and make predictions, but to find out what some of the best minds in our community think about where the chemical sciences are going. Based on these discussions, we have developed four surprising, but plausible scenarios, which we are using to inform our strategic planning.”

The report, written by Alejandra Palermo, is in a way the beginning of a conversation. RSC encourages other organisations to use the scenarios to challenge their thinking and to share how they are preparing for an uncertain future.

To read about the process and the scenarios and to access the full text of the report, visit www.rsc.org/campaigning-outreach/campaigning/future-of-the-chemical-sciences.

IUPAC 2017 Distinguished Women in Chemistry or Chemical Engineering—Call for Nominations

The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) is pleased to announce the call for nominations for the IUPAC 2017 Distinguished Women in Chemistry or Chemical Engineering Awards. The purpose of the awards program, initiated as part of the 2011 International Year of Chemistry celebrations, is to acknowledge and promote the work of women in chemistry/chemical engineering worldwide. In 2011, 23 women were honored during a ceremony held at the IUPAC Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 2 August 2011. At each of the subsequent IUPAC Congresses, 12 women received this recognition; in Istanbul, Turkey in 2013 and in Busan, Korea in 2015. A similar award ceremony will take place during the 2017 IUPAC Congress in July 2017 in São Paulo, Brazil.

Awardees will be selected based on excellence in basic or applied research, distinguished accomplishments in teaching or education, or demonstrated leadership or managerial excellence in the chemical sciences. The Awards Committee is particularly interested in nominees with a history of leadership and/or community service during their careers.

Nomination

Each nomination requires a primary nominator and two secondary nominators who must each write a letter of recommendation in support of the nomination. A CV of the nominee is required. Self-nominations will not be accepted. Nominations should be received by **15 January 2017**.

For additional information on the IUPAC 2017 Distinguished Women In Chemistry Awards, contact Fabienne Meyers at <fabienne@iupac.org>.

www.iupac.org/2017-women-in-chemistry

2017 IUPAC-Solvay International Award For Young Chemists

The 2017 IUPAC-SOLVAY International Award for Young Chemists is intended to encourage outstanding young research scientists at the beginning of their careers. The awards are given for the most outstanding Ph.D. theses in the general area of the chemical sciences, as described in a 1000-word essay. The award is generously sponsored by Solvay.

IUPAC will award up to five prizes in 2017. Each prize will consist of USD 1000 cash and travel expenses to the 2017 IUPAC Congress in Brazil (July 2017; see www.iupac2017.org).

Each awardee will be invited to present a poster on his/her research and to participate in a plenary award session, and is expected to submit a review article for possible publication in *Pure and Applied Chemistry*.

Entrants must have received the Ph.D. (or equivalent) degree, or completed all Ph.D. requirements including successful defense of the doctoral thesis, during calendar 2016 in any of the countries that are members or associate members of IUPAC. Entrants need not be citizens or residents of one of these countries at the time the application is submitted. The research described in the entrant's thesis must be in the field of the chemical sciences, defined as "chemistry and those disciplines and technologies that make significant use of chemistry."

The IUPAC-SOLVAY Award only recognizes work that was performed while the entrant was a graduate student. Application requires the submission of a completed entry form online.

Complete applications must be received at the IUPAC Secretariat by **1 February 2017**.

www.iupac.org/2017-iupac-solvay-international-award-for-young-chemists