

## **Kenneth G. Hancock Memorial Award for Undergraduate Students**

### **NIST Summer Undergraduate Fellowship Award**

**Background:** Since 1998, an annual Kenneth G. Hancock Memorial Award in Green Chemistry has been offered under the auspices of The American Chemical Society's Division of Environmental Chemistry to provide national recognition for outstanding student contributions in the area of green chemistry. This award is named to honor Kenneth G. Hancock, an early advocate of green chemistry, and the Director of the Division of Chemistry of the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Hancock Award is presented in conjunction with the annual Presidential Green Challenge Awards ceremony.

NIST has approached Division of Environmental Chemistry of the ACS to explore ways by which NIST could participate along with this Division in the annual Hancock Award. NIST understands that the Hancock Award is given to recognize outstanding student contributions toward furthering the goals of Green Chemistry through research or education, and is open to both undergraduate students and graduate students. Since the current award is given most often to graduate students, in the context and the spirit of the Hancock Award, NIST's proposal is to provide a separate award that focuses on the undergraduate student. In this proposal, NIST suggests that there be two Hancock Memorial Awards given each year: one is a monetary award as has been historical; and a second is a NIST-provided award that is specifically designated for undergraduate students. The NIST-provided award will not be a cash award, but rather is a fully funded research opportunity for the awardee at NIST for the period of approximately 9 weeks during the summer immediately following award conferral.

**Objective and Goal:** NIST is an agency in the US Department of Commerce. Its mission is centered on advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that promote industrial innovation and enhance economic security and improve our quality of life, therefore, we propose that this undergraduate award be given in recognition of effort "furthering the goals of Green Chemistry through advances in measurement science, data, or standards that enable the implementation of Green Chemistry". This second award is in concert with, and complementary to, the existing award and fully supports its goal. In addition, it is aligned with the goals of the National Science Foundation and promotes the progress of science by providing a research experience for a talented undergraduate student.

#### ***Terms of the Fellowship:***

The award will consist of a fully supported summer internship of 9 weeks at NIST to work with NIST scientists on research that is relevant to the commercialization and implementation of green chemistry principles in an industrial context. NIST will provide a grant to the Environmental Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society to cover the NIST-provided undergraduate student internship. This amount will be commensurate to that provided for other Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows at NIST.

#### ***Eligibility:***

This award is open to undergraduate students, who:

- Are US citizens or a permanent resident of the US,
- Are covered by a health plan (either through school or through family),
- Have declared a science major, and
- Are in good academic standing at their college or university.

***Selection Process:*** One summer internship will be awarded yearly following deadlines and application procedures already established by the ACS's Division of Environmental Chemistry for the Kenneth G. Hancock Memorial Award. The NIST-provided award would have an additional caveat or criterion, that the work in green chemistry also demonstrates advancement in measurement science or standards, provides a novel use of green chemistry to enhance existing metrology, in the field or in research, or provides fundamental data that promotes/enables green chemistry.

***Panel of Judges:*** ACS Division of Environmental Chemistry convenes an independent panel to judge applications received for the award. For the NIST-provided award, the panel will include one or two members from NIST in addition to the panel members convened by the Environmental Chemistry Division.

***Thank you:*** We are grateful to the ACS ENVR board for the opportunity to work with you in this very important and worthwhile endeavor.