Student Travel Grant for WUWNet'19

Sponsored by the NSF, WUWNet 2019 will award travel grants to United States-based students so that they can attend the conference and present their research efforts through papers, work-in-progress (WIP) posters, or demos. Now we are receiving applications.

The goal is to broaden participation in the conference by supporting students with interests in underwater networks and systems who would otherwise be unable to attend. Please consider a submission to the WIP Poster or the Demo session.

The awards will be handled in the form of reimbursements. The reimbursement amount for each student will be up to $1,000. Each legitimate expense must be documented with an original official receipt (e.g., air ticket and hotel receipt). Note that the travel support is intended to defray, but not necessarily to cover entirely, the costs of attending the conference (registration, at the student rate, hotel, and transportation). Further details of the reimbursement procedure will be communicated to the awardees.

This year, we follow the NSF guidelines to promote the participation of the student scholars from diverse backgrounds:

- A portion of the travel grants will be reserved for first-time attendees who do not have an accepted paper. Undergraduates and beginning graduate students are strongly encouraged to apply.
- A portion of the travel grants will be reserved for under-represented groups (NSF definition: Women, persons with disabilities, and three racial and ethnic groups—blacks, Hispanics, and American Indians or Alaska Natives), who do not need to have an accepted paper.
- Travel grant applications from graduate students will be evaluated separately from first-time attendees or under-represented groups.
- No more than one student per university or institution will be funded.

Application Form and Instructions

Detailed instructions can be found in the application form that is attached to this announcement. To apply, please fill out the application form, and submit along with a personal statement and a recommendation letter to Prof. Xiaoyan Hong, hxy@cs.ua.edu, with a subject line, WUWNet: Travel Grant Application

Travel Grant Application Deadline: Oct 7, 2019 (The travel grant awards are first-come, first-served, pending evaluation outcomes. Please apply early).

Applications submitted before Sept 23, 2019 will receive a full consideration. Review of applications and decision of the travel awards will begin soon after they are received. Once the travel fund is used up, we will stop reviewing applications.
Application for NSF Travel Award to the 14th International Conference on Underwater Networks & Systems (WUWNet’19)

Applicant Name: _________________________________
Address: ________________________________________
Email/Tel: ________________________________________
University or Institution (United States Based only): ________________________________
Department: ______________________________________
Research/Academic Advisor: __________________________
Advisor email/Tel: _________________________________
Degree being pursued: ______________________________

Will you be over 18 years old on Oct 23, 2019 (Awardees must be 18 years or older to travel to the conference) (Y/N)?: ______________________________

Q1: Are you a member of the underrepresented groups (NSF definition: Women, persons with disabilities, and three racial and ethnic groups—blacks, Hispanics, and American Indians or Alaska Natives) (Y/N)? ________________________________
If yes, please specify: ______________________________________

Q2: Are you a first-time attendee to WUWNet (Y/N): ______________________________

Q3: Have you submitted a full/short paper (Y/N)? _________________________________
If yes, please specify the paper title:
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

Q4: Will you present an extended abstract, a poster, or a Demo (Y/N)?_________________
If yes, please specify the title of your extended abstract, poster, or demo:
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

Required documents are listed on the next page.
WUWNet’19 Travel Grants: Required documents

1. Personal Statement (1 to 2 pages) that includes the following items:
   - A summary of research interests and/or accomplishments to date;
   - A description of areas reflected in the WUWNet program that would impact the applicant's research;
   - Why attending the conference is important to the applicant;
   - Given that costs may be higher than the award amount per student, the applicant should explain how to get the additional funds to cost the travel costs. A supportive statement from the advisor is often adequate.

2. Letter of recommendation from the applicant’s advisor that states the following:
   - Confirmation that the applicant is a Ph.D. or M.S. candidate in good standing or an undergraduate student in a US institution;
   - Suitability of the WUWNet'19 program/activities to the student's research interests;
   - Ways that the applicant would benefit from attending the conference; and
   - Strengths and potential of the applicant.