

Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship in Metallurgical Engineering Guidelines & Procedures

Background

Dr. Rong Yu Wan (1932-2009) was an internationally renowned metallurgist and 22-year member of SME. During her career, Dr. Wan not only made many important contributions in the field of metallurgical engineering but also tirelessly mentored many young scientists and students. The Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship was created by SME in 2014 as a tribute to Dr. Wan's life and work.

Dr. Wan received her B.S. degree in chemical engineering in 1952 from Chiao Tung University in Shanghai, China. She subsequently worked as a process engineer and a research scientist in mining and metallurgy during China's industrial reconstruction. In 1980, at the age of 48, Dr. Wan came to the United States to pursue her graduate study at the University of Utah, where she received her Ph.D. in metallurgy and metallurgical engineering in 1984. Most of her professional career in the United States was with Newmont Mining Corp., where she was Newmont's chief research scientist of hydrometallurgy and directed many research and development projects, from basic research through pilot plant studies to commissioning and operation. In 2000, Dr. Wan was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering "for accomplishments in metallurgical research and industrial practice, and for teaching, supervising and inspiring students, researchers and industrial colleagues." She was the first to be elected to the National Academies among the millions of mainland Chinese students and scholars who have come to the United States since the late 1970s. Included among Dr. Wan's many awards and honors are the SME Antoine M. Gaudin Award.

Overview

The Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship will be presented annually to a recent Ph.D. recipient for outstanding dissertation research in the general area of metallurgical engineering (that is, mineral processing, hydrometallurgy or extractive metallurgy, etc.). Ph.D. recipients who have completed all their degree requirements (including submission of the final dissertation) within the previous 12 months of the nomination deadline are eligible. The major criterion for the scholarship is the impact or potential impact of the research on the field of mining and metallurgical engineering.

The recipient will receive a monetary prize, a certificate and an invitation to deliver an invited paper on the dissertation topic at SME's Annual Conference & Expo. The recipient will be announced in *Mining Engineering* magazine.

The initial announcement of the scholarship was made at the 2014 SME Annual Conference & Expo. The scholarship was first administered by the SME Foundation. Administration was officially transferred to the Mineral & Metallurgical Processing Division (MPD) Executive Committee in 2016.

Timeline

The Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship adheres to the following timeline:

Date	Task
September 1-October 15	Applications accepted
October 15	Application deadline (Note: All applications must be complete.)
October 15-December 1	Application review period
December 1	Final selection by MPD Scholarship Committee
December 15	Recipient notified
SME Annual Conference & Expo	Recipient recognized at an MPD event. Check is presented to the winner. (If the winner is absent, the check may be presented to the winner's department chair, the winner's thesis advisor or a designated representative of the winner.)

Eligibility

Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. Have completed all of their Ph.D. degree requirements (including the defense and approval of the final dissertation) within the previous 12 months of the nomination deadline. (If the deadline is August 31, then the period would be from September 1 of the previous year to August 31).
2. Be an SME student member in good standing.
3. Attend a school that is ABET-accredited and/or has an SME student chapter.
4. Demonstrate a desire for and a probability of success in a career in metallurgical engineering.

Nomination Requirements

Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship applications must be submitted by email to scholarships@smenet.org or online via SME's Scholarship portal, as designated. The application requires the following information:

1. Nomination letter from the candidate's research advisor(s).
2. One to three supporting letters from the department chair, other members of the thesis committee or other scientists familiar with the research.
3. Resume detailing past education and work experience.
4. A separate list of papers published and submitted, and presentations made related to the dissertation.
5. A five-page extended summary of the dissertation that discusses the context for the dissertation, the major findings and their significance.
6. A PDF copy of the candidate's dissertation.
7. Copy of most recent transcript (unofficial copy is permitted).

Scholarship

During the years that the Scholarship is given, the total amount of the Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship will be determined annually and will be no more than 5% of its endowment fund's rolling three-year average balance. The Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship recipient and the dissertation advisor will be invited to attend the SME Annual Conference & Expo to be recognized during an MPD event.

Recipient Selection

Selection of the Scholarship recipient is at the discretion of the Minerals & Metallurgical Processing Division Scholarship Committee. Each nominated dissertation will be evaluated by at least two reviewers selected by the Committee.

Questions

Questions regarding the Rong Yu Wan Ph.D. Dissertation Scholarship may be directed to scholarships@smenet.org.
