



Chemistry for Cultural Heritage Distinguished Scientist Biannual Award

The EuChemS Working Party Chemistry for Cultural Heritage (WP ChemCH) is launching the call for the “Chemistry for Cultural Heritage Distinguished Scientist Award”, planned to become a biannual award. The award is given to individuals who display innovation and excellence in research to advance the science and practice of chemistry for cultural heritage. This contribution could be a long-term, cumulative contribution or a single, particularly insightful idea, experiment, application, or interpretation.

Who is eligible for nomination

There is no restriction on eligibility. The nominee should be able to demonstrate outstanding commitment to the field of Chemistry for Cultural Heritage at the European as well as the international level. This award aims to recognise demonstrable, significant, and sustained achievements in research, education, promotion, popularisation, policy, innovation and/or technology transfer within the realm of Chemistry for Cultural Heritage throughout the nominee’s career. It is expected that the nominees have contributed across these areas of activity, although they don't need to have contributed to all of them. The nominees don't need to be chemists by profession, although it is expected that they have integrated chemistry for cultural heritage into their careers.

Who can submit a nomination

Nominations may be submitted by a member of national Chemical Societies and other chemistry-related organisations in Europe under the umbrella of EuChemS (<https://www.euchems.eu/members-3/member-societies/>). Self-nominations are not accepted.

How to submit a nomination

Nominations must be sent to the President of the WP ChemCH, exclusively via email (maite.maguregui@ehu.eus), after announcing the call for nominations via the WP ChemCH website, with the subject line: "Nomination for the Chemistry for Cultural Heritage Distinguished Scientist Award." Nominations submitted after the deadline are not considered.

A nomination must include the following:

- Nomination letter highlighting the salient aspects of the nominee’s achievements to be considered for the award, no longer than 5 single-spaced pages. The nomination letter should contain a one-sentence citation (no more than 250 characters, including spaces), formulating precisely the reason for nominating the candidate, which may be used in public communications about the awards.
- The nominee’s CV (max. three pages), including the most relevant 15 publications/patents.
- Up to five letters of support from distinguished individuals from both academic and non-academic sectors (e.g., researchers, policymakers, media representatives, industry professionals, members of cultural



institutions, etc). At least two of the support letters should be from outside the nominee's country of residence.

Selection process

The awardee will be selected by an Award Committee appointed from among the members of the WP ChemCH. The Award Committee is presided over by the President of the WP ChemCH. The Committee must be gender-balanced and consist of at least 5 members who are not involved in the nomination process in any capacity. Members should declare any other conflict of interest immediately after receiving the nominations for consideration. The names of the Award Committee members are made public when the awardee is announced.

The core criteria for assessment of candidates are listed below:

- Scientific contribution and excellence (e.g., quality of research, citations, recognition by the international scientific community)
- Demonstrated research leadership and mentoring
- Contributions that have advanced or transformed scientific paradigms and that have led to significant contributions or novel discoveries
- Innovative research with demonstrated or potential impact on the conservation and care of cultural heritage
- Contribution to interdisciplinary research and promotion of international collaboration
- Career achievements and peer recognition (recognition and awards)
- Capacity to successfully carry out research for society
- Contribution to bringing Heritage Science and Public Policy closer together
- Effective use of scientific knowledge and evidence to inform or advance public policy
- Adherence to high standards of professional ethics and scientific integrity
- Strength and clarity of the rationale presented in the nomination letter

Timeline

Applications for the award are due by **January 15th 2026**. Notification to the awardee and nominator will be sent via email by **March 15th 2026**.

Award ceremony

The awardee is publicly announced on the websites of EuChemS, including the webpage of the WP ChemCH, ChemCH Congress, and the national Chemical Society of the awardee. The awardee will be invited to give the biannual Distinguished Scientist Award lecture at the **ChemCH 2026 congress (8-11 June 2026, Bled, Slovenia)**. The awardee's conference registration fee is waived. The awardee will receive an Award Certificate Diploma signed by the President of the WP ChemCH and the ChemCH Conference Chairperson.