YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AND TRAVEL AWARDS

The Vitamin D Workshop has a long history of recognizing and supporting young scientists. Two distinct categories of awards will be offered for the 2014 Workshop on Vitamin D in Chicago:

- **Trainee Travel Awards:** These awards are for individuals who are still in training, namely undergraduate or graduate students and postdoctoral fellows including clinical fellows, interns and residents. Documentation of training status is required in the form of a letter from the applicant’s mentor/supervisor. The applicant must be the first author and presenter of the abstract. Awards will be based on the scientific merit of the abstract submitted. We anticipate that ten Trainee Travel awards of $500 each will be available.

- **Young Investigator Awards:** These awards are for individuals within the first five years of an independent faculty position. The abstract must describe independent work conducted by the candidate who is the lead author. Winners will present their work as promoted oral communications. Applicants applying for these awards need to provide a CV and a letter from their Department Chair detailing the qualities and promise of the applicant for an academic career. Awardees will be selected by a sub-committee of the WEC based on CV, support letter and scientific merit of the abstract (determined by the ranking process described below). We anticipate providing two Young Investigator awards (one for basic research, one for clinical/applied research) of $1000 each.

For the Travel Awards, abstracts are ranked by members of the Workshop Executive Committee and the Program Advisory Committee. Each abstract is categorically matched to 5-6 judges with appropriate expertise and ranked by each on a score of 1-5. Scores are averaged and collated, and the highest scoring abstracts are selected for awards. For the Young Investigator Awards, the abstracts are ranked as for the Travel Awards but the executive committee will make the final selection based on both the ranking of the abstract, the candidate’s CV and the recommendation letter from the Department Chair.