

◆ CSE Scholarship Program Brings International Editors to Annual Meeting

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The Council of Science Editors International Scholarship Program provides funds for journal editors abroad—especially those in developing nations—to attend, contribute to, and benefit from CSE meetings. In 2006, 94 people submitted scholarship applications via CSE's Web site, which were then evaluated by members of CSE's Education Committee. The candidates wrote 300-word essays in which they discussed their interest in attending the conference, their plans for applying what they learned during the meeting, and financial need. The committee's final decision was based on review of the essays.

Two applications stood out—those of Rosemary Kinyua, of Kenya, and Adisa Adeyinka Charles, of Nigeria. Kinyua is the editorial manager of the *East African Medical Journal*, which was established in 1923 and is published by the Kenya Medical Association. She has more than 25 years of experience with the journal, and she is a member of the board of trustees and the education committee for the Forum of African Medical Editors. In her application, Kinyua expressed interest in networking with colleagues in scientific journal publishing and sharing experiences, successes, and challenges. She also planned to use the knowledge she gained to continue to facilitate training in publication manage-

ment in the African region. Charles is the editor of the *Journal of Medical Investigation and Practice* in Nigeria. He expressed interest in attending the short course on statistics for editors and hoped to improve his editing, writing, and reviewing skills. He was also eager to network with other editors at the meeting. His goal is to one day establish a Web site with resources for editors in Nigeria.

Because of visa difficulties, Charles could not attend the annual meeting, but Kinyua did attend. In conversations with members of the Education Committee, Kinyua described her many duties at the *East African Medical Journal*, including those of administrator, editor, manager, and even marketer, noting that “for a journal that is not funded and working with a skeleton staff, where the editor-in-chief is honorary and not full-time, you have to make a lot of sacrifices”. Kinyua offered her journal's 83 years of regular publication as a good example of “how an internationally reputable journal can be published . . . in a resource-poor setting”. Kinyua's experience at the annual meeting was positive, and she described the opportunity to network with other editors as “very enriching”. The discussions in the short course for journal editors were especially useful, and she plans to make some modifications in her journal on the basis of what she learned. Overall, Kinyua stated that she hopes to “share the knowledge and skills learned at the meeting with

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other African journals through exchange programs”.

A third attendee, Barth N Ekwueme, of Nigeria, was chosen by the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) to receive a scholarship partially funded by CSE. Ekwueme is managing editor of the *Global Journal Series* in Nigeria and has more than 10 years of experience in the field. Ekwueme shared his experiences during Part 1 of the retreat presented by CSE's Task Force on Science Journals, Poverty, and Human Development. In his words, “It was a rare opportunity to tell the world the difficulties we encounter in science publishing in Africa.” Ekwueme's favorite part of the annual meeting was the short course for journal editors because it provided valuable insights into journal publishing, something that he and the other six staff of the *Global*

Journal Series have no formal training in. He hopes that in future meetings, new editors from Africa will have the opportunity to attend and share their experiences.

In 2007, CSE will again offer the international scholarship, with the goal of supporting the attendance of three new editors. Donations to the scholarship program may be made via CSE's Web site (www.CouncilScienceEditors.org) and are deeply appreciated. The Education Committee will continue to evaluate and recommend ways to improve the program, focusing on enhancing the participation of past and new scholarship winners in the Council. Questions and comments are welcome and may be directed to Rebecca S Benner (rbenner@greenjournal.org).

On behalf of the 2006 international scholarship recipients, CSE sincerely thanks the institutional contributors (see box) and individual members who donated money to help support this valuable program. In addition, the scholarship program would not be possible without the hard work of the Education Committee's scholarship subcommittee, and we thank them as well: Rebecca Barr, Virginia Bourgeois, Barbara Campaigne, Susan Eastwood, Pam Erickson, Cheryl Iverson, Suzanne Smith, and Nancy Wachter. CSE again congratulates the recipients of this year's scholarships and thanks them for sharing their experiences as editors in the developing world.