



Bridging the International Scientific Gap:  
**The Young Scientist Ambassador Program**

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**Overview.** We propose to create the *Young Scientist Ambassador Program* (YSAP). This program will promote the efforts of AMNC Young Scientists to bridge the international scientific gap by facilitating cultural, scientific, intellectual, or educational interactions. The ambassadorship must be *non-traditional*; that is, interaction must occur between two countries that are at different stages of scientific development, or between two countries that historically have had minimal scientific contact.

**Ambassadorship.** The ambassadorship may involve one Young Scientist hosting another, but may also involve just one Young Scientist—serving as either the guest or host—as long as the *non-traditional* criterion is met. A Young Scientist will operate with the title of Young Scientist Ambassador (YSA). Possible interactions could include but are not limited to those with primary and secondary school teachers and students, university scientists, as well as researchers at national labs, companies, and governmental institutions. Specifically, the YSA will promote science education and research, and build successful industry/university and government/university relationships. More generally, the YSA will forge new ties across international borders.

**Governance and Implementation.** The founding constituent of this program consists of the AMNC 2010 Young Scientists. Governance will be set up amongst the 2010 Young Scientists to coordinate and administer this program. Requests for funding should be submitted as a simple, two-page proposal with a budget. Proposals will be reviewed by a geographically diverse, seven-membered committee selected by the 2010 Young Scientists, initially consisting of Arsen Arakelyan, Charles O. Esimone, Lynn Loo, Javier Martinez-Moguerza, Maryam M. Matin, Stephen A. Miller, and Marvadeen Singh-Wilmot.

Within one month after the completion of the ambassadorship, the YSA will submit a report detailing their mission. Specific outcomes and impacts pertaining to the long-lasting and multi-pronged upshot of the ambassadorship should be highlighted. This report will be publically available on the program website (see details below).

A central fund will be created in order to offset the expenses associated with the ambassadorship. We will seek financial sponsorships from the constituent National Academies, national and international funding agencies, universities, scientific institutes and companies, as well as the private sector. With funds raised, it is our goal to set up a small endowment to ensure the long-term sustainability of this program.

A website will be developed to disseminate information about the program. The website is designed to add prestige and focus to the program and will serve as a portal for researchers and scientists worldwide. A first step will be to provide contact and background information for the 2010 cohort of Young Scientists so appropriate opportunities and contacts can be identified and established efficiently.

**Legacy.** Future cohorts of AMNC Young Scientists will be eligible and encouraged to participate in this program. While the mission of ambassadorships may evolve over time, the primary objective of expanding societal cooperation through *non-traditional* cultural, scientific, intellectual, and educational interactions will remain paramount.