

The Schlumberger Foundation announces 218 Faculty for the Future fellowships, sustaining its community of women leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) from developing and emerging countries

The Schlumberger Foundation announced the most recent Faculty for the Future fellowship recipients of women scientists and engineers from emerging and developing countries engaged in post-graduate STEM research. Out of over 1,000 applications received for the 2016-2017 academic year, 49 new Fellowships were granted and another 169 were renewed, showing the commitment of the Foundation to its existing grantees and their research.

The research focus of this year's cohort of new Fellows is diverse, with the top five disciplines being chemistry, biological sciences, health sciences, computer sciences and agriculture, which reflects the regional challenges they encounter, showing the determination of the awardees to improve conditions in their native regions through science.

"We are thrilled to welcome these new deserving and committed women to the Faculty for the Future community" said Roseline Chapel, President of the Schlumberger Foundation. "While we support this impressive community of women scientists engaged in critical research in fields relevant to their home countries, we hope to also develop over the years their visibility in their home institutions and beyond, and foster their role as ambassadors of scientific education to girls and women and help to minimize the STEM gender gap in their home countries and regions."

The fellowships represent the Schlumberger Foundation's long term investment in a community of highly qualified and recognized role models who help narrow the gender gap in STEM disciplines by inspiring more women to study sciences. Fellowships are awarded based on the applicant's academic ability, leadership qualities, and engagement in outreach activities towards underserved communities with STEM as a development instrument in their home countries. Fellowship recipients have all achieved academic excellence throughout their studies, often despite considerable challenges and traditional barriers to education.

"I am proud to play a role in this inspiring program", said Gerard Martellozo, Chairman of the Schlumberger Foundation. "The selection process is competitive and applicants must meet rigorous selection criteria to become part of this vibrant community of women in STEM. I am looking forward to seeing how the grantees will play a determining role in their countries' development and become an inspiration for generations of women to follow their paths."

About Faculty for the Future

The program's long-term goal is to generate conditions that result in more women pursuing scientific careers by lowering the barriers women face when entering STEM disciplines, thus reducing the gender gap. Faculty for the Future Fellows are expected to return to their home countries after completion of their studies to contribute to economic, social and technological advancement by strengthening the STEM teaching and research faculties of their home institutions, and to also pursue positions in the public sector where their newly acquired technical and scientific skills can help provide evidence-based support for STEM policy making. In so doing, they become powerful role models and help to inspire other girls and women to pursue scientific careers. Since its launch in 2004, 600 women from 78 developing and emerging countries have received Faculty for the Future fellowships to pursue PhD and Post-Doctorate study in STEM in 243 renowned universities worldwide. The program also helps build a community for the Fellows through Forums, both online and in person.

About the Schlumberger Foundation

The Schlumberger Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports science and technology education. Recognizing the link between science, technology, and socio-economic development, as well as the key role of education in realizing individual potential, the Schlumberger Foundation flagship program is Faculty for the Future.