

SOCIETY OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHERS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND
Maureen Mackay Travel Awards

To support those with carer responsibilities to attend national or international meetings that encompass scientific fields represented by SCANZ.

Background

SCANZ recognises that that caring responsibilities can severely interrupt, delay or otherwise constrain academic careers and that conference attendance is critical to career development, forging new collaborations, raising researcher visibility in the community and generally enriches scientific research.

This new award (established in 2023) is provided to Society members who need financial assistance to offset the primary carer responsibilities associated with national or international conference attendance. The award is in recognition of the significant contributions of Maureen Mackay to the field of X-ray crystallography in Australia.

Maureen F Mackay started her career path in small molecule crystallography quite by chance. As a chemistry graduate in the early 1950s, she travelled to Oxford with her then husband Donald to begin his D Phil, where they stayed with Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin, receiving accommodation in exchange for childcare and other help. Dorothy encouraged Maureen to work part time in her laboratory on the crystal structure of morphine, which ultimately led to her first publication. She also helped with the crystal structure of vitamin B₁₂, which contributed to Hodgkin winning the Chemistry Nobel Prize in 1964 (the third woman to do so). Maureen completed her PhD under Sandy Mathieson and was subsequently the first woman to be appointed to the Physical Chemistry staff at La Trobe University. She remained at La Trobe where she carried out research into molecules of biological interest. Maureen was the first female Australian to chair a session at a Crystal Meeting (Crystal 19 at Ballarat in 1995). She was also the first woman to occupy a named position (Treasurer, 1982 - 1987, Council member 1987 - 1993) in the SCA (which preceded SCANZ).

This award will support the cost of arranging alternative care while the applicant is attending a conference. For example, applicants may require additional care at home to allow them to travel or may use the award to provide care at a conference venue, including providing funds for an alternate carer to travel with the applicant, and/or the cost of the dependent's travel if there is a need for them to travel with the applicant.

scanz.iucr.org

President: Prof. Charlie Bond, University of Western Australia

charles.bond@uwa.edu.au

Secretary: A/Prof David Turner, Monash University

scanz.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Prof. Jack Clegg, University of Queensland

treasurer@scanz.org

The Award

The award shall be awarded twice a year and consist of a bursary of up to \$1,500 towards expenses related to conference attendance, incurred due to the primary carer responsibilities of the applicant.

1. The award shall be made to a financial member of SCANZ.
2. Caring responsibilities can be for children, or other family members with caring needs.
3. Anyone with primary caring responsibilities is eligible.
4. Applicants should be presenting at the proposed conference – presentations can include oral or poster presentations.
5. The applicant must deliver their presentation at the conference in person.

Selection Process

Applications will be judged on two criteria: (a) the degree to which attendance at the proposed conference will benefit the applicant's career and/or research program and (b) the applicant's need for support. Final decisions are at the discretion of the SCANZ Council, which reserves the right not to award one or more of the awards if there are no suitable candidates.

The applicant is asked to complete and e-mail this application form to secretary@scanz.org **by the closing date for applications.**

Please **attach a copy of your submitted conference abstract.**

NOTE: You are encouraged to apply in parallel with abstract submission, however formal confirmation of your accepted abstract or invitation will be required prior to the award funds being paid.

Application deadlines:

- (1) **COB 30th April** each year for conferences held from April to September.
- (2) **COB 30th September** each year for conferences held from September to April.

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PART A - Applicant Details

Title		Surname	
Given Name(s)			
University / Research Institution			
Faculty/Department			
Address			
Telephone			
Email Address			
Gender* (leave blank if you prefer not to answer)			
Name, dates and location of the conference, link to the conference web site.			
Are you presenting a poster or oral presentation?			
What is the title of the submitted abstract and list of authors?			

*SCANZ is committed to diversity and inclusion (<https://www.crystal34.org/policies> and <https://www.crystal34.org/policies-1>) we are collecting this information in order to make the award process as transparent as possible.

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PART B - Application

B1. CONFERENCE DETAILS

Provide a brief summary (**MAXIMUM 100 WORDS**) of the conference and how it is relevant to and will enrich your research program and/or how will attendance support your career development? How does the conference relate to the scientific fields represented by SCANZ?

B2. REQUIREMENT FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Provide a short description of your caring responsibilities and how you propose to use the funds (a rough budget and the total funds being sought). (**MAXIMUM 200 WORDS**).

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B3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Is there any other information relevant to your application that you wish to provide that is not covered elsewhere? **(MAXIMUM 100 WORDS)**.

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PART C - Declaration

C1. APPLICANT DECLARATION

I declare that the information I have given in this application is true to the best of my belief and I understand that the award may be withdrawn if false information is given.

Signature		Date	
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