

2003 the Samsung General Chemicals Co. (presently the Samsung Total Petrochemical Co. Ltd.) of South Korea donated USD 125 000 to the Polymer Division (then the Macromolecular Division) in order to help IUPAC stimulate polymer education and research in the world. This was the very first donation of its kind to IUPAC from industry. According to the agreement between the IUPAC Polymer Division and Samsung, only the interest earned from this endowment may be used for the following four areas:

1. Samsung–IUPAC Young Polymer Scientist Award

The winner of this award is chosen every other year right before the World Polymer Congress (WPC is the major IUPAC biennial conference in the field of macromolecules and polymers) from a pool of recommended candidates who are below age 40. The winner is honored with an award plaque and USD 2,000 during the WPC.

2. Travel Grant for Students from Economically Disadvantaged Countries

The WPC Organizing Committee is given USD 3,000 to help students attend the WPC. At the WPC in 2004, 15 students were selected by the organizing committee and each was given USD 200.

3. Support of the WPC Organizing Committee

The WPC Organizing Committee is given up to USD 2,000 to defray the cost of plenary speakers.

4. Support of Education-Related Projects

One or two polymer education-related projects will be supported by the fund. Arrangements for implementation of this support will be finalized during the Polymer Division Committee at its next meeting at the IUPAC General Assembly this August in Beijing.

The endowment is managed by the Samsung–IUPAC Polymer Division Fund committee.