

Announcement and call for nominations – deadline November 1, 2011

The Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters hereby announces a new global research prize in cooperation with the Technoport organization:

The Gunnerus Sustainability Award

The award ceremony for 2012 takes place in Trondheim, Norway, on April 17.

The 2012 Award of 1 mill. NOK will be given to one scientist or shared between two or three, whose research is judged to have a distinct impact towards the sustainability of global biodiversity.*

Sustainability may be defined as the capacity to endure. In a biodiversity context, the concept refers to how biological systems remain diverse with intact ecological functions. For the humans on earth, sustainability is the wellbeing of the present and future generations including the environmental, economical and social dimensions. Sustainability science is therefore a synthesis of different scientific disciplines. A science award in this field will therefore have a clear interdisciplinary focus. Since the report of the Brundtland Commission in 1987, a number of researchers and institutions have focused on sustainability and biological diversity.

The Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters calls for nominations of candidates for the aforementioned award. Science academies, universities, university professors and research institutions are encouraged to submit nominations before November 1, 2011 to: The Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters, c/o Secretary general Kristian Overskaug, Erling Skakkes gt. 47C, 7491 Trondheim, Norway. Documentation should be no more than three pages and include major scientific contributions of the nominee and their impact on sustainable biodiversity and resource utilization. Nominations may be posted digitally to: gunnerus@dknvs.no A jury of internationally recognized scientists will rank the best candidates. The Board of the Society announces the winner in February 2012.

The Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters celebrated its 250th anniversary in 2010, and is among the oldest academies world wide. The founding father was bishop Johan Ernst Gunnerus who became Norway's first internationally acclaimed naturalist. His legacy is still very much felt in Trondheim today, the city from which he led the Society. See also www.dknvs.no

Technoport is dedicated to promoting the development of smart technology as a tool in the transition to a greener economy and will host the biannual Technoport Conference 2012, a conference that marks the kick-off of a new scientific approach and a shared knowledge platform where dialogue is the catalyst for change. See also www.technoport.no.

* ≈ 190 000 USD

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