

EMBO Enlarges Its Membership for 50th Anniversary



EMBO, the Germany-based European Molecular Biology Organisation, announced that 106 outstanding researchers in the life sciences were newly elected to its membership. One hundred of the scientists reside in Europe and neighbouring countries; six Associate Members were elected from China, Japan and the United States. The EMBO Membership currently comprises more than 1600 life scientists.

EMBO has decided to strategically expand the scope of its membership on the occasion of its 50th anniversary to honour the progress that has been made in the fields of neuroscience and ecology & evolution. The 106 new members for 2014 include 50 scientists who have made exceptional contributions to these research areas.

"For the 50th anniversary of EMBO we are extremely pleased to welcome significantly more researchers to our membership than in previous years," EMBO Director Maria Leptin said. "In the past decades, many of the concepts, techniques and insights of molecular biology have been applied to fundamental questions in other disciplines of the life sciences. Molecular explanations are now emerging for the origins and functions of complex systems like the brain and the living world around us. We wanted to reflect more of these exciting developments in our membership."

Leptin added: "Great leaps in scientific progress often arise when fundamental approaches like molecular biology are applied to previously unconsidered or emerging disciplines. Looking forward, we want to ensure that all communities of the life sciences benefit from this type of cross-pollination."

The most recent scientists to join the EMBO membership come from 17 different countries and include 21 female scientists.

"It is a great pleasure to welcome all new members to our organisation. I look forward to their contributions to our work to support the wider scientific community," Leptin said.

EMBO Members make invaluable contributions to the organisation by providing suggestions and feedback on the activities of EMBO. They serve on selection committees for EMBO programmes and mentor young scientists. Their input has helped to promote excellence in life sciences since 1964.

Newly elected members and associate members can be found at the organisation's website.

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