

Call for Nominations

GASTRO 2009: YOUNG CLINICIANS PROGRAMME Gastro 2009, London, November 2009

It is with pleasure that we announce the Call for Nominations for young active GI trainees from around the world to participate in the Gastro 2009 Young Clinicians Programme (YCP). This unique opportunity is being developed as a joint organisational venture between the host societies of Gastro 2009 (UEGF, WGO, OMED and BSG) as well as the Association of National European and Mediterranean Societies of Gastroenterology (ASNEMGE).

In the first part of the programme, an intense two-day course immediately prior to the Gastro 2009 meeting, young clinicians from different cultures and geographic regions will be exposed to important GI topics and issues relevant to their current training and their future academic and practical work. The programme also offers the wonderful chance to meet new colleagues and forge new friendships in a relaxed and fun environment. Furthermore, successful candidates will be hosted for the Gastro 2009 meeting in London where the themes of the YCP programme will be revisited in the framework of the core meeting.

Dates and Venue:

The YCP programme will take place on **Thursday and Friday, November 19 & 20, 2009**. Participants will be required to arrive no later than 3pm at the selected venue on Wednesday, November 18, 2009. The final venue of the YCP is to be advised. YCP participants will then be included in the Gastro 2009 meeting which runs from November 21 to 25, 2009. The final event for YCP candidates will take place on Wednesday 25, 2009.

YCP Programme

A detailed YCP programme is currently being developed. The main components of the programme include case-based interactive sessions and training in practical methods as well as additional interactive components designed to ensure a vivid exchange of information between faculty and participants.

Core themes include:

- Dyspepsia/Barrett's
- Liver
- IBD
- Colorectal Cancer

Parallel skills training sessions on the following topics will be offered:

- Endoscopy – basic training using simulation/advanced imaging
- Capsule endoscopy
- Ultrasound
- LFT interpretation
- Motility testing
- Research
- Research and presentation skills

Eligibility Criteria:

- The candidate should be under the age of 35 years at the time of the meeting
- The candidate must be a junior member of the gastroenterological community still in their specialty training in gastroenterology at the time of application.
- The candidate must have demonstrated some level of academic performance and intellectual curiosity as reflected by scholarly activity in teaching or research thereby indicating his/her potential role in the future as a leader in their respective country
- A good command of the English language is required
- Indication of the intent to submit an abstract to Gastro 2009 will be a favourable attribute

YCP Offer

A total of 90 trainees will be selected from the submitted names. These successful candidates will receive the following support:

- Travel grant for economy class travel (based on the cheapest fare available) to be paid to participants **after** the event. Participants are responsible for their own travel bookings.
- Airport transfers
- 7 nights accommodation shared with another program participant, assigned by the congress organisers (single accommodation can be arranged at a surcharge)
- GI Postgraduate Course registration Gastro 2009
- Congress registration to Gastro 2009
- Transport from the YCP venue to the Gastro 2009 venue in London
- Transport to social events

Taster Visits to UK Training Centers

Successful candidates will be offered the opportunity to spend a few days either prior to the YCP or after Gastro 2009 at a host training center in the United Kingdom. A selection of leading centers around the country has offered to host YCP participants and to provide transport and accommodation. This is an optional feature and further detail will be provided after the initial selection process has been completed.

Application Process

Applications to YCP will only be accepted through official member societies of WGO/OMED/ASNEMGE/UEGF. Societies wishing to submit candidates for the YCP must have paid up their annual dues to their respective organisation. Each national society is entitled to submit the names of **TWO** candidates only.

Interested societies are requested to complete one questionnaire (see attachment) per candidate.

The following documentation must be provided for each candidate along with the accompanying application form:

- A short curriculum vitae (no longer than 2 pages or less)
- A statement from the candidate entitled "What I hope to get out of the course" (maximum 20 words)
- A statement from the candidate entitled "What I intend to contribute to the course" (maximum 20 words)
- An introduction letter from the candidate's national society explaining why this candidate has been nominated to represent your country at Gastro 2009 YCP

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by the YCP Organising Committee and will be based on criteria of academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, leadership, initiative, regional and gender representation. Applicants will be advised by January 31, 2009 whether their application has been successful or not.

All selected participants will be required to attend the YCP and Gastro 2009 programmes in full (November 19 – 25, 2009 inclusive) and attendance at all scheduled events is mandatory, including scientific and social activities that will span over the 7 days. Applicants will be required to arrange their own visas, where applicable, to be able to attend the event. Selected participants may also be required to present a review of a poster or oral presentation on a pre-assigned topic.

Submission Deadline

The final deadline for submission of candidates to the YCP is **November 30, 2008**. All applications should be sent in full to:

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We look forward to your nominations. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions relating to this programme.

Yours sincerely



Christopher Hawkey
YCP Director



Mark Hull
YCP Director