



17th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON Mercury as a Global Pollutant

4th – 9th OCTOBER 2026

ICMGP 2026 - EMERGING RESEARCHER AWARD IN MERCURY AS A GLOBAL POLLUTANT

NOMINATION PACKAGE CLOSING DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 2026

The Executive Committee of the 17th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant (ICMGP 2026) is now accepting nominations for its Emerging Researcher Award in Mercury as a Global Pollutant. Recognizing and celebrating significant contributions of individuals in the early stages of their career is a vital part of the ICMGP. The upcoming conference in India marks the third time this prestigious award is offered.

In keeping with the tradition of prior conferences, the recipient of the Emerging Researcher Award in Mercury as a Global Pollutant will be announced and celebrated at the ICMGP. The Awardee shall have the opportunity to make a short presentation at the Opening Ceremony to advertise their work, with a full presentation to be made later during an identified Oral Session at the 17th ICMGP. The Awardee shall also receive a commemorative token in honour of the award, as a keepsake. The conference organizers shall further provide complimentary registration to the Awardee.

The award is open to all interested persons who meet the Selection Criteria below. The ICMGP Executive Committee shall accept self-nominations and nominations made by others for this award. The ICMGP Executive Committee shall collate all nominations for this prestigious award. All nominees are expected to have made contributions to global mercury science, in addition to local or regional work. All nominations must follow the formatting and length requirements outlined below. Failing to do so such applications will not be considered by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee shall be headed by ONE Chairperson and shall comprise of five individuals, as described below (excluding all nominees and nominators). The Winner of the Emerging Researcher Award shall be announced confidentially to the Scientific Steering Committee at least two months prior to the ICMGP conference and announced publicly at the Opening Ceremony of the ICMGP conference.

The Emerging Researcher Award have been awarded at all ICMGP conferences since 2022, to recognize the outstanding contributions made by emerging researchers in mercury research. The Emerging Researcher Award in Mercury as a Global Pollutant was proposed by Professor Alexandre Poulain (Canada) and Professor Britt Hall (Canada) and developed in liaison with Dr. Alexandra Steffen (Canada) and Dr. Joy Leaner (South Africa).

ALL NOMINATION PACKAGES ARE TO BE:

- Addressed to : **ICMGP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
- Subject : **MAHAFFEY LAA NOMINATION: <NOMINATION NAME & SURNAME>**
- Emailed to : secretariat@icmgp2026india.com with copy to asif@ce.iith.ac.in and jagannath.biswakarma@bristol.ac.uk
- Closing Date : **February 15, 2026 (hard deadline)**

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE EMERGING RESEARCHER AWARD

1. Selection Criteria for Nomination:

- A self-nominated or nominated candidate (the nominee) will be within 10 years of starting of a professional research career (e.g., since granting of doctoral or other relevant degree) in mercury science, policy, technological development, or advocacy within the mercury community on July 1 of the year prior to the year ICMGP is held (i.e., July 1, 2025, for the current cycle). Career breaks such as medical care, parental and/or caregiver duties are encouraged to specify and will be given consideration.
- Nominees from academia, government, non-government organizations, and industry will be accepted.
- The nominee shall be a person who has made an impactful contribution to mercury research and/or mercury science-policy interface.
- The nominee shall be a person who has significantly contributed to the study of mercury as a global pollutant.
- The nominee's work may be of local, regional, or global scale, but must have global significance.
- The nominee shall agree, should be deemed appropriate by the next ICMGP Executive Committee (i.e. ICMGP 2028), to help the ICMGP 2028 by actively participating in their SSC (scientific steering committee) or any other committee, as requested by the ICMGP 2028 Executive Committee.

2. Requirements of the Nomination Package:

- Note: Both self-nominated and nominations by others are welcome.
- The Nomination Package shall include.
 - 2.1 **A maximum 400-word Cover Letter, inclusive of the nominee's Biography**, summarizing the key accomplishments of the nominee as per the above-mentioned criteria, including a clear statement as to why the nominee is deserving of this award. Note: The Biography will be used to showcase the Awardee's work on the ICMGP conference website.
 - 2.2 **A maximum 3000-word Nomination Submission**, including a statement of evidence of the global impact of the nominee's work and a vision the nominee has for the future of the mercury community.
 - 2.3 **A Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the nominee** that best reflects their contribution to the mercury community and is structured based on the nominee's discipline. Supporting detail of the nominee's scholarly contributions and information relating to the above-mentioned criteria are to be included as attachments, inclusive amongst other.
 - 2.3.1 The nominee's history of employment.
 - 2.3.2 A list of peer-reviewed publications.
 - 2.3.3 A list of other scientific contributions (e.g., conference communications, technical reports, professional presentations, assessment reports).
 - 2.3.4 A list of relevant professional service activities in the field of mercury.
 - 2.4 **Two letters of reference** that indicates the linkages or association the referees have with the nominee, in the field of mercury.
 - 2.5 **A recent color Photograph of the nominee**, which will be used to showcase the Awardee on the ICMGP conference website.
 - 2.6 **A written confirmation of Acceptance and Approval of the Nomination by the nominee, that their Photograph and Biography can be showcased** online, at the ICMGP conference website.
 - 2.7 All nominations must be written in English.
 - 2.8 Please Note: This award shall **not be posthumous**.
 - 2.9 Please Note: This award shall be **granted to nominees who are working in the field of the mercury research, at the time of the ICMGP conference**. In the event that a Winner of the above award is no longer in the field of mercury research (at the time of the ICMGP conference), the Winner shall forfeit the award and the runner up shall be deemed the Winner of the Award, as consulted with the Conference Executive Committee.

3. What comes with the Emerging Researcher Award?

- The recognition of the Emerging Researcher Awardee (“the Winner”) shall be at a time in the conference that involves the broadest audience possible, as this is important to maximize the exposure of the awardee’s work and vision to the mercury community at the ICMGP.
- The Emerging Researcher Award shall be **awarded at the Opening Ceremony of the ICMGP**, immediately prior to the awarding of the prestigious Mahaffey Lifetime Achievement Award.
- The Emerging Researcher Awardee shall be required to deliver a 2-min presentation at the **Opening Ceremony**, to briefly highlight their work and the timeslot during which a Full Presentation will be made during an identified Oral Session at the ICMGP. A total time of 30 min shall be reserved for this Special Award Oral Presentation, of which 10 min shall be allotted to Questions and Answers.
- The ICMGP Executive Committee shall provide the Emerging Researcher Awardee with a **token reflective of the conference location or theme**.
- The **ICMGP Conference Registration** (exclusive of any ICMGP Workshop Registrations) **shall be waived**.
- Plus, any additional incentives, as may be deemed relevant by the ICMGP Executive Committee.