



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“The World Needs Science, Science Needs Women.”

L'Oréal Canada and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO award four “For Women in Science” fellowships to young and talented Canadian women

Montreal, November 3rd, 2010:

Four young women will be recognized tomorrow in Ottawa as exceptional women contributing to the advancement of science: Evelyn Forster, Crystal Vincent and Chlöe Milsom, from the University of Toronto and Heidi Swanson, from the University of Alberta.

This unique program was launched by L'Oréal International and UNESCO over ten years ago, with the aim of improving the position of women in science by recognizing outstanding women researchers and young women scientists.

Over the course of the twelve years since the inception of this program, 67 Laureates have been honored and 165 research fellowships have been granted on an international scale. Since the 2003 launch of the program in Canada, L'Oréal has awarded 27 grants with the collaboration of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO to Canadian women scientists, recognizing and supporting the excellence of Canadian research.

This year's Canadian award ceremony will take place in the elegant Salon of the Canadian Museum of Nature on McLeod Street in Ottawa on Nov. 4th, 2010, under the high patronage and presence of Dr. **Axel Meisen, President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO** and the **President and Chief Executive Officer of L'Oréal Canada, Mr. Javier San Juan.**

2010 Fellows: Four Laureates from the Four Corners of the Country

The **Excellence in Research fellowships** aim to support major research projects carried out by women in Canada at a post doctorate level. The objective of these grants is to recognize excellence and enable exceptional Canadian scientific women – selected by a jury of experts – to pursue and expand their research project. The 2010 Research Excellence fellowships specifically applied to candidates in Life Sciences, and are awarded as follows:

- **Chlöe Milsom** is pursuing her postdoctoral studies at the University of Toronto, majoring in Tumor and Metastasis Biology.
- **Heidi Swanson** is a postdoctoral student from the University of Alberta, majoring in Northern fish Ecology and Subsistence use.

The **Mentoring fellowships** are designed for talented scientists at a doctorate level, enabling them to pursue their research project. These laureates also participate in the Actua mentoring program, where they share their experience and passion for science with 6 to 17 year old girls at summer camp and during specific workshops or clubs. The 2010 Mentoring grants are allocated to:

- **Evelyn Forster** is a PHD student at the University of Toronto majoring in Psychology and Neuroscience.
- **Crystal Vincent**, PHD student from the University of Toronto, majoring in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

About the L'Oréal Corporate Foundation

The L'Oréal Corporate Foundation, created in 2007, pursues the goal of making the world a better place each day. Drawing on the Group's values and professional expertise, the L'Oréal Foundation aims to reinforce and perpetuate the Group's commitment to responsible citizenship. As the second largest corporate foundation in France with a multi-annual budget of €40 million, the L'Oréal Foundation is active in three main areas: supporting scientific research and the role of women in science, helping vulnerable people regain self-esteem and social reintegration, and fostering access to education.

About UNESCO

Since its creation in 1945, UNESCO has pursued the mission of promoting science for sustainable development and peace. Today UNESCO focuses on policy and on capacity building in science, technology and science education, on managing freshwater, oceans and earth resources in a sustainable manner, on the protection of biodiversity and on climate change. The Organization is committed to the elimination of all forms of discrimination and the promotion of gender equality, including in the field of scientific research.

About the Canadian Commission for UNESCO

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO's mandate is to act as a forum for governments and civil society, and to mobilize the participation of Canadian organizations and committed individuals in UNESCO's mandated areas: education, natural and social sciences, culture, communication and information.

**For an interview with one of the fellows,
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