



International Union of Soil Sciences

FEBRUARY 2017

THE DAN YAALON YOUNG SCIENTIST MEDAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

An award by THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SOIL SCIENCES
Division 1: Soils in Space and Time
and
Commission 4.5: History, philosophy and sociology of soil science

Nomination procedure

The nominees may be proposed by institutions, societies, commissions and working groups of the IUSS, and by individuals. *Self-nomination is not encouraged.*

The proposal for nomination should include a short justification, including the main steps of the scientific career of the nominee, his/her main scientific publications and the major contribution to the development of one or more of the following fields: Soil morphology and micromorphology, soil geography, soil genesis, soil classification, pedometrics, palaeopedology, history of soil science, philosophy of soil science, sociology of soil science.

The deadline for nominations ends **on Dec. 1, 2017.**

The decision will be made at least on Feb. 1, 2018.

Criteria for the selection of nominees for the Dan Yaalon Young Scientist Medal

A nominee should have the following qualifications:

- be a researcher in his/hers early scientific career, i.e., PhD student or postdoc researcher within the first 5 years after PhD graduation and,
- be an active member of a national soil science society and/or the International Union of Soil Science and,
- have published in at least one of the following fields: Soil morphology and micromorphology, soil geography, soil genesis, soil classification, pedometrics, palaeopedology, history of soil science, philosophy of soil science, sociology of soil science, and
- either have made a significant contribution that advanced the fields of soil science as presented above, or compiled a body of work that has advanced the science, success, methodology, or use of the above fields.

The medal is not awarded posthumously.

Current officers of IUSS Divisions, Commissions and Working Groups cannot be nominated.

Nomination

The Dan Yaalon Young Scientist Medal is awarded once every four years at the World Soil Congress.

The first presentation will take place **at the XXI. World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in August 2018.**

Applications

Please send applications to the nomination committee

c/o Karl Stahr kstahr@uni-hohenheim.de

or mail to:

Prof. Dr. Karl Stahr

Universität Hohenheim (310a)

D 70593 Stuttgart

Germany

Background

The award honours Dan Hardy Yaalon (1924-2014), a professor of soil science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dan H. Yaalon had 57 years of an exceptional research career. He contributed to some of the most fundamental issues of soils in space and time as well as theory and history of soil science. In particular, he made some of the most significant contributions in pedology and palaeopedology, especially regarding arid and Mediterranean landscapes. Highlights of his scientific impact were his research on the effect of dust on soil formation as well as his work in the fields of anthropo-pedology and environmental reconstruction. Yet Dan H. Yaalon was also an intellectual who contributed greatly to the history of soil science, its philosophy and sociology. He was also engaged in archaeology, as he attributed much importance to the interface between human beings and their natural environment. His unequalled contributions to the disciplines of basic soil research and the history of soil science have earned him the honour of being the only scientist who was recognized both by the Dokuchaev Medal from the IUSS (2010), and the Sarton Medal from the University of Ghent (2000). Dan H. Yaalon was a modest and open-minded person, straightforward and full of creative ideas. His inspiring personality and works have influenced many and will surely continue doing so for generations to come.