

UND Chemistry Graduate Student **Anastasia Artemyeva** has been selected for the 2015 SciFinder Future Leaders in Chemistry program



Based on her exceptional essay, letter of recommendation and CV she demonstrates a commitment to research and appreciation of chemical information, which distinguished her among hundreds of applicants this year.

Essay

‘SciFinder in my research’

What is research? What is your particular research about? Why is it important? Has anyone done it before? These questions we should ask ourselves every day, each time before we enter the lab. The main goal of a scientist is to ask questions, which nobody has asked before, to work on finding the answers to those questions and to share the gained knowledge. The 21st century, the century of modern technologies, opened thousands of opportunities for people who are looking for information and going to share their knowledge and experience. To a certain extent, the amount of information exceeds the limits of human resources. We tend to lose the essence trying to catch everything instead of focusing on relevant questions and answers - and this mistake can be unforgivable in research.

Since childhood we continuously analyze the world around and develop the skill to ‘filter’ the most essential facts and information. But human beings cannot so easily sort out digital information, especially when it comes to thousands of papers and millions of words. Hence, along with an extremely fast development and increase of available online scientific knowledge, web search engines have become a necessity. SciFinder has become a unique tool, which helps to focus the search, to limit information by its comprehensive analysis and selection. The dream of the 20th century scientists has become true: all the papers, patents, references and reactions are exhibited in one library under a perfect order with a smart system of search.

I am a chemist; as a scientist, regardless of the project I am working on, I try to make my literature search as comprehensive as possible, doing my best to stay up-to-date, be aware of new technologies and achievements in my field of interest and beyond its borders. To succeed in these aims I have used various search tools and

SciFinder has turned to be the most convenient and user-friendly. It provides the most updated and broad database of knowledge, and what is also important, it keeps on changing. New features and search tools appear even when it seems that the limit of perfection had been achieved. Recently the workshops by SciFinder conducted at the 249th ACS National Meeting in Denver have attracted many people for whom SciFinder has become an integral part of their research, just as for me.

Another unique feature which makes the CAS library and SciFinder really unique is the database of the conference abstracts. In research, not all the projects and ideas are brought to publication as peer reviewed papers; but many more of them are presented as posters or oral talks at symposia and conferences. Thanks to SciFinder, this knowledge is retained, becomes widely accessible and may be a source of great inspiration for initiating new projects or fresh ideas for the ongoing ones.

Being an international student, curious and opened for new opportunities, I had a chance to work in various academic labs both in the US and abroad. Obviously, labs tend to vary in such aspects as specific rules, techniques and equipment, different brands of instrumentation, even different languages spoken in the lab. Yet, SciFinder is used universally as a main tool of literature search, regardless of the geography and local culture. This is the best recognition for a scientific resource, is it not?

Our generation is called the generation of social nets and we probably are. This is a trend which helps us stay in touch regardless of how far we are from each other. So, SciFinder successfully capitalizes on this trend staying in touch with each of us on Twitter, Google+ and LinkedIn; it shares the trends and helps to be aware of the most recent advances in science.

In addition, I would like to point out that SciFinder is going to celebrate its 7th birthday. Even though, it has already proved itself as the most reliable and convenient source of any desirable scientific information, with an excellent system of search and selection tools, each year it becomes better and gets more loyal supporters. I would wish SciFinder to continue staying tuned to the new things and trends yet keep on accomplishing its extremely important task of helping millions of researchers in their quest for scientific discovery, which, in turn, ultimately makes our lives better.

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