



Topical Areas

2D Materials
Biomaterials
Environmental S&T
Magnetic Materials
Manufacturing S&T
Materials Characterization
Materials Processing
MEMS
Microelectronic Materials
Nanoscale S&T
Plasma S&T
Quantum Science
Spectroscopic Ellipsometry
Surface Engineering
Surface Science
Thin Films
Vacuum Technology

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AVS Announces Its Major Award Winners of 2024

New York, November 6, 2024 —The AVS has selected its major award winners for 2024. The AVS established an annual awards program to encourage excellence in research and innovation in technical areas of interest to the AVS. Listed below are the major award winners:

Medard W. Welch Award— Francisco Zaera, University of California, Riverside, “For far-reaching contributions to the molecular-level understanding of mechanisms of reactions on solid surfaces and the use of that knowledge for applications in heterogeneous catalysis and thin film deposition” The award recognizes and encourages outstanding accomplishments in the fields of interest to AVS. The award consists of a cash award, a medal, a plaque, and an honorary lectureship at a regular session of the International Symposium.

Gaede-Langmuir Award— Reza Ghodssi, University of Maryland, “For pioneering research on developing novel MEMS processes, fabrication, and technologies for micro, nano, and bio-devices and systems and their momentous impact on small-scale power, optical, and biomedical applications” This award recognizes outstanding discoveries and inventions in the fields of interest to AVS. The award consists of a cash award, a plaque, and an honorary lectureship at a regular session of the International Symposium.

Peter Mark Memorial Award— Jason Kawasaki, University of Wisconsin, Madison, “For epitaxial synthesis and strain engineering of Heusler films and freestanding membranes” The award recognizes outstanding theoretical or experimental work by an early career scientist or engineer, at least part of which must have been published in an AVS Journal. The nominee must have worked in a scientific/technical field(s) for no more than 10 years (cumulative) after receiving their Ph.D. The award consists of a cash award, a plaque, and an honorary lectureship at a regular session of the International Symposium.

George T. Hanyo Award— Heinz Schmid, IBM Research Europe, Zurich Laboratory, Switzerland, “In recognition of valuable contributions over the past 4 decades in microfluidics, semiconductor epitaxy, field-effect transistors, and nanophotonic devices” This award recognizes outstanding performance in technical support of research or development in areas of interest to AVS. The award consists of a cash award and a plaque.

A complete list of the Fellows as well as the 2024 national graduate student winners is attached. Nominations for the 2025 awards are currently being solicited. For more information, please contact Angela Klink, AVS, 212-248-0200, e-mail angela@avs.org.

Additional Awards

2024 AVS Fellows

AVS Fellows are Platinum Members who have made outstanding contributions in areas of interest to AVS.

Seth Darling, Argonne National Laboratory, “For creative contributions to thin film and functional materials design as well as leadership in research focused on sustainability and water resources”

Bharat Jalan, University of Minnesota, “For highly innovative work and international scientific leadership in the field of crystalline oxide film and heterostructure synthesis and properties by means of metal-organic molecular beam epitaxy”

Stephanie Law, Pennsylvania State University, “For contributions to the molecular beam epitaxy of III-V materials and topological insulators for applications in mid-infrared and THz plasmonic and metamaterial devices”

Jyh-Wei (Jeff) Lee, Ming Chi University, Taiwan, “For sustained contributions to the science and technology of protective coatings of hard nanolayered transition metal nitrides, refractory high-entropy alloys, and thin film metallic glasses synthesized by plasma-assisted deposition”

Valeria Lauter, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, “For development and implementation of advanced neutron scattering instrumentation for complex nanostructures, outstanding service to the user community in the field of nanostructured materials, and dedicated service to AVS”

Jeff Terry, Illinois Institute of Technology, “For pioneering inventions and significant contributions advancing the study of nuclear materials physics including the development of artificial intelligence analysis tools for materials characterization analysis”

Tobias Weidner, Aarhus University, Denmark, “For pioneering contributions to the unravelling of protein structure and study of ultrafast dynamics at interfaces with spectroscopic techniques and for significantly advancing (the Journal) Biointerphases”

2024 AVS National Student Awardees

There are five (5) top-level named Graduate Student Awards and three (3) Graduate Research Awards, described below. The recipients of these awards are determined after a general competition with all the graduate research applicants and a presentation to the Awards Committee.

Russell and Sigurd Varian Award

The Russell and Sigurd Varian Award was established in 1982 to commemorate the pioneering work of Russell and Sigurd Varian. It is presented to recognize and encourage excellence in graduate studies in the sciences and technologies of interest to AVS. The award is supported by Agilent Technologies Vacuum Products Division. It consists of a cash award, a certificate, and reimbursed travel support to attend the International Symposium.

- Kaige Shi, University of Central Florida

Nellie Yeoh Whetten Award

The Nellie Yeoh Whetten Award was established in 1989, in the spirit of Nellie Yeoh Whetten, to recognize and encourage excellence by women in graduate studies in the sciences and technologies of interest to AVS. A fund to support the award was established by Timothy J. Whetten, friends and family of Nellie Yeoh Whetten, and AVS. The award consists of a cash award, a certificate, and reimbursed travel support to attend the International Symposium.

- Sarah Willson, University of Chicago

Dorothy M. and Earl S. Hoffman Award

The Dorothy M. and Earl S. Hoffman Award was established in 2002 to recognize and encourage excellence in graduate studies in the sciences and technologies of interest to AVS. It is funded by a bequest from Dorothy M. Hoffman, who was president of AVS in 1974 and held other positions of responsibility in the Society. The award consists of a cash award, a certificate, and reimbursed travel support to attend the International Symposium.

- Nicolas Molina Vergara, The University of Texas at Austin

Dorothy M. and Earl S. Hoffman Scholarships

The Dorothy M. and Earl S. Hoffman Scholarships were established in 2002 to recognize and encourage excellence in graduate studies in the sciences and technologies of interest to AVS. They are funded by a bequest from Dorothy M. Hoffman. The scholarships consist of a cash award, a certificate, and reimbursed travel support to attend the International Symposium.

- Zachary Jeckell, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Hsiao-Hsuan (Renee) Wan, University of Florida

2024 Graduate Research Awards

The Graduate Research Awards were established in 1984 to recognize and encourage excellence in graduate studies in the sciences and technologies of interest to AVS. Each consists of a cash award, a certificate, and reimbursed travel support to attend the International Symposium.

- Bugrahan Guner, École de Technologie Supérieure, Université du Québec
- Bin Luo, Northeastern University
- Mingyu Yu, University of Delaware

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