



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

Contacts

Chief Operating Officer
212-248-0200, ext. 222

Exhibition
530-896-0477

Finance
212-248-0200, ext. 224

Marketing/Meetings
530-896-0477

Member Services
212-248-0200, 221

Publications
919-361-2787

Short Courses
530-896-0477

Web/IT
212-248-0200, ext. 223

Officers

President-
Bridget R. Rogers

President-Elect-
Mark Engelhard

Past-President-
David P. Adams

Clerk-
David Surman

Treasurer-
Gregory J. Exarhos

Directors-
Sebastian U. Engelmann
Robert K. Grubbs
Caitlin Howell
Erwin Kessels
Marcy Stutzman
Virginia "Ginger" Wheeler

AVS
125 Maiden Lane, 15B
New York NY 10038

Phone: 212-248-0200
E-mail: avsnyc@avs.org
Web: www.avs.org

AVS Announces Its Major Award Winners of 2025

New York, September 24, 2025 —The AVS has selected its major award winners for 2025. 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— Ian S. Gilmore, National Physical Laboratory “For pioneering advances in molecular imaging by mass spectrometry with impact in biomedical research and novel devices and championing international standardization” 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.

John A. Thornton Memorial Award and Lecture— Ellen R. Fisher, University of New Mexico, “For exceptional contributions to the advancement and understanding of plasma chemistries and plasma-surface interactions in thin film deposition and surface modification” This award recognizes outstanding research or technological innovation in the areas of interest to AVS, with emphasis on the fields of thin films, plasma processing, and related topics. 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— Nicholas Glavin, Air Force Research Laboratory, “For pioneering and innovative synthesis approaches for 2D materials and heterostructures enabling flexible high-power electronic devices, ultra-sensitive sensor devices, ferroelectric memory, and advanced electronic and optoelectronic devices” 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.

A complete list of the Fellows as well as the 2025 national graduate student winners is attached. Nominations for the 2026 awards are currently being solicited. For more information, please contact Angela Klink, AVS, 212-248-0200, e-mail angela@avs.org.

Additional Awards

2025 AVS Fellows

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

Gerardo Brucker, MKS Instruments, Inc., “For profound impact on vacuum technology, mass spectrometry, and gas analysis, including developing AVS short courses, recommended practices, and leadership within the Vacuum Technology Division”

Brian Holloway, Intellectual Ventures, “For outstanding sustained technical contributions and management in interdisciplinary areas of science and technology including basic science, technology development, and commercialization of materials, interfaces, and processing”

R. Mohan Sankaran, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, “For pioneering work in the study and application of non-equilibrium plasmas for chemical and materials synthesis”

Udo D. Schwarz, Yale University, “For critical and sustained contributions to scanning probe microscopy, with remarkable impact in fields ranging from fundamental studies of friction to surface reactivity and catalysis”

James Tobin, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, “For crucial contribution to present understanding of 5f electron states in actinides by means of advanced spectroscopic methods”

Steven Vitale, United States Military Academy, “For outstanding contributions in the areas of plasma physics and solid-state devices, developing novel processing technology to create fast switching and ultralow power microelectronics for national security”

2025 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.

- Marshall Frye, Georgia Institute of Technology

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.

- Sanzeeda Baig Shuchi, Stanford University

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.

- Joshua Wagner, University of Chicago

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.

- Andrew Messecar, Western Michigan University
- Li Zhang, Georgia Institute of Technology

2025 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.

- Pulkita Jain, New York University
- Gabriel Parker, University of Illinois Chicago
- Zhifei Yang, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

Marketing Communications Contact: Della Miller, AVS West, 110 Yellowstone Dr., Suite 120 Chico CA 95973, Phone: 530-896-0477, Fax 530-896-0487, E-mail della@avs.org