

## Community

# News from the European Optical Society



DOI 10.1515/aot-2016-0012

## EOS Early Career Awards open for application

The European Optical Society announces the 2016 EOS Early Career Awards:

**Early Career Entrepreneur in Photonics Award** to honor an individual who has made outstanding technical and/or innovative contributions to the photonics industry.

**Early Career Women in Photonics Award** to honor a young female scientist who has made outstanding contributions to photonics.

Both awards consist of a diploma and an honorarium of €2500. The awards will be presented at the European Optical Society Bi-Annual Meeting (EOSAM), held from 26 to 30 September, 2016 in Berlin-Adlershof, Germany's leading Science and Technology Park.

In recent years, gender equality in science has become an even hotter topic than before. The EOS wishes to encourage women in the field of photonics. 'Measures to attract women into photonics are having a positive effect but we believe there is still very much more to do', stated Seppo Honkanen, the President of the European Optical Society, after announcing the 2015 Award Winners, as well as the continuation of the Awards.

The Awards serve as a legacy of the LIGHT2015 project. EOS Early Career Women/Entrepreneur in Photonics Awards were launched in 2015 to honor the International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies 2015 (IYL2015), which was a global initiative adopted by the United Nations to raise awareness of how optical technologies promote sustainable development and provide solutions to worldwide challenges in energy, education, agriculture, communications and health. The awards were part of the activity of the LIGHT2015 project. In their launching year, the awards were known as LIGHT2015 Young Women in Photonics/Young Photonics Entrepreneur Awards. Now the European Optical Society wishes to continue the legacy of the project and support these young women and men in their field of expertise.

In 2015, the Young Women in Photonics Award was divided into two categories due to the high level of applicants. The Young Women in Photonics Awards went to Na Liu (Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems) in the Fundamental category and Nathalie Vermeulen [Photonics Team (B-PHOT), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)] in the Applied/Engineering category. The Young Photonics Entrepreneur Award went to Garret D. Cole (Crystalline Mirror Solutions LLC & GmbH). The awards were handed out during the World of Photonics Congress in Munich June 2015.

The application process has started. The European Optical Society wishes all applicants the very best of luck.

Deadline for Applications is 15 July 2016.

More information on eligibility and instructions on how to apply: <http://www.myeos.org/awards>