Three Ames Laboratory Researchers Named AAAS Fellows

Surya Mallapragada

Klaus Schmidt-Rohr

George Kraus

Three Ames Laboratory researchers have been named AAAS Fellows by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for "their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications."

• Surya Mallapragada was honored for "research in the field of biomaterials and biomolecular engineering, particularly for important scientific advances in polymer design relevant to nerve cell regeneration and drug delivery."

• Klaus Schmidt-Rohr was honored for "using and developing solid-state nuclear magnetic resonance to answer important questions about diverse materials, including synthetic polymers, bone, soil and fuel-cell membranes."

• George Kraus was honored for "developing syntheses of natural products and other imaginative applications of organic chemistry and for promoting chemistry through visionary administrative leadership in the university environment."

"AAAS is the premier member-driven association serving the field of science," says Ames Laboratory Director Alex King. "It has incredible breadth, depth and impact, and the people who represent the association make significant contributions in an exceptionally wide range of ways."

"The recognition of Surya, Klaus and George with AAAS Fellowships is especially significant because AAAS crosses all fields of science, and standing out from the crowd is so much harder when the crowd is that large," King continues. "It's a real distinction, and we are very proud of the outstanding work that they are doing at the Ames Laboratory."

The new Fellows were presented with official certificates and pins on Feb. 14 in Chicago at the association's annual meeting. The Fellows honor is bestowed on association members by their scientific peers.

The three new Fellows join nine other Ames Laboratory researchers who are currently listed as AAAS Fellows: Andreja Bakac, John Corbett, John Hill, David Lynch, Gordon Miller, Marit Nilsen-Hamilton, Jacob Petrich, Klaus Ruedenberg and Costas Soukoulis.

Student Intern Wins DOE Poster Prize

Brita Kilburg

Brita Kilburg, a former Ames Laboratory intern, placed third in the environmental sciences division of the DOE Science and Energy Research Challenge competition. Kilburg, a student at Loras College who was mentored by ISU scientist Forrest Nutter, was a participant in the Lab's Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship, or SULI, program.

SERCh is a poster competition that showcases the research projects of DOE-funded students and interns at the national laboratories. Students presented posters in Oak Ridge, Tenn. Cash prizes of $3,000, $1,500 and $1,000 were given for first, second and third place, respectively, in five categories.

Harmon, Finnemore Outstanding Referees

Three Ames Laboratory scientists were recognized for their exceptional efforts in assessing manuscripts for American Physical Society journals. Doug Finnemore, senior physicist; Bruce Harmon, deputy Lab director and senior physicist; and a third physicist who requested to remain anonymous were in the inaugural group of Outstanding Referee award winners.

APS initiated the Outstanding Referee award to express appreciation to all referees whose efforts in peer review both maintain the high standards of APS journals and help authors improve the quality and readability of their articles.

"Manuscript reviewers often operate in the background without much recognition, but their contributions to their fields of research are enormously important," says Alex King, Ames Laboratory director. "We are pleased that three Ames Laboratory scientists have been recognized for their service."

Ed Yeung

Yeung Receives ACS Analytical Chemistry Award

Ed Yeung, Ames Laboratory senior chemist, has been selected to receive the American Chemical Society's Division of Analytical Chemistry Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Analytical Chemistry. The award, sponsored by Waters Corp., with its $2,500 cash prize, will be presented at the 238th ACS National Meeting to be held in Washington, D.C., Aug. 16-20, 2009.

Yeung, a longtime director of Ames Laboratory's Chemical and Biological Sciences Program, currently serves as the program's deputy director and is a Distinguished Professor in Liberal Arts and Sciences and holds the Robert Allen Wright Chair at Iowa State University. He has a distinguished career in the field of analytical chemistry. He pioneered separation analysis techniques, including multiplexed capillary electrophoresis, that won R&D 100 Awards in 1989, 1991, 1997 and 2001. He was also named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1992.

"In a stunningly productive career now exceeding three decades, Ed Yeung has time and again defined, then pushed beyond, the outer boundaries of chemical measurement science," says Paul Bohn, Arthur J. Schmitt Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Notre Dame and a longtime colleague of Yeung's. "From his early work mapping cutting edge laser spectroscopies onto molecular separations to a decade spent defining what can be learned from the study of single molecules, Ed has consistently moved into fruitful new areas and, by so doing, catalyzed enormously important developments by large numbers of researchers. I cannot think of a more deserving recipient of the Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Analytical Chemistry."

Fulbright Scholar

Mufit Akinc, an Ames Laboratory associate scientist and an ISU professor of materials science and engineering, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant. He will lecture on processing of advanced materials at Turkey's Koc University in Istanbul.

Mufit Akinc

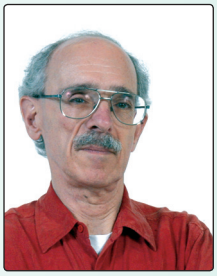
NSF Career Award

Zhiqun Lin, associate scientist, received a National Science Foundation CAREER award, the organization's most prestigious award for junior researchers. The five-year, $400,000 award will support Lin's research in nanomaterials. Specifically, Lin plans to develop an evaporative self-assembly method for creating hierarchically ordered nanostructured materials.

Zhiqun Lin

ACS Computer Award

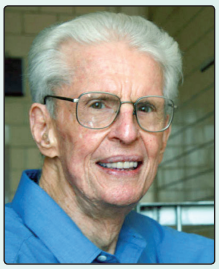
Mark Gordon, director of the Applied Mathematics and Computational Sciences program at Ames Laboratory and Iowa State's Frances M. Craig Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, has won the American Chemical Society's Award for Computers in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research. The society called Gordon "a ubiquitous contributor to the field of computational chemistry."



Mark Gordon

Royal Society of Chemistry Fellow

John Corbett, a senior chemist, has been named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry. Fellowship is the RSC's most senior category of membership, and the Fellow award honors those who have made substantial contributions to advancing the wider application of chemical science.



John Corbett