

Editorial

***Crystals* Best Paper Award 2015**

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An annual award has been instituted to recognize the outstanding papers published in *Crystals*. We are pleased to announce the first “*Crystals* Best Paper Award” for 2015.

This year, nominations were made by the Editorial Office of *Crystals* based on citation counts among all the original research articles published in 2014 and 2013. The following three papers were chosen by the Prize Awarding Committee:

Best Paper Award

1st Prize

Peter Politzer, Jane S. Murray, Goran V. Janjić and Snežana D. Zarić

σ -Hole Hole Interactions of Covalently-Bonded Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Arsenic: A Survey of Crystal Structures

Crystals **2014**, *4*(1), 12–31; doi:10.3390/cryst4010012

Available online: <http://www.mdpi.com/2073-4352/4/1/12>

“A fundamental work on noncovalent directional interactions”—Dr. Gerhard Laus

“This article will have the largest long-time impact, not only for solid state research but in all fields of chemistry.”—Prof. Dr. Gerd Meyer

2nd Prize

Valentina F. Degtyareva

Electronic Origin of the Orthorhombic *Cmca* Structure in Compressed Elements and Binary Alloys

Crystals **2013**, *3*(3), 419–430; doi:10.3390/cryst3030419

Available online: <http://www.mdpi.com/2073-4352/3/3/419>

“This paper explains the commonly observed crystal structure in representative metals under high pressure from electronic origin. The focus is just on this journal.”—Prof. Dr. Hideo Hosono

“Interesting analysis of pressure-dependent structural transformations.”—Dr. Gerhard Laus

3rd Prize

Igor Shishkovsky, Floran Missemmer, Nina Kakovkina and Igor Smurov

Intermetallics Synthesis in the Fe–Al System via Layer by Layer 3D Laser Cladding

Crystals 2013, 3(4), 517–529; doi:10.3390/cryst3040517

Available online: <http://www.mdpi.com/2073-4352/3/4/517>

“This paper demonstrates the generation of a functional gradient of intermetallic Fe_xAl_y structures by 3D laser cladding. The control of hardness in a multi-layer structure is a very interesting finding and has good industrial application potential.”—Prof. Dr. Helmut Cölfen

These three outstanding papers are valuable contributions to *Crystals*. On behalf of the Prize Awarding Committee and the Editorial Board, we would like to congratulate these three teams for their excellent work. In recognition of their accomplishment, Dr. Peter Politzer, Dr. Valentina F. Degtyareva, and Dr. Igor Shishkovsky will receive the privilege to publish an additional paper free of charge in open access format in *Crystals* after the usual peer-review procedure.

Prize Awarding Committee

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