

DSM Press Release

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Alexandra Teleki wins first prize in DSM Science & Technology Awards (South) 2009

Swiss researcher Alexandra Teleki has won the first prize in the DSM Science & Technology Awards (South) 2009. An international judging committee, chaired by Dr Manfred Eggersdorfer, R&D Director at DSM Nutritional Products, selected Alexandra Teleki, who obtained her doctorate from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH Zurich (Switzerland), for her PhD research on the production and application of coated nanoparticles.

Alexandra Teleki has succeeded in developing a highly reproducible method for the simplified production of structured nanoparticles. Structured nanoparticles are expected to play a major role in enabling sustainable routes to materials production. Dr Teleki was presented with the award by Mr Leendert Staal, President and CEO of DSM Nutritional Products on Tuesday, June 23, at a festive awards event at Park Hotel Vitznau in Vitznau (Switzerland). As the winner of the first prize she will also receive a cash prize of EUR 10,000.

The second prize (EUR 5,000) was awarded to Christian Nilewski of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH Zurich (Switzerland) for his PhD research on marine toxins and their effect on human health. The third prize (EUR 2,500) was awarded to Frederik Wurm of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (Germany) for his PhD work on linear hyperbranched block copolymers that offer great potential for medical and pharmaceutical applications. The other nine finalists will each receive a cash prize of EUR 1,250.

The DSM Science & Technology Awards form part of the DSM Innovation Awards Program sponsored by the DSM Innovation Center. They are granted for outstanding PhD research by doctoral students from Switzerland, which is the home base of DSM Nutritional Products, and the neighboring regions of Austria, Northeastern France and Southern Germany.

Commenting on this year's awards, Mr Staal said: *'DSM wants to recognize and reward exceptional achievements, both by our own employees and by talented researches working outside DSM. Science and technology will continue to play a key role in enabling the solutions the world is looking for in so many different areas. And this makes pioneering scientific work, like the PhD research done by the awards candidates, extremely valuable.'*

Report of the judging committee

In its report about the winner of the first prize, the judging committee said it was impressed by the considerable scope of the research of Alexandra Teleki, ranging from the development of new production methods to the application of a series of new coated nanoparticles: 'A striking aspect of the research is that all of the synthesis and preparation steps have been simplified, particle formation and coating now being integrated in a single flame synthesis step.' The judging committee expects that the outcome of the research will prove very useful in the routine and large scale synthesis of silicon oxide coated and metal dotted nanoparticles.

The judging committee commended the high quality of the work of all the other finalists.

The winners of the first, second and third prizes

Alexandra Teleki conducted her research at the Institute of Process Technology, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH Zurich (Switzerland), under the supervision of: Prof. Sotiris E. Pratsinis.

Christian Nilewski conducted his research at the Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH Zurich (Switzerland), under the supervision of Prof. Erick M. Carreira.

Frederik Wurm conducted his research at the Institute of Organic Chemistry, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (Germany), under the supervision of Prof. Holger Frey.

Other winners

The other nine prize-winners are:

Morgan Donnard	Laboratory of Organic and Bio-organic Chemistry, University of Haute-Alsace (France)
Christine Goedl	Department of Biotechnology and Bioprocess Technology, Graz University of Technology (Austria)
Kathrin Lang	Institute of Organic Chemistry, University of Innsbruck (Austria)
Ludwig Limbach	Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (Switzerland)
Pauline Peltier-Pain	Institute of Organic and Supramolecular Chemistry, Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Rennes (France)
Stephan Reitmeier	Institute of Chemical Technology, München University of Technology (Germany)
Alexander A. Solovev	Institute for Integrative Nanosciences, Leibniz Institute for Solid State and Materials Research Dresden (Germany)
Jan Streuff	Laboratory of Homogeneous Catalysis and Molecular Synthesis, University of Strasbourg (France)
Constance Voss	Department of Chemistry, University of Graz (Austria)

Two parallel awards schemes

DSM launched the Science & Technology Awards twenty-four years ago. Until 2006, the awards were open to doctoral students from the Netherlands, Belgium and the German state of Nordrhein-Westfalen (DSM Science & Technology Awards – North). In view of the high reputation

and popularity the awards had gained in academic circles, in 2007 DSM introduced a parallel contest for PhD researchers from universities in Switzerland, Austria, Northeastern France and Southern Germany (DSM Science & Technology Awards – South).

Encouraging pioneering research

DSM performs a great deal of its R&D work in close collaboration with universities. Through its Science & Technology Awards DSM wants to encourage young research scientists to undertake creative, pioneering research. This is important because this kind of research often provides the basis for the development of new, knowledge-intensive industrial processes and innovative products.

DSM – the Life Sciences and Materials Sciences Company

Royal DSM N.V. creates innovative products and services in Life Sciences and Materials Sciences that contribute to the quality of life. DSM's products and services are used globally in a wide range of markets and applications, supporting a healthier, more sustainable and more enjoyable way of life. End markets include human and animal nutrition and health, personal care, pharmaceuticals, automotive, coatings and paint, electrical and electronics, life protection and housing. DSM has annual net sales of EUR 9.3 billion and employs some 23,500 people worldwide. The company is headquartered in the Netherlands, with locations on five continents. DSM is listed on Euronext Amsterdam. More information: www.dsm.com

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