



Paul Midgley,
EMS President



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Dear colleagues,

This 38th EMS Newsletter will be published in the Imaging & Microscopy issue that will be distributed at the 15th European Microscopy Congress emc2012 in Manchester. This meeting will allow European microscopists to gather, present and discuss their most recent results. The topics have been arranged into a program with four different major sections filling a matrix between Physical and Life Sciences versus Tools & Techniques and Applications. From Sunday to Thursday, Plenary talks by highly recognized scientists will cover many topics expected to be of interest to a wide audience. On Friday the closing session of the meeting is comprised of lectures by the two FEI-European Microscopy award winners followed by a plenary talk by Dan Shechtman, Nobel prize winner in Chemistry in 2011 for his discovery of quasicrystals.

The 2012 FEI-European Microscopy award for the category Physical/Materials Sciences and Optics goes to Dr. Mathieu Kociak from the Laboratoire de Physique des Solides, Université Paris-Sud, France, for his outstanding achievements in instrumental and theoretical developments pioneering new branches of nanoscience. The Life Sciences award is made to Dr. Yves Dufrêne from the In-

stitute of Condensed Matter and Nanosciences Bio and Soft Matter of the Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium, for his outstanding achievements in the study of living cells with high-resolution atomic force microscopy. Dr. Kociak will present his work in a talk entitled "Enlightening electrons" while the talk by Dr. Dufrêne will be on "Atomic force microscopy: a nanoscopic window on the cell surface". The winners of this prestigious quadrennial award founded in 2004 with the support of FEI will receive the amount of 5.000 euro and a metal-on-wood plaque for display.

In total 40 applications have been received by EMS for the extended scholarships (early stage career registration fee plus partial travel expenses) to attend emc2012. After reviewing the applications, 27 scholarships were awarded to early stage career EMS members who will present their results of trans-European research collaborations at emc2012. A selection of reports of these scholarships will be published in the 2012 EMS Yearbook.

Although the meeting in Manchester is of course very much the focus of attention for everyone this year, EMS is already planning for next year and in that context we are delighted to award the status of EMS Extension to MC2013, a

joint meeting of 10 European microscopy societies to be held in Regensburg, Germany, from 25 to 30 August 2013. This support from the EMS will help enhance the visibility of the meeting and extend its outreach far beyond the organizing countries and societies. As usual, EMS will offer scholarships for early stage researchers to attend this 2013 EMS Extension.

To close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank EMS Board members Ueli Aebi (2004–2012), Past-President, Marie Cheynet (2004–2012), responsible for scholarships and yearbook, Marco Vittori (2000–2012) and Raija Sormunen (2008–2012), all of whom will retire this year from the EMS Executive Board, for their invaluable contributions to the development of our society.

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