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Dear colleagues,

By now you should have received the 2012 EMS Yearbook. We hope you have enjoyed reading the reports on the various activities of our society and members during the past year, the appreciations written by the students who received a scholarship to attend *emc2012*, the papers written by the FEI-EM-Award winners, etc.

During its most recent meeting the Executive Board of the EMS has received the decision of the Jury of the EMS Outstanding Paper Award for the year 2012. In total 28 high quality papers of which 10 in the Instrumentation and Technique Development, 5 in the Life Sciences and 13 in the Materials Sciences categories were nominated by EMS members, which is an overall increase of around 65% against last year. Three papers were even nominated twice. Of these 28 papers, the following were selected as award winners:

1. Instrumentation and Technique Development:

“‘Big Bang’ tomography as a new route to atomic-resolution electron tomography”, D. Van Dyck, J.R. Jinschek & F.-R. Chen, *Nature* 486, 243–246 (2012); doi:10.1038/nature11074;

2. Materials Sciences:

“Toroidal Plasmonic Eigenmodes in Oligomer Nanocavities for the Visible”, B.

Ögüt, N. Talebi, R. Vogelgesang, W. Sigle & P.A. van Aken, *Nano Letters* 12, 5239–5244 (2012); doi.org/10.1021/nl302418n;

3. Life Sciences:

“Virtual nanoscopy: Generation of ultra-large high resolution electron microscopy maps”, F.G. Faas, M.C. Avramut, B.M. van den Berg, A.M. Mommaas, A.J. Koster & R.B. Ravelli, *Cell Biology* 198, 457–469 (2012); doi: 10.1083/jcb.201201140.

Moreover, some other papers which were highly appreciated by the jury will be proposed to GIT for listing in the literature highlights. The first authors of the winning papers will receive their award of € 1.000 and a metal-on-wood plaque during the award ceremony at the congress dinner of the EMS Extension meeting MC2013 in Regensburg (Germany) on Thursday August 29, 2013. The Board likes to explicitly thank the jury members who have spent valuable time in judging the nominations of the past three years. At present, new jury members are being contacted to take over this important task for the next three years.

20 scholarships of € 250 each are available for early stage career registration of young EMS members to attend MC2013. Depending on the local situation of the applicant, the Board can decide to increase the stipend to maximum € 500. By the deadline of March 31, the secretarial office received 43 applica-

tions, so the selection was again difficult. By the time you read this, the applicants will most probably have been informed about the decision.

At MC2013 the EMS Executive Board will also hold its second meeting of 2013, while the EMS General Assembly will take place on Thursday, probably at 16:00. During its first meeting with the new Board members appointed at *emc2012* some new possible activities have been discussed. For example, the communication with the members should further be improved and possibilities for a renewed website will be investigated.

For the second half of 2013, seven applications for EMS sponsored events were received. The selected events will soon be listed on the website. For 2014, it was decided not to organize an EMS Extension but to focus all our financial and other support on the International Microscopy Congress to be organized in Prague.

We look forward to seeing you all in Regensburg.

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