

Joint Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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ILCAC Awards McCartor Fund Fellowships

Washington, DC – The International Light-Cone Advisory Committee (ILCAC), incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2008 under SURA sponsorship, continued its established McCartor Fund program by awarding travel grants to four young scientists at its annual meeting in Skiathos, Greece, May 20-25, 2013.

Thanks to a substantial gift by Sheila McCartor, Gary McCartor's widow, and recent donations by Gary's friends, the McCartor Fund Fellowship program received additional support for the Skiathos meeting. This year's meeting host Ruhr University Bochum (RUB) in Germany provided award funding of 3000 Euros as well as conference fee waivers to all four awardees corresponding to another 1000 Euros.

This generous support from RUB allowed ILCAC to award McCartor Fellowships to four promising young physicists: Xingbo Zhao, a postdoc at Iowa State University supervised by Prof. James Vary; Alexey Vladimirov, a postdoc at RUB supervised by Prof. Maxim Polyakov and Dr. Dr. Nico Stefanis; Alexandr Pimikov, a postdoc at Valencia University supervised by Prof. Joannis Papavassiliou; and Jai More, a graduate student at Mumbai University supervised by Prof. Anuradha Misra. The fellowships enabled the four awardees to attend and present their research works at LC2013.

During the conference, Prof. James Vary, chair of the fundraising committee and member of the Board of Directors of ILCAC, reviewed the aims of the McCartor Fund Fellowship program in assisting promising young scientists in memory of a leading scientist in physics, Gary McCartor. Prof. Vary commented, "Gary not only provided scientific leadership for our field but was very active in developing support for young scientists. In particular, he participated in conceptualizing this fund to provide training and travel support enabling young scientists to develop their expertise and contribute to forefront physics research. This fund was founded after his death and is named for him to honor his achievements and leadership efforts."

On behalf of ILCAC and RUB, Prof. Chueng Ji and Dr. Dr. Nico Stefanis jointly presented the fellowship award certificates to the four awardees.

The Skiathos conference attracted 56 participants including many young researchers who attended the annual meeting for the first time. Judging from the number of youthful attendees, and their excellent presentations, the competition for next year's McCartor Fund Fellowships will be as keen as ever.



Gary McCartor Award recipients with ILCAC members and LC2013-Skiathos organizers. From left Wayne Polyzou, Nico Stefanis, Tobias Frederico, Stan Brodsky, Alexey Vladimirov, Xingbo Zhao, Jai More, Alexandr Pimikov, Wally Melnitchouk, Chueng Ji and James Vary.

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The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) is a consortium of over 60 leading research institutions in the southern United States and the District of Columbia established in 1980 as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation. SURA serves as an entity through which colleges, universities, and other organizations may cooperate with one another, and with government and industry in acquiring, developing, and using laboratories and other research facilities and in furthering knowledge and the application of that knowledge in the physical, biological, and other natural sciences and engineering. For more information, visit www.sura.org.

ILCAC, Inc., incorporated in 2008 under the sponsorship of SURA, advances research in quantum field theory, particularly light-cone quantization methods applicable to the solution of physical problems. To fulfill its mission, ILCAC sponsors conferences, workshops, and institutes devoted to quantum field theory and various subfields of physics; and provides research fellowships for PhD work, and funds sabbatical leave programs for researchers in these fields. For more information, visit www.ilcacinc.org.