2026 AWS

NATIONAL AWARD

RECOGNITION CEREMONY

2026 AWS NATIONAL AWARD RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The AWS Awards Recognition Ceremony of the American Welding Society serves an important function. It recognizes the men and women in the industrial, education, and research communities who have made distinctive contributions to advance the science, technology, and application of welding and allied processes, including joining, brazing, soldering, cutting and thermal spraying. This booklet describes the various awards, listing recipients for the past fifteen years along with a brief biography of this year's recipients. A complete listing of awards and their recipients may be obtained from the AWS website at National Awards Package

SCAN FOR A FULL LIST OF AWARDS AND RECIPIENTS

AWS NATIONAL AWARDS 2026

COMFORT A. ADAMS LECTURE AWARD 4
ADAMS MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIP AWARD 5
HOWARD E. ADKINS MEMORIAL INSTRUCTOR MEMBERSHIP AWARD 6
KENNETH L. BROWN MEMORIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH AWARD 7
ROBERT J. CONKLING MEMORIAL AWARD 8
2025 PAPER | A.F. DAVIS SILVER MEDAL AWARD 9
DISTINGUISHED WELDER AWARD 13
EXCELLENCE IN ROBOTIC AND AUTOMATED ARC WELDING AWARD 14
DALTON E. HAMILTON MEMORIAL CWI OF THE YEAR AWARD 15
2025 PAPER | W. H. HOBART MEMORIAL AWARD 16
HONORARY MEMBER AWARD 18
INTERNATIONAL MERITORIOUS AWARD 19
WILLIAM IRRGANG MEMORIAL AWARD 20
2025 PAPER | CHARLES H. JENNINGS MEMORIAL AWARD 21
2025 PAPER | JAMES F. LINCOLN GOLD MEDAL AWARD 24
2025 PAPER | MCKAY-HELM AWARD 26
PROFESSOR KOICHI MASUBUCHI AWARD 29
SAMUEL WYLIE MILLER MEMORIAL MEDAL AWARD 30
NATIONAL MERITORIOUS AWARD 31
2025 PAPER | ROBERT L. PEASLEE MEMORIAL BRAZING AND SOLDERING AWARD 32
PLUMMER MEMORIAL EDUCATION LECTURE AWARD 33
PRIVATE SECTOR INSTRUCTOR MEMBERSHIP AWARD 34
2025 PAPER | WARREN F. SAVAGE MEMORIAL AWARD 35
2025 PAPER | WILLIAM SPRARAGEN MEMORIAL AWARD 38
R. D. THOMAS MEMORIAL AWARD 40
ELIHU THOMSON RESISTANCE WELDING AWARD 41
GEORGE E. WILLIS AWARD 42

COMFORT A. ADAMS LECTURE AWARD

The American Welding Society sponsors this lectureship, which was created in the memory of Dr. Comfort A. Adams, its founder and first President.

The award is presented to an individual who is an outstanding scientist or engineer for a lecture describing a new or distinctive development in the field of welding. The lecture is presented during the AWS Welding Show and Convention.

Recipients of award:

Grong, O. (2011)
Kou, S. (2012)
DuPont, J. N. (2013)
Goldak, J. (2014)
Robino, C. V. (2015)
Vianco, P.T. (2016)
Babu, S. S. (2017)
Nishimoto, K. (2018)
Dong, P. (2019)
No presentation (2020)
Cross, C. E. (2021)
Koseki, T. (2022)
Norrish, J. (2023)
Zhou, Y. N. (2024)
Feng, Z. (2025)

"SOLID-STATE MATERIALS PROCESSING: WHERE CREATIVITY REDEFINES LIMITS"



JORGE F. DOS SANTOS

Dr. Dos Santos studied metallurgical engineering before pursuing an MSc and PhD in physical metallurgy of welded joints at Cranfield University in the UK. He began his professional career in the offshore oil and gas sector, where he focused on developing semi-automatic and fully unmanned welding systems for underwater pipeline repair and installation. Later he joined the Helmholtz-Zentrum in Geesthacht, Germany, where in 1996 he established a research group dedicated to solid-state welding processes. Under his leadership, the group grew into one of the world's leading centers in the field, comprising over 50 researchers, advanced processing facilities, and a strong portfolio of industrial and fundamental R&D projects, alongside an extensive publication record.

In 2022, he moved to the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, WA, serving as chief materials scientist in the Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Group. There, he led key programmes including the Solid-Phase Science Initiative and the Joining Core Programme. In 2025, he joined Stirtec in Graz, Austria, supporting R&D and innovation. He also serves as chairman of the Technical Management Board of the International Institute of Welding and lectures at universities in Germany and Sweden.

ADAMS MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIP AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society and recognizes educators for outstanding teaching activities in their undergraduate and postgraduate engineering institutions.

Recipients of award:

Chin, B. A. (2011)
Babu, S. S. (2012)
Warke, R. W. (2013)
Mendez, P. F. (2014)
Palmer, T. A. (2015)
Zhang, W. (2016)
Phillips, D. H. (2017)
Zhou, Y. N. (2018)
Alexandrov, B. (2019)
Gerlich, A. (2019)
Hardesty, J. B. (2020)
Miles, M. (2021)
Andersson, J. (2022)
Madigan, R. B. (2023)
Yu, Z. (2024)



MICHAEL BENOIT

Michael Benoit is a professor in the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering at the University of Waterloo, where his research focuses on advanced materials and manufacturing processes, with a particular emphasis on welding & joining, additive manufacturing, and alloy design. His research investigates the relationships between processing conditions, microstructure, and performance in engineered materials, contributing to improved performance in industrial applications. Prof. Benoit has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and has contributed to advancing knowledge in areas such as brazing of aluminum alloys, weld overlays of nickel superalloys, development of novel alloys for additive manufacturing, and repair of manufacturing tooling. His work advances fundamental materials engineering and, through collaborations with industry partners, is often translated to practical solutions.

In addition to his research contributions, he is an active educator and mentor, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in materials engineering and manufacturing. He has led the development of several courses and educational programs. He has supervised numerous undergraduate and graduate students.

Prof. Benoit is also engaged in professional service, contributing to the broader engineering and welding communities through editorial activities, conference organization, and involvement with technical societies. His combined efforts in research, teaching, and service reflect a sustained commitment to advancing materials and manufacturing engineering.



TUHIN MUKHERJEE

Tuhin Mukherjee is an assistant professor of Mechanical Engineering at Iowa State University, USA. Previously, he was a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Pennsylvania State University, USA, from where he also received his PhD. His education and research interests focus on welding, additive manufacturing, computational methods, and AI. He is the author of many papers in leading journals, including Nature, Nature Reviews Materials, Nature Materials, and Progress in Materials Science. He authored a textbook on *"Theory and Practice of Additive Manufacturing"* (Wiley, 2023), an edited book entitled *"The Science and Technology of 3D Printing"* (MDPI, 2021), and an upcoming book on *"Digital Twins of Advanced Materials Processing"* (Elsevier, 2026). He served as a guest editor for the journals *"NPJ Advanced Manufacturing"*, *"Computational Materials Science"*, *"Materials"*, and *"Science and Technology of Welding and Joining"*. He is an editorial board member of the journals *"Engineering Science in Additive Manufacturing"*, *"Materials Science in Additive Manufacturing"*, *"International Journal of AI for Materials and Design"*, and *"Science and Technology of Welding and Joining"*.

HOWARD E. ADKINS MEMORIAL INSTRUCTOR MEMBERSHIP AWARD

This award is sponsored by the Adkins family and recognizes instructors for their outstanding teaching accomplishments at the high school, trade school, technical institute, and community college levels.

Recipients of award:

Hutchison, R. J. (2011)
Gill, T. L. (2012)
Sutherland, S. H. (2012)
Siepert, G. (2013)
Polanin, W. R. (2014)
Mitchell, J. L. (2015)
Smith, S. C. (2016)
Otto, B. (2016)
Hughes, H. (2017)
King, J. L. (2017)
Sumal, A. A. S. (2018)
Vann, R. L. (2018)
Knapp, J. (2019)
Emery, R. (2022)
Jones, R. R. (2023)
Camacho, B. (2024)
Jumper, T. (2025)



PETER C. DALEY

Peter Daley has dedicated 24 years to teaching in Alaska and is originally from Minnesota. Throughout high school and college, he worked in construction and mechanical trades to help pay for tuition. His formative years were shaped by strong influences from family, church, sports, and the Boy Scouts, and he developed an early passion for hands-on learning through shop classes.

Motivated by a love of learning and a desire to share that passion with others, Mr. Daley combined his technical expertise with his interest in teaching and enrolled in a teacher preparation program. His sense of adventure brought him to Alaska, where he began his teaching career in the village of Ruby.

For the past 16 years, Mr. Daley has taught welding and drafting at Hutchison High School in Fairbanks, Alaska. Each day he instructs approximately 100 students, equipping them with the skills to weld and interpret technical drawings. In 2013, he established a Pipe Welding Academy through a partnership with the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center, providing high school students with advanced, industry-relevant training. He also launched an annual Girls' Welding Class in Fairbanks to create opportunities for young women to explore careers in the skilled trades.

Mr. Daley has served on the Hutchison High School leadership committee and the district Career and Technical Education (CTE) advisory committee. He also contributes to the broader profession as a member of the American Welding Society's national education committee and the Alaska section education committee. In addition, he actively advocates for CTE initiatives with policymakers in Juneau and Washington, D.C.

Mr. Daley earned his bachelor's degree in industrial technology education from Bemidji State University in 2002 and a master's degree in Career and Technical Education from Northern Arizona University in 2015, where he was recognized with membership in Phi Kappa Phi for his academic accomplishments. He is also an AWS Certified Welding Inspector. During the summers, Mr. Daley works along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline inspecting welds and facilities, maintaining strong connections with the industry he teaches.

KENNETH L. BROWN MEMORIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society to recognize individuals for promoting welding safety and health through research, educational activities, development of safe practices, or dissemination of information through publications or other means, thereby fostering public safety awareness and welfare.

Recipients of award:

Palmer, W. (2011)
Fink, D. A. (2012)
Costa, L. (2014)
Clark, D. (2018)
Petkovsek, J. (2022)
Dunbar, D. N. (2025)

No presentation this year.

ROBERT J. CONKLING MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is named in memory of Robert J. Conkling. He encouraged young people to enter the welding industry and contributed generously of his time and talents to the development of the AWS Welding Show and Convention.

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society and is presented to the schools that trained the two first-place winners in the national SkillsUSA welding competition.

2026 SkillsUSA Championships Gold Medalists Schools

First Place — High School

Diman Regional Voc-Tech High School
Fall River, Massachusetts

First Place — Post Secondary

Utah State University Eastern
Price, Utah

2025 PAPER
A. F. DAVIS SILVER MEDAL AWARD

This award is endowed by the late A. F. Davis, former Vice President and Secretary of The Lincoln Electric Company. It is awarded to the authors of papers published in the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year that represent the best contributions to the progress of welding in the categories of 1) Machine Design, 2) Maintenance and Surfacing, 3) Structural Design, and 4) Skills Development, Education and Training

As of 2023 an update to the following categories was implemented:

(l) Design of Welding Processes, machines, and equipment
(2) Maintenance, Repair and Surfacing
(3) Design of welded structures and equipment
(4) Designs that improve skills development, education, and training

Recipients of award:

Korinko, P. S. (2) (2012)
Adams, T. M. (2) (2012)
Malene, S. H. (2) (2012)
Gill, S. C. D. (2) (2012)
Smugeresky, J. (2) (2012)
Fan, Y. (1) (2013)
Yang, C. (1) (2013)
Lin, S. (1) (2013)
Fan, C. (1) (2013)
Liu, W. (1) (2013)
Zhou, Y. (2) (2013)
Yang, Y. L. (2) (2013)
Li, D. (2) (2013)
Yang, J. (2) (2013)
Jiang, Y. W. (2) (2013)
Ren, X. J. (2) (2013)
Yang, Q. X. (2) (2013)
Radakovic, D. J. (3) (2013)
Tumuluru, M. (3) (2013)
Xiao, J. (1) (2014)
Zhang, G. (1) (2014)
Wu, L. (1) (2014)
Chen, S. (1) (2014)
Zhang, Y. (1) (2014)
Aschemeier, U. (2) (2014)
Peters, K. (2) (2014)
Zhang, Y (1) (2015)
Shao, Y (1) (2015)
Ramirez, J. E. (2) (2015)
Sigler, D. R. (3) (2015)
Vanimisetti, S. K. (3) (2015)
Liu, D. S. (2) (2016)
Wei, P. (2) (2016)
Chen, S. J. (1) (2017)
Xiao, J. (1) (2017)
Zhang, G. (1) (2017)
Zhang, Y. (1) (2017)
Chai, X. (2) (2017)
Kou, S. (2) (2017)
Landwehr, D. (2) (2017)
Yu, P. (2) (2017)
Achuthan, A. (3) (2017)
Aidun, D. K. (3) (2017)
Bunn, J. R. (3) (2017)
Coules, H. E. (3) (2017)
Eisazadeh, H. (3) (2017)
Goldak, J. A. (3) (2017)
Chen, J. (1) (2018)
Wu, S. (1) (2018)
Zhang, K. (1) (2018)
Zhang, Y. (1) (2018)
Gao, Y. H. (2) (2018)
Liu, Z. X. (2) (2018)
Lu, L. (2) (2018)
Wang, P. C. (2) (2018)
Zhi, Q. (2) (2018)
Frostevarg, J. (1) (2019)
Kaplan, A. (1) (2019)
Näsström, J. (1) (2019)
Anderson, N. (2) (2019)
Kannan, R. (2) (2019)
Li, L. (2) (2019)
Liu, D. (2) (2019)
Long, W. (2) (2019)
Wei, P. (2) (2019)
Wu, M. (2) (2019)
Aidun, D. (3) (2019)
Bunn, J. R. (3) (2019)
Cornwell, P. (3) (2019)
Eisazadeh, H. (3) (2019)
Payzant, E. A. (3) (2019)
Feng, J. (1) (2020)
Sun, Q. (1) (2020)
Teng, J. (1) (2020)
Wang, J. (1) (2020)
Duch, J. (2) (2020)
DuPont, J. N. (2) (2020)
Brochu, M. (3) (2020)
Chekir, N. (3) (2020)
Sixsmith, JJ. (3) (2020)
Tollett, R. (3) (2020)

2025 PAPER
A. F. DAVIS SILVER MEDAL AWARD *(cont)*

Recipients of award:

Carlson, B. E. (1) (2021)
Haselhuhn, A. (1) (2021)
Hu, S. (1) (2021)
Li, Y. (1) (2021)
Lin, Z. (1) (2021)
Ma, Y. (1) (2021)
Han, Y. (2) (2021)
Jia, C. (2) (2021)
Wu, CS. (2) (2021)
Wu, J. (2) (2021)
Yang, Q. (2) (2021)
Zhang, Y. (2) (2021)
Bunn, J. (3) (2021)
Feng, Z. (3) (2021)
Kolbus, L. (3) (2021)
Liu, S. (3) (2021)
Wang, Z. (3) (2021)
Wu, X. (3) (2021)
Yu, Z. (3) (2021)
Assuncao, H. L. (1) (2022)
Bracarense, A.Q. (1) (2022)
Pereira Pessoa, E. C. (1) (2022)
Rizzo, F. (1) (2022)
Rocha dos Santos, V. (1) (2022)
Gould, J. E. (1) (2022)
Lester, P. (1) (2022)
Lindamood, L. (1) (2022)
Malpica, J. (1) (2022)
Marinho, R. R. () (2022)
Carlson, B. E. (3) (2022)
Chen, J. (3) (2022)
Feng, Z. (3) (2022)
Huang, H. (3) (2022)
Wang, H-P. (3) (2022)
Ayoade, A. A. (1) (2023)
Steele, J. P.H. (1) (2023)
Bai, J. (1) (2023)
Lin, Z. (1) (2023)
Yang, S. (1) (2023)
Yin, Q. (1) (2023)
Kim, Y. S. (1) (2024)
Cho, S. M. (1) (2024)
Cao, Y. (1) (2024)
Hu, S. (1) (2024)
Wang, Z. (1) (2024)
Zou,. S. (1) (2024)
Wang, J. (2) (2024)
Chen, Y. (2) (2024)
Liu, J. (2) (2024)
Zhang, T. (2) (2024)
Yan. C. (2) (2024)
Feng, Y. (2) (2024)
Liu, C. (2) (2024)
Cheepu, M. M. (1) (2024)
Baek, H. (1) (2024)
Chen, S. (1) (2025)
Yu, F. (1) (2025)
Sade, W. (2) (2025)
Da Silva, N. N. (2) (2025)

DESIGN OF WELDING PROCESSES, MACHINES, AND EQUIPMENT (I)

"INFLUENCE OF ULTRASONIC VIBRATION ON THE ELECTROPHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF AN ARC WITH A NONCONSUMABLE ELECTRODE"



ARTEM CHUDIN

Dr. Artem Chudin received his PhD in engineering sciences in 2019 from Volgograd State Technical University, Russian Federation. He is currently an associate professor of the Department of Equipment and Technology of Welding Production, Volgograd State Technical University. Dr. Chudin's research interests include research in the field of non-consumable electrode welding using direct and alternating current for structures made of high-alloy steels, titanium, copper, nickel, and non-ferrous metal alloys.



PAVEL KRASIKOV

Dr. Pavel Krasikov received his PhD in engineering sciences in 2022 from Volgograd State Technical University, Russian Federation. He is currently an associate professor of the Department of Equipment and Technology of Welding Production, Volgograd State Technical University. Dr. Krasikov's research interests include research in the field of non-consumable electrode welding and stabilization of root parameters for shielded arc welding.



VLADIMIR LYSAK

Professor Vladimir Lysak received his advanced doctorate in engineering sciences in 1995 from Volgograd State Technical University, Russian Federation. He is currently scientific supervisor of Volgograd State Technical University. In 2016, he was elected as an academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Prof. Lysak's research interests include the creation of scientific foundations for the formation of joints during explosion welding and the study of the properties of the resulting joints; the design of new composite materials, elements and assemblies with high performance properties; the creation of new high-tech welding processes with a non-melting electrode in inert gases; theoretical and technological foundations of wear-resistant surfacing. He is the author and co-author of more than 1080 publications, including 14 monographs, 5 textbooks and teaching aids, more than 450 articles in Russian and foreign journals, and more than 90 patents.

DESIGN OF WELDING PROCESSES, MACHINES, AND EQUIPMENT (I) *(cont)*



DMITRY MURUGOV

Dmitry Murugov received his master of engineering sciences degree in 2021 from Volgograd State Technical University, Russian Federation. He is currently a junior researcher at the Department of Equipment and Technology of Welding Production, Volgograd State Technical University. Mr. Murugov's research interests include research in the field of non-consumable electrode welding using direct and alternating current for structures made of high-alloy steels, titanium, copper, nickel, and non-ferrous metal alloys.



OLEG POLESSKY

Dr. Oleg Polessky received his PhD in engineering sciences in 2011 from Volgograd State Technical University, Russian Federation. He is currently an associate professor of the Department of Equipment and Technology of Welding Production, Volgograd State Technical University. Dr. Polessky's research interests include research in the field of non-consumable electrode welding, the influence of the shape of the electrode working area on the arc welding characteristics, and physical modeling of the welding arc.



ALEKSANDR SAVINOV

Professor Aleksandr Savinov received his advanced doctorate in engineering sciences in 2013 from Volgograd State Technical University, Russian Federation. He is currently a professor at the Department of Equipment and Technology of Welding Production, Volgograd State Technical University. Prof. Savinov's research interests include research in the field of non-consumable electrode welding using direct and alternating current for structures made of high-alloy steels, titanium, copper, nickel, and non-ferrous metal alloys.

DISTINGUISHED WELDER AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society and is presented to an individual(s) who has exceptional welding skills and experiences related to all aspects of the art of welding.

Recipients of award:

Samanich, R. (2012)
Tichelar, C. W. (2012)
Bane, G. F. (2013)
Sanchez, A. (2013)
Collier, W. (2014)
Duffield, A. (2014)
Glidewell, D. S. (2014)
Kincaid, D. (2014)
Thomas, D. (2014)
Elsloo, D. (2015)
Blom, J. D. (2016)
Schmerl, J. (2018)
Vachon, R. G. (2018)
Kustra, G. A. (2021)
Gibbs, G. (2022)
Mendoza, J. (2024)
Roland, T. (2024)

No presentation this year.

EXCELLENCE IN ROBOTIC AND AUTOMATED ARC WELDING AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society to recognize significant individual achievements in the area of robotic arc welding. This work can include things such as the introduction of new technologies, establishment of the proper infrastructure (training, service, etc.) to enable success and any other activity having significantly improved the state of a company and/or industry. Since 2011, it has been awarded every other year.

Recipients of award:

Boillot, J-P (2011)
Anderson, C. T. (2013)
Noruk, J. S. (2015)
Rhoda, D. P. (2017)
Mangold Jr., V. L. (2019)
Rasmussen, C. (2022)
Gilgenbach, K. (2024)



LARRY GROSS

In the early 1980s, a National Science Foundation grant enabled Milwaukee Area Technical College to buy an arc welding robot. As an ad hoc instructor, Mr. Gross had keys and time to examine this novelty. Two or so years later, while working as a research manufacturing technician and still teaching part-time, he found the AWS to be an essential bridge between the rapid advances being made in manufacturing, and curriculum which needed to remain current. The research team at A.O. Smith won the Golden Robot Award during this time, making it the first US team to receive this international recognition. The AWS D16 committee is vital to those efforts, and Mr. Gross is proud to be able to serve on that committee. Part of his work with AWS D16 was auditing test sites for the Certified Robotic Arc Welding credential where he was able to observe other training facilities and offer improvement suggestions. The National Robotic Arc Welding Conference which was restarted in 2003 had an ambitious organizing committee that Gross was a member of. That conference raised $400,000 (after endowment matches) for scholarships. The students he has taught are his most proud achievement as many went into industry as engineers, technicians, and educators continuing the work that started before his efforts.

DALTON E. HAMILTON MEMORIAL CWI OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society in memory of Dalton E. Hamilton, who contributed greatly to the success of the Society's Certified Welding programs. This award recognizes AWS members participating in the SCWI/CWI programs whose inspection, Society and civic activities have enhanced public awareness of the Society and the CWI program or who have otherwise made an outstanding contribution to the science of welding inspection.

Recipients of award:

Waite, R. F. (2011)
Alston, J. (2012)
Griffith, B. (2016)
Twitty, D. L. (2017)
Pariseau, J. (2018)
Redding, J. (2019)
Corbin, J. D. (2020)
Barrett, S. (2023)
Peterson, D. (2024)

No presentation this year.

2025 PAPER
W. H. HOBART MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is presented in memory of William H. Hobart, Sr., and is sponsored by Hobart Brothers Company. It is awarded to the authors of the paper published in the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year that describes the best contribution to the progress of welding on the subject of welded pipe or similar applications, including the structural use of pipe and manufacturing of pipe involving welding.

Recipients of award:

Shi, S. (2011)
Lippold, J. C. (2011)
Ramirez, J. E. (2011)
Drexler, E. (2012)
Darcis, P. P. (2012)
McCowan, C. N. (2012)
Sowards, J. W. (2012)
McColskey, J. D. (2012)
Siewert, T. A. (2012)
Li, X. R. (2013)
Shao, Z. (2013)
Zhang, Y. (2013)
Silwal, B. (2014)
Li, L. (2014)
Deceuster, A. (2014)
Griffiths, B. (2014)
Bortsov, A (2015)
Frantov, I. I. (2015)
Velichko, A. A. (2015)
Utkin, I. Y. (2015)
Beidokhti, B. (2016)
Pouriamanesh, R. (2016)
Li, L. (2017)
Wang, Y. (2017)
Anderson, T. (2019)
Fairchild, D. (2019)
Jin, H. (2019)
Ma, N. (2019)
Wasson, A. (2019)
Yue, X. (2019)
Parker, J. (2020)
Siefert, J. A. (2020)
Thomson, R. (2020)
Anderson, N. (2021)
Arafin, M. (2021)
Collins, L. (2021)
Guo, L. (2021)
Kannan, R. (2021)
Li, L. (2021)
Rashid, M. (2021)
Kumar Dwivedi, D. (2022)
Kulkarni, A. (2022)
Vasudevan M. (2022)
Ustundag, O. (2023)
Bakir, N. (2023)
Gook, S. (2023)
Gumenyuk, A. (2023)
Rethmeier, M. (2023)
Li, L. (2024)
Saini, N. (2024)
Choudhury, S. D. (2024)
Chhibber, R. (2024)
Khan, W. N. (2024)
Wang, Y. (2024)
Kopparthi, R. (2024)
Danon, C. A. (2025)
Luppo, M. I. (2025)
Marzocca, A. L. (2025)
Soldera, F. (2025)
Zalazar, M. (2025)

"MAGNETIC FIELD MODELING IN HIGH-CURRENT MULTIWIRE SUBMERGED ARC WELDING OF STEEL PIPES"



BAOHUA CHANG

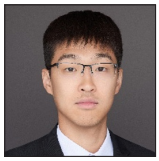
Baohua Chang received his BS and PhD degrees from Xi'an Jiao Tong University, Xi'an, China, in 1994 and 1999, respectively. From 1999 to 2002, he was a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada. From 2002 to 2004, he was a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, where he has been a faculty since 2004 and currently and associate professor. From 2011 to 2013, he was a Marie Curie Fellow with TWI Ltd, Cambridge, UK. He is currently the delegate and expert in Commission IX of the International Institute of Welding appointed by the Chinese Welding Society (CWS), and the committee member of the high energy beam and special welding processes committee of CWS. His research interests include numerical simulation and quality control of welding and additive manufacturing. He has authored or coauthored more than 100 academic papers, been granted more than 20 invention patents, and supervised more than 20 Master and PhD graduates.



DONG DU

Prof. Dong Du received his BS and PhD degrees from the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, in 1985 and 1991, respectively. He joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Tsinghua University in 1991 as a Lecturer, became an associate professor in 1993, and has served as a professor since 1997. He has served as director of the Welding Research Center at Tsinghua University since 2007.

Prof. Du's research interests include intelligent welding and additive manufacturing technologies. Over the past three decades, he has contributed to the development of welding engineering and manufacturing automation through research and education. He has also held leadership roles in the Chinese Welding Society (CWS), currently serving as vice president and previously serving for more than ten years as chair of the Commission on Arc Welding Processes and Production Systems. His work has been recognized with several awards, including the China Machinery Industry Science and Technology Award (2024), the Heilongjiang Science and Technology Award (2020), and the Beijing Higher Education Teaching Achievement Award (2022). He has also supervised a doctoral student who received the IIW Henry Granjon Award in 2018.



KEMING GUAN

Keming Guan received his BS degree in vehicle engineering from China Agricultural University in 2020 and his MS degree in mechanical manufacturing and automation from the China Academy of Machinery Science and Technology in 2023. He is currently pursuing his PhD degree in mechanical engineering at Tsinghua University, China, with a research focus on deep learning-based weld radiographic inspection.

His research interests include deep learning, industrial visual inspection, weld X-ray nondestructive testing, intelligent fault diagnosis, and large-model-based industrial AI systems. His recent work focuses on applying advanced deep learning models, including transformer architectures, unsupervised anomaly detection, and generative AI methods, to industrial inspection and equipment health monitoring. He is also interested in the integration of large language models and domain-specific visual models for intelligent diagnosis, defect interpretation, and automated decision support in industrial scenarios.



ZHANLI YANG

Zhanli Yang received his BS degree in material forming and control engineering from Lanzhou University of Technology in 2008 and his MS degree in materials processing engineering from the China Academy of Machinery Science and Technology in 2011. He joined the Harbin Welding Institute in 2011 as a technician, was promoted to engineer in 2014, to senior engineer in 2017, and to professorate senior engineer in 2021. He served as deputy general manager of the Intelligent Equipment Center from 2017 and has been general manager of the Pipe Equipment Center since 2026. He is currently pursuing a PhD degree in mechanical engineering at Tsinghua University since 2021.

Zhanli Yang's research focuses on high-efficiency welding technology and intelligent equipment for high-end pipe manufacturing, with over a decade of experience in their development and industrial promotion. He serves on the 11th Council Committee of the Chinese Welding Society (CWS) and the China Pipe Welding Academic Committee. His work has been recognized with several awards, including the Machinery Industry Science and Technology Award (2016, 2024, 2025) and the Heilongjiang Science and Technology Award (2022).



YIFENG ZHOU

Yifeng Zhou received his BS and PhD degrees in mechanical engineering from Tsinghua University in 2021 and 2026, respectively. His research interests include intelligent robotic welding manufacturing, machine vision, and deep learning methods for welding applications. He has also contributed to simulation, experimental studies, and system optimization for high-current welding equipment systems used in steel pipe manufacturing. His current research focuses on intelligent welding systems for critical structures in the aerospace and energy sectors, particularly welding process monitoring and control. His work involves the integration of artificial intelligence, computer vision, and welding automation technologies for advanced manufacturing applications.

HONORARY MEMBER AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society and is presented to a person of acknowledged eminence in the welding profession or who is credited with exceptional accomplishments in the industry.

Recipients of award:

Dilthey, U. (2011)
DeRocco, E. S. (2012)
McNelly, J. M. (2012)
Bileca, M. (2013)
Alonso, Jr., O. (2013)
Andringa, M. V. (2014)
Yevick, E. G. (2014)
Feng, Z (2015)
White, T. J. (2015)
Kou, S. (2016)
Purvis, R. F. (2016)
Cook, M. C. (2017)
Ruof, W. (2017)
DuPont, J. N. (2018)
Allford, D. (2020)
Barbie the Welder (2020)
Zhou, Y. N. (2021)
Ripple, R. (2022)
Zhang, H. (2023)
Nangle, D. J. (2024)
Lockhart, C. P. (2025)



JEFFREY P. DECKROW

With more than four decades of dedication to the welding and gas industry, Jeff has built a distinguished career marked by leadership, service, and industry impact. A member of the American Welding Society (AWS) for 44 years, Jeff concluded a successful professional career in 2020 as vice president of the Americas for Hypertherm, Inc.

Throughout his career, Jeff has been deeply engaged with the Gas and Welding Distributors Association (GAWDA). He served on the NWSA (now GAWDA) board of directors from 2003 to 2006 and chaired the Industry Partnering Committee. In addition, he contributed to several Spring Management Conferences and Annual Convention Planning Committees. In recognition of his outstanding service and dedication, he was honored with the GAWDA Award of Excellence in 2019.

Jeff's involvement with AWS intensified through his participation in WEMCO beginning in 1998. He served on the WEMCO Executive Committee from 2000 to 2019 and was appointed chair in 2010. His contributions were recognized with the WEMCO Excellence in Welding Award in the Exceptional category at FABTECH 2019, followed by the AWS National Meritorious Award in 2020.

Continuing his commitment to advancing the industry, Jeff has been an active member of the AWS Foundation Board of Trustees since 2017 and was appointed vice chair in 2025. He was inducted as an AWS Counselor in 2021 and was named chair of the AWS Counselor Committee in 2026.

His career reflects a sustained commitment to industry leadership, professional development, and the advancement of welding excellence.



TRAVIS GREEN

Travis Green is a Principal at Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) in Washington, DC. He received a BS in architectural engineering from the University of Kansas in 1998 and an MS in civil engineering from The Georgia Institute of Technology in 2000. Mr. Green is a professional engineer in multiple states, a structural engineer in Georgia, an AWS Certified Welding Inspector, and a certified bridge inspector.

Since joining WJE in 2000, Mr. Green's experience has included structural investigations, evaluations, load tests, repair design, and litigation services. His work primarily focuses on steel structures as well as post-tensioned, precast, and conventionally reinforced concrete structures. He has published multiple papers and given presentations about the assessment and repair of existing structures.

Travis is the chair of AWS D1Q (Structural Welding Code – Steel), a member of the AWS D1 Committee on Structural Welding, and a member and former chair of AWS D1F (Strengthening and Repair of Existing Structures). Outside of AWS, Travis is a member of several Precast/Prestressed Concrete (PCI) committees.

INTERNATIONAL MERITORIOUS AWARD

This award is given in recognition of the individual's significant contributions to the worldwide welding industry. This award reflects "service to the international welding community" in the broadest terms.

Recipients of award:

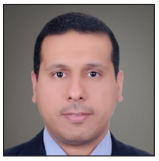
Bernasek, M. (2011)
Miglietti, W. (2012)
Middeldorf, K. (2012)
Scotchmer, N. (2013)
Diez, F. M. (2014)
Mukherjee, A. K. (2015)
Ymker, K. (2016)
Marshall, P. W. (2017)
Shaw, R. E. (2017)
Newell, Jr., W. F. (2018)
Tumuluru, M. (2018)
Hochanadel, P.W. (2019)
Ferraz, R. (2020)
Freeman, R. (2020)
Zhang, Y. (2020)
Miglietti, W. (2021)
Wu, CS. (2021)
Borrelli, J. (2022)
Johnston, M. (2022)
Wood, G. (2024)
Wang, B. (2024)
Hamre, D. (2025)
Salazar-Torres. S. (2025)



MIA ABDULLA

Mia Abdulla is a master of science student in materials engineering at the Canadian Centre for Welding and Joining (CCWJ) at the University of Alberta. She graduated in 2024 with a bachelor's degree in materials engineering. Her research focuses on the qualification of pressure components manufactured using wire-additive welding, to enable code-compliant additive manufacturing solutions for Alberta's energy sector. This work aims to support the adoption of AM for critical industrial applications where reliability, qualification, and standards compliance are essential.

Mia has been recognized with the AWS Jerry Hope Memorial Scholarship (District 19) and the AWS Alberta Section Scholarship, honoring her leadership and commitment to the welding engineering community. In addition to her research, Mia serves as president of the University of Alberta AWS Student Chapter, where she promotes welding education, student engagement, and stronger connections between industry and academia. She is also committed to mentoring younger engineers and encouraging more women to explore careers in welding, while helping students recognize the breadth of opportunities within the welding and materials engineering industries.



TARIQ A. ALGHAMDI

Dr. Tariq Alghamdi has worked at Saudi Aramco for 24 years and is currently their welding and metallurgical senior engineering consultant. He earned a PhD in metallurgical and materials engineering from Colorado School of Mines-USA in 2012 and a bachelor's degree (2002) and a master's degree (2008) in mechanical engineering from King Fahad University of Petroleum and Minerals and another master's degree in metallurgical & materials engineering from Colorado School of Mines, USA.

As a welding and materials subject matter expert at Saudi Aramco, Tariq provides effective specialized engineering consultations and innovative repair solutions maintaining quality standards. He is responsible for providing technical support to plant operations, new project activities, standardization, purchasing, manufacturers on issues related to metallurgical and welding, and maintaining company standards. He served as the chairman of the local section of the American Welding Society from 2017 until 2021. Since 2013 he has served as the chairman of the Materials Engineering Association in Saudi Arabia and adjunct professor at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Mineral. He was recognized by The Welding Institute (TWI) in the United Kingdom for outstanding achievements and engineering excellence award in 2019.

WILLIAM IRRGANG MEMORIAL AWARD

This award, sponsored by The Lincoln Electric Company, honors the late William Irrgang. The individual that receives this award has done the most to enhance the American Welding Society's goal of advancing the science and technology of welding over the last five years.

Recipients of award:

Babu, S. S. (2011)
Stockton, K. R. (2012)
Mendez, P. (2013)
Wei, P-S (2014)
Landon, D. J. (2015)
Lienert, T. J. (2016)
Zhang, Y. (2017)
Kou, S. (2018)
Tumuluru, M. (2019)
Newell, Jr., W. F. (2020)
Debroy, T. (2021)
Campbell, R. (2022)
Sperko, W. J. (2023)
Babu, S. S. (2024)
Ramirez, A. J. (2025)



LEIJUN LI

Dr. Leijun Li, P.Eng., is a professor of materials engineering and chair of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at University of Alberta. He teaches welding and physical metallurgy and research in solidification, microstructure formation, and resulting properties of alloys and structures. He has received numerous best paper awards, including the Editor's Choice for Metallurgical and Materials Transactions (2020), W.F. Savage Memorial Award twice (2018 and 2025), W.H. Hobart Memorial Award four times (2014, 2017, 2021, and 2024), and McKay-Helm Award twice (2018 and 2026). He is a Fellow of American Welding Society, American Society for Metals, and the Canadian Welding Bureau/Association.

2025 PAPER
CHARLES H. JENNINGS MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society in honor of Charles H. Jennings, who served as AWS President during the 1951–52 year. This award is presented for the most valuable paper written by a college student or faculty representative published in the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year.

Recipients of award:

Moulton, J. A. (2011)
Weckman, D. C. (2011)
Huang, Y. (2012)
Zhang, Y. (2012)
Zhang, W. (2013)
Zhang, Y. (2013)
Wagner, D. C. (2014)
Yang, Y. (2014)
Kou, S. (2014)
Huang, X (2015)
Le Gall, I. (2016)
Mendez, P. F. (2016)
Borle, S. (2016)
Lippold, J. C. (2017)
Wheeling, R. A. (2017)
Debroy, T. (2018)
Liu, T. (2018)
Qui, W. C. (2018)
Wei, H. (2018)
Yang, L. (2018)
Dai, T. (2019)
Lippold, J. (2019)
Aidun, D. (2020)
Goldak, J. (2020)
Martinez, M. (2020)
Nimrouzi, H. (2020)
Pliazhuk, M. (2020)
Reyes, C. (2020)
Kou, S. (2021)
Liu, K. (2021)
Yu, P. (2021)
Aidun, D. (2022)
Hejripour, F. (2022)
Huang, Y. (2023)
Meng, X. (2023)
Xie, Y. (2023)
Armaki, H. G. (2024)
Xia, Y. J. (2024)
Lv, T. L. (2024)
Li, Y. (2024)
Carlson, B. E. (2024)
Han, C. (2025)
Wang, C. (2025)
Zhong, M. (2025)
Zuo, P. (2025)

"THE EFFECTS OF RESIDUAL COPPER ON LASER-WELDED LOW-CARBON SHEET STEELS"



AMY J. CLARKE

Dr. Amy J. Clarke is a deputy division leader in the Sigma Manufacturing Science Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory and holds a faculty joint appointment with the Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines (Mines). She serves as director of a multi-university, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Center of Excellence on Advanced Characterization of Metals under Extreme Environments at Mines. Her research focuses on physical metallurgy; making, measuring, and modeling metallic alloys during processing to realize advanced manufacturing; and processing-structure-properties-performance relationships in metals and alloys.

Amy received her MS and PhD degrees from Mines and her BS degree at Michigan Technological University in metallurgical and materials engineering. She serves on The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS) Foundation Board of Trustees, as an editor for Metallurgical and Materials Transactions A, and has served on the TMS and Association for Iron & Steel Technology Boards of Directors. She is a past recipient of a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (nominated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and NNSA Defense Programs), U.S. DOE Office of Science Early Career Research Program award, Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Program, and Mines Excellence in Research Award (Senior). She is also a TMS Brimacombe Medalist and Fellow of ASM International.

2025 PAPER
CHARLES H. JENNINGS MEMORIAL AWARD *(cont)*



KESTER CLARKE

Dr. Kester Clarke is a physical and mechanical metallurgist with a background in industry, government, and academia focusing on manufacturing science, including developing processing pathways and studying processing effects on materials structures, properties, and performance. He is currently group leader of MST-8, Structure/Property Relations, in the Materials Science & Technology (MST) Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) with a Faculty Joint Appointment in the George S. Ansell Metallurgical and Materials Engineering (MME) Department at Colorado School of Mines (Mines). Dr. Clarke has previously served as the Sigma-1 Fabrication Manufacturing Science group leader in the Sigma Manufacturing Science Division at LANL and as the Forging Industry Educational and Research Foundation (FIERF) Professor in MME at Mines, where he won an NSF CAREER Award in 2018 and MME Outstanding Faculty Award in 2020. Dr. Clarke has also been a postdoc, scientist, and R&D engineer in MST-6 (now Sigma) at LANL, a senior engineer research/development at Caterpillar Inc., and a metallurgical engineer at Engel Metallurgical.

Dr. Clarke has served on the Board of Directors for The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society (TMS), the Association for Iron and Steel Technologies (AIST), and FIERF, has served as the vice president and president of FIERF from 2021-2023, and on the executive committees for the North American and International Deep Drawing Research Groups (NADDRG and IDDRG). He is a Fellow of ASM International and has received the TMS Brimacombe Medal in 2025, the TMS Distinguished Service Award in 2023, the Metallurgical and Materials Transactions A Key Reader Award each year since 2017, the Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance Outstanding Reviewer in 2022, and the 2nd annual Reactor Conversion Program Award in 2016. Dr. Clarke has a BA in psychology from Indiana University, a BS in materials science from Wayne State University, and both an MS and PhD in metallurgical and materials engineering from Mines.



HENRY GEERLINGS

Henry Geerlings is a materials engineer with the Naval Nuclear Laboratory located in Schenectady, New York. He received his bachelor's degree in materials science from UC Berkeley and his doctorate from The Colorado School of Mines. His expertise lies at the intersection of weldability and mechanical behavior of iron and nickel-based alloys. During graduate studies, he was a hot shop teaching assistant, helping with foundry events and lab instruction of the CSM Foundry Metallurgy course. Prior to graduate studies, he worked for CoorsTek as a data engineer, developing analysis tools for ceramics processing data.

Henry has coauthored multiple peer-reviewed articles on steel weldability as a function of copper content and has spoken at several conferences. During interpass time, Henry enjoys woodworking, tennis, and a spicy game of Hearts.



JONAH KLEMM-TOOLE

Dr. Jonah Klemm-Toole joined the Metallurgical and Materials Engineering (MME) department as an assistant professor in Fall 2020. Jonah became interested in metallurgy through learning how to weld. Jonah worked as a welder throughout high school and his undergraduate education in the Materials Science and Engineering Department at the University of Florida (UF). After graduating from UF in 2008, Jonah's welding experience helped him get a job working on repair of industrial gas turbine components. After working in industry for 5 years, Jonah decided to continue his education at Colorado School of Mines by pursuing a PhD focused on alloy design for improved fatigue performance of nitrided gear steels. Jonah stayed at Mines to work on advanced in-situ characterization of solidification relevant to additive manufacturing as a Post-Doctoral Fellow. Now, Jonah focuses on welding, additive manufacturing, and alloy design of metals for structural applications.



GRANT THOMAS

Grant Thomas is director of Product Research and Laboratories at Cleveland Cliffs Steel, where he leads a multidisciplinary organization responsible for new steel product development, advanced materials research, and centralized analytical laboratory operations. In this role, he oversees research programs spanning advanced high strength steels, stainless, and electrical steels, guiding innovations from laboratory-scale modeling and pilot processing through full commercial production. He helps to shape the company's innovation strategy, managing intellectual property development, and directing a research portfolio.

Dr. Thomas earned his PhD and MS in metallurgical and materials engineering from the Colorado School of Mines, following a BS in materials engineering from Iowa State University. His technical expertise centers on steel microstructure–property relationships, quenching and partitioning processes, and automotive sheet steel applications. He is an inventor on numerous international patents and participated in more than 50 conference papers and peer reviewed publications.

Dr. Thomas actively serves on industry boards, technical committees, and conference organizing committees.

2025 PAPER
JAMES F. LINCOLN GOLD MEDAL AWARD

This award is endowed by the late J. F. Lincoln, former Chairman of the Board of The Lincoln Electric Company. This award is presented for the paper with the greatest original contribution to the advancement and use of welding published in the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year.

Recipients of award:

Tumuluru, M. (2011)
Ramirez, J. E. (2014)
Badger, J. A. (2015)
Kou, S. (2016)
Sampath, K. (2022)
Denonno, O. (2023)
Klemm-Tool, J. (2023)
Schneiderman, B. (2023)
Yu, Z. (2023)
Lee, T. (2024)
Kam, D. H. (2024)
Kim, C. (2024)
Oh, J. H. (2024)
Chen, J. Z. (2025)
Gerlich, A. (2025)
Huda, N. (2025)
Yang, H. (2025)
Zhao, X. (2025)

"BOND CHARACTERISTIC-DEPENDENT VISCOSITY VARIATIONS IN CaF_2-SiO_2-Al_2O_3-MgO WELDING FLUXES"



ZUSHU LI

Dr. Zushu Li is a professor of Metallurgy at the Advanced Steel Research Centre, WMG (Warwick Manufacturing Group), at the University of Warwick, United Kingdom. Dr. Li has previously worked in Tata Steel R&D (UK) for over 9 years. Prior to working for Tata Steel, Dr. Li has worked in Chongqing University (China), Kyushu Institute of Technology (Japan), and Imperial College London (UK). He received his PhD degree in metallurgy from Chongqing University.

Dr. Zushu Li specializes in studying high-temperature reactions and phenomena in multi-component systems relevant to metal production processes. His current research focuses on alternative ironmaking technologies, scrap utilization, scrap-based electric arc furnace steelmaking, and value-added utilization of steelmaking slags. He has a strong research interest in metallurgical slags including ironmaking slag, steelmaking slag, casting powders, and welding fluxes. He has authored over 160 peer-reviewed journal papers and given over 100 conference presentations and invited talks.



HONGYU LIU

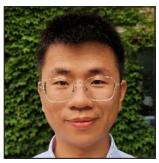
Hongyu Liu is a PhD candidate in the School of Metallurgy at Northeastern University, Shenyang, China. He earned his bachelor's degree in 2019 from the School of Materials and Metallurgy at the University of Science and Technology Liaoning, where his outstanding academic performance led to his recommendation for the master's program. Following the completion of his master's degree in 2022, he began his doctoral studies at Northeastern University. His research primarily focuses on: (1) the application of oxide metallurgy in high-heat-input submerged arc welding; (2) the structural evolution and physicochemical property control of high-temperature melts; and (3) innovative AI-based strategies for predicting flux properties. As the first author, he has published five SCI papers in leading international journals in welding and metallurgy, such as Welding Journal and Metallurgical and Materials Transactions B. Additionally, he holds two authorized invention patents.



CONG WANG

Cong Wang is a professor of the School of Metallurgy, Northeastern University. He obtained his PhD from Carnegie Mellon University, and worked in Alcoa, Saint-Gobain and Northwestern University before moving back to his alma mater to launch his own research group. He is a world-renowned expert specializing in welding metallurgy as well as steelmaking fundamentals. He has published more than 150 papers appearing on flagship journals such as Welding Journal, Metallurgical and Materials Transactions as well as Acta Metallurgica Sinica. His work has been credited as "ESI Highly Cited Papers" (3 times), and "Most Cited Papers from 2000-2019" by Metallurgical and Materials Transactions.

He is a recipient of prestigious recognitions from a variety of global societies. Among them are: 1) AWS James F. Lincoln Gold Medal Award (2026), Charles H. Jennings Memorial Award (2025); 2) TMS Brimacombe Medalist Award (2026), EPD Science Award (2023), Early Career Faculty Fellow Award (2018); 3) ASM Fellow Award (2023), Silver Medal Award (2019); 4) Royal Society Newton Advanced Fellowship (2018); 5) CSM Young Metallurgist Medal (2018). He initiated the International Metallurgical Processes Workshop for Young Scholars (IMPROWYS) and has delivered more than 50 keynoted/invited presentations on international arena.



HANG YUAN

Hang Yuan received his PhD from Northeastern University (NEU), China, in 2025. His current research mainly focuses on the research and development of welding fluxes, as well as the relationship between flux structure and physicochemical properties. Over the past four years, he has published several academic papers and obtained patents in this field. He is currently an assistant researcher at Liaoning Academy of materials (LAM), where his research is focused on steel recycling technologies.



YANYUN ZHANG

Dr. Yanyun Zhang is an associate professor who earned his PhD in ferrous metallurgy from Northeastern University (China) in July 2023. His research focuses on developing high-performance welding fluxes and characterizing their physicochemical properties to address the high-heat-input welding demands of marine and offshore engineering. Utilizing multiscale approaches-including high-temperature property testing, spectroscopic characterization, and molecular dynamics simulations-he systematically investigates the structural evolution of typical molten fluxes. His work elucidates the underlying mechanisms by which slag microstructures dictate critical macroscopic properties like viscosity and conductivity. Furthermore, he explores elemental migration and alloy transfer during welding, revealing how flux structures govern inclusion formation and weld metallurgical behaviors. As principal investigator, he has led seven major research grants, including those funded by the NSFC. He has published 26 SCI-indexed papers in Metallurgical and Materials Transactions B and Welding Journal and holds 8 invention patents. His scientific excellence is recognized by the TMS Extraction & Processing Division Science Award, a Henry Marion Howe Medal nomination, and three invited conference presentations.

2025 PAPER MCKAY-HELM AWARD

This award is sponsored by Hobart Brothers Company, to honor two pioneers of the welding industry. James C. McKay was the president of the McKay-Helm Company for more than 30 years, and Dr. David Helm occupied the McKay chair in welding metallurgy at the Mellon Institute in Pittsburgh from 1934 to 1973. It is presented for the best contribution to the advancement of knowledge of low-alloy steel, stainless steel or surfacing welding metals, involving the use, development or testing of these materials, as represented by articles published in the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year.

Recipients of award:

Sowards, J. W. (2011)
Ramirez, A. J. (2011)
Dickinson, D. W. (2011)
Lippold, J. C. (2011)
Taban, E (2013)
Bhooge, A. (2013)
Kaluc, E. (2013)
Deleu, E. (2013)
DuPont, J. N. (2014)
Stockdale, A. (2014)
Caizza, A. (2014)
Esposito, A. (2014)
Aidun, D. K. (2015)
Bahrami, A. (2015)
Valentine, D. T. (2015)
Carlton, H. D. (2016)
Elmer, J. W. (2016)
Pong, R. (2016)
Vaja, J. (2016)
Blecher, J. J. (2017)
DebRoy, T. (2017)
Palmer, T. A. (2017)
Li, L. (2018)
Xu, P. (2018)
Zhou, D. (2018)
Cao, Y. (2019)
Luo, C. (2019)
Shan, J. (2019)
Zhau, L. (2019)
Switzner, N. T. (2020)
Yu, Z. (2020)
Johnson, A. (2021)
Carpenter, J. S. (2021)
Coughlin, D. R. (2021)
Dvornak, M. J. (2021)
Elmer, J. W. (2021)
Gibbs, G. (2021)
Gurung, P. (2021)
Hochanadel, P. W. (2021)
Vaja, J. (2021)
Kou, S. (2022)
Morrow, J. D. (2022)
Dai, T. (2023)
David, S. (2023)
Feng, Z. (2023)
Rogers, M. (2023)
Tzelepis, D. (2023)
Kyle, D. (2023)
Sebeck, K. (2023)
Vieau, P. (2023)
Yu, Z. (2024)
Pickle, T. (2024)
Vidal, J. (2024)
Hong, Y. (2024)
Augustine, C. (2024)
Lu, Y. (2025)
Mendez, P. F. (2025)
Ramasamy, N. K. (2025)
Wood, G. (2025)

"THE EFFECT OF CWTSAW ON THE TOUGHNES OF HEAVY-GAUGE X70 — PART II: CORRELATING MICROSTRUCTURE WITH CHARPY TOUGHNESS"



LAURIE COLLINS

Dr. Laurie Collins completed his BSc (1975) and MSc (1977) degrees in metallurgical engineering at Queen's University in Kingston and a PhD in metallurgy at MIT (1981). After graduating, he was employed as a research scientist by CANMET in Ottawa, from 1981 to 1994 where his work focused on phase transformations and processing of steel and the effects of rapid solidification on microstructure and properties of various materials. In 1994, he joined EVRAZ (formerly IPSCO) where he held various positions including superintendent, Rolling and Finishing manager, Regina Pipe Mills, Director of Research and consultant until his retirement in 2020. Throughout this period, his work concentrated on all aspects of alloy design, processing and welding of line pipe and Oil Country Tubular Goods (OCTG) for the oil and gas industry.



MICHAEL GAUDET

Dr. Michael Gaudet is the manager of Metallurgy in Research and Development for InterPro Pipe and Steel and is based at their research center in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. He is active in the design of alloys and processing—from steelmaking to final application—for products including line pipe steels, OCTG steels, and plate steels. Michael applies his expertise in metallurgy through modelling, laboratory, and industrial-scale trials to develop high-performance steels.

Michael earned his PhD in materials engineering from the University of British Columbia in 2015. His dissertation focused on the mechanical and fracture behavior of HAZ simulated microstructures in an API X80 steel—a foundation that continues to inform his technical leadership.

As an active contributor to broader metallurgical research, Michael has received several recent accolades including the 2025 Richard J. Fruehan Award (AIST) for work on steelmaking inclusions, the 2024 Continuous Casting Award (AIST) for research on slab surface cracking, and the 2023 Vanadium Award (IOM3) for his contributions to the evolution and characterization of vanadium-bearing steel. He is pleased to be the recipient of the AWS's 2026 McKay-Helm Award for his co-authored research joining microstructure to weld performance. Michael remains deeply committed to bridging the gap between research and product, bringing actionable solutions to the steel industry.



HANI HENEIN

After obtaining a PhD at UBC in 1981, and starting a career at CMU, Hani joined the University of Alberta in 1989. His research areas in ICME include rapid solidification, additive manufacturing, pipeline steels, metal-matrix composites, and thermophysical property determination. He partners with industry in research and has extensive international collaborations. He has made numerous seminal contributions to over 480 publications, one patent and several disclosures of inventions.

He has received numerous distinctions including five best paper awards, the prestigious Killam Research Fellowship (2002), the Metals Chemistry Award (2011), CIM Distinguished Lecturer (2016), the MetSoc Award for Research Excellence (2019), ASM Canada Council M. Brian Ives Lecturer (ASM, 2019), the MetSoc Airey Award (2023), the TMS Research to Industry Practice Award (2025), and the AIME Honorary Membership Award (2026). He has been inducted Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineers (2003), CIM (2006), ASM International (US, 2014), TMS (US, 2021) and IOM3 (UK, 2021). In service, Hani served as the 1998 MetSoc of CIM president, editor-in-chief of CMQ, the 2014 TMS president and 2019 AIME president.

2025 PAPER MCKAY-HELM AWARD *(cont)*



DOUGLAS G. IVEY

Douglas Ivey is a professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at the University of Alberta (Canada). He received his PhD in engineering materials from the University of Windsor (Canada) in 1985. His research focuses on applying high resolution microstructural characterization techniques to understanding the relationships between materials structure, properties and processing. Recent work has focused on developing electrodes and electrolytes for a range of electrochemical energy storage applications, including solid oxide fuel cells, supercapacitors and rechargeable batteries. He is also involved in the development of improved microalloyed steels for pipeline and structural applications. He is a Fellow of Engineers Canada (FEC) and a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering (FCAE).



GREG LEHNHOFF

Greg joined EVRAZ North America (now Orion Steel) in 2013 following completion of his BS and PhD in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines. Throughout this time, he has worked on rail, rod, bar, and line pipe product development as a Research Metallurgist, Manager of Welding and Mechanical Testing R&D, and Sr. Manager of Welding and Emerging Energy R&D. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Colorado and is currently focused on developing line pipe products and welding approaches for sour service, carbon dioxide, hydrogen, and low temperature pipeline applications.



LEIJUN LI

Dr. Leijun Li, P.Eng., is a professor of materials engineering and chair of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at University of Alberta. He teaches welding and physical metallurgy and research in solidification, microstructure formation, and resulting properties of alloys and structures. He has received numerous best paper awards, including the Editor's Choice for Metallurgical and Materials Transactions (2020), W.F. Savage Memorial Award twice (2018 and 2025), W.H. Hobart Memorial Award four times (2014, 2017, 2021, and 2024), and McKay-Helm Award twice (2018 and 2026). He is a Fellow of American Welding Society, American Society for Metals, and the Canadian Welding Bureau/Association.



TAILIN REN

Dr. Tailin Ren, E.I.T., is a materials engineer at Trans Mountain Corporation, specializing in welding metallurgy and structural integrity for the pipeline system. He earned his PhD in materials engineering from the University of Alberta under the supervision of professors Hani Henein and Leijun Li. His doctoral research focused on multi-pass girth welding of API X70 pipeline steels, integrating controlled welding experiments with thermal–metallurgical modeling and advanced microstructural characterization to quantify heat input effects on HAZ evolution and fracture toughness. Dr. Ren received the University of Alberta Entrance Scholarship and the Dean's Research Award for Outstanding Research Performance in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering. His work bridges applied welding engineering and materials performance assessment to support the safe and reliable operation of pipeline systems.



J. BARRY WISKEL

J. Barry Wiskel, PhD, P. Eng., is a teaching professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at the University of Alberta and teaches courses on processing of micro-alloyed steels, processing of materials, and physical metallurgy. Barry's research interests are primarily in the processing (TMCP and welding), microstructure and mechanical properties of micro-alloyed steels. Barry's interests outside of work include: woodworking, gardening, running, rock climbing, and refereeing hockey. Barry was co-recipient of the Charles Hatchett award in 2013.

PROFESSOR KOICHI MASUBUCHI AWARD

This award is sponsored by the Center for Ocean Engineering at the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It was established to recognize Professor Koichi Masubuchi, who has made significant contributions to advancing the science and technology of welding, especially welding fabrication of marine and space structures. This award is presented to an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of science and technology of materials joining through research and development.

Recipients of award:

Yamamoto, M. (2011)
Park, S.H.C. (2012)
Mayr, P. (2013)
Noecker II, F. F. (2014)
Morisada, Y. (2015)
Gerlich, A. (2016)
Mikami, Y. (2017)
Ogura, T. (2018)
Pouranvari, M. (2019)
Siefert, J. A. (2020)
Yu, Z. (2021)
Fink, C. (2022)
Rodelas, J (2023)
Wang, Y. (2024)
Huang, H. (2025)



JOÃO PEDRO OLIVEIRA

João Pedro Oliveira is currently full professor at the Materials Science Department of FCT/NOVA, Portugal. Prior to his current appointment at FCT/NOVA he was a postdoctoral researcher at the Welding Engineering program of The Ohio State University, United States. He finished his PhD in laser welding of shape memory alloys at FCT/NOVA in 2016, while being a visiting researcher at the Center of Advanced Materials Joining of the University of Waterloo, Canada. His research interests focus on welding and fusion-based additive manufacturing of advanced engineering materials, with special scientific interest on less conventional engineering alloys such as shape memory and high entropy alloys. His research group is also heavily invested in the use of high energy synchrotron X-ray diffraction for fine probing of the material microstructure ex-situ or in-situ. He supervises/supervised 16 PhD students and 4 postdoctoral researchers in the areas of welding and additive manufacturing. He has secured over 2.5 million euro in competitive funding for both applied and fundamental projects.

SAMUEL WYLIE MILLER MEMORIAL MEDAL AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society to honor Samuel Wylie Miller, President during the 1921–22 years. It is awarded for meritorious achievements that have contributed conspicuously to the advancement of the art and science of welding and cutting.

Recipients of award:

Siewert, T. (2011)
Szumachowski, E. R. (2012)
Temple, P. I. (2013)
Devletian, J. H. (2014)
Crockett, D. D. (2015)
Martukanitz, R. P. (2016)
Yevick, E. G. (2017)
Landon, T. (2018)
Sparschu, T. M. (2019)
Miller, D. K. (2020)
Melfi, T. (2021)
Campbell, R. D. (2022)
Sekely, J. (2023)
Knight, G. (2024)
Carlson, B. E. (2025)



ROBERT E. SHAW, JR.

Bob Shaw is president of the Steel Structures Technology Center, Inc., a consulting engineering firm in Howell, Michigan, founded in 1990. The SSTC focuses on providing consulting services and technical education related to the design, fabrication, erection, and inspection of steel structures. A civil engineering graduate of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Bob began his career in the steel construction industry in 1973 and is a Gold Member of the AWS.

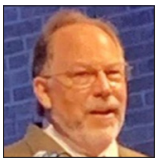
Bob serves on numerous standards committees, including AWS D1 for over 30 years, and is the immediate past chair of D1L responsible for AWS D1.8 Seismic Supplement. He also serves on several American Institute of Steel Construction committees, the Research Council on Structural Connections – now serving as chair, ASTM F16 on Fasteners, and ISO/TC 167 on Steel and Aluminum Structures. He served as vice president of the International Institute of Welding, and has chaired both IIW Commission XV on Design, Analysis and Fabrication of Welded Structures, and Commission XVIII on Quality Management, and is the current chair of the American Council of IIW.

NATIONAL MERITORIOUS AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society and is given in recognition of good counsel, loyalty and devotion to the affairs of the Society; assistance in promoting cordial relations with industry and other organizations; and for the contribution of time and effort on behalf of the Society.

Recipients of award:

Albrecht, B. (2011)
Stropki, J. M. (2011)
DeCorte, D. B. (2012)
McCall, J. (2012)
Crisci, J. R. (2013)
Houston, S. V. (2013)
Raymond, S. L. (2014)
Lienert, T. J. (2105)
Phillips, D. C. (2015)
Stricker, J. (2016)
Tumuluru, T. (2016)
Knight, G. A. (2017)
Perdomo, J. J. (2017)
Miglietti, W. (2018)
Deckrow, J. (2020)
Witkowski, S. (2020)
Boling, B. E. (2021)
DeCorte, D. (2021)
Aranmor, S. L. (2022)
Komlos, W. (2022)
Gilgenbach, K (2023)
Young, A (2023)
Chen, C. (2024)
Brown, C. (2024)
Gase, M. (2025)
Kerr, M. (2025)



LAWRENCE BOWER

Lawrence has been in the welding world continuously since 1983 in various roles, including journeyman welder, educator, inspector and engineer. As a welder, Lawrence was involved with welding structural steel buildings, with aerospace on military strike fighter aircraft, space shuttle, titan launch vehicles and the scramjet project as well as the entire United Airlines aircraft fleet. As an educator he led United Airlines as their first welding instructor and developed their recurrent welder training program. Lawrence also led the Blackhawk Technical College welding program for ten years and was involved in the AWS EG2.0 and QC10 Specification and Curriculum guide for Entry Level Welders. He also coauthored a textbook series with Larry Jeffus: Welding Skills, Processes and Practices for Entry-Level Welders. Lawrence has served as the chief welding engineer for Fortify Building Brands since 2013.

Lawrence has been engaged with various AWS committees and task groups, beginning in 1997 which includes AWS D17 Aerospace fusion welding committee (past advisor), AWS EG2.0 Curriculum Guide for entry level welders (2008 revision), AWS QC10 Specification for entry level welders (2008 revision), AWS D1.3 subcommittee on sheet steel (current chair), AWS D1.1 task group on prequalification (current vice chair), AWS D1.1 task group on fabrication (current member), AWS D1.Q oversite committee (current member), AWS D1 Main committee (current member).



HEATHER GILMER

Heather Gilmer has over 25 years of experience in steel fabrication quality management and the development of national codes and specifications. She holds a BS in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and an MS in civil engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. She began her professional career with the Texas Department of Transportation. After 11 years with the DOT, she held quality management roles with two major steel bridge fabricators and then brought her multifaceted perspective to fabrication inspection and consulting services, currently as a Senior Engineer with Pennoni.

She is a member of numerous industry technical committees, including AWS Committee D1 on Structural Welding; AREMA Committee 15 on Steel Structures; ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys; the AASHTO/NSBA Steel Bridge Collaboration; the Research Council on Structural Connections, and various standards committees within the Association for Materials Protection and Performance (AMPP). She is also a coauthor of the FHWA Bridge Welding Reference Manual. She is a recipient of a 2024 AISC Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2023 Richard S. Fountain Award (awarded by AISI, NSBA, and AASHTO), and a 2019 AISC Special Achievement Award.

2025 PAPER
ROBERT L. PEASLEE MEMORIAL BRAZING AND SOLDERING AWARD

This award is sponsored by the Wall Colmonoy Corporation and honors Robert L. Peaslee for his many years of dedicated service to the industry. This award recognizes the paper considered to be the best contribution to the science or technology of brazing or soldering published in the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year.

Recipients of award:

Wang, H. (2011)
Xue, S. (2011)
Chen, W. (2011)
Liu, X. (2011)
Pan, J. (2011)
Nasiri, A. (2012)
Li, L. (2012)
Kim, S. (2012)
Zhou, Y. N. (2012)
Weckman, D. C. (2012)
Nguyen, T. C. (2012)
Liu, W. (2013)
Bachorik, P. (2013)
Lee, N-C (2013)
Nasiri, A. (2014)
Weckman, D. C. (2014)
Zhou, Y. N. (2014)
Ekrami, A. (2015)
Kokabi, A. H. (2015)
Pouranvari, M. (2015)
Nasiri, A. M. (2016)
Weckman, D. C. (2016)
Zhou, Y. N. (2016)
Smet, D. D. (2017)
Grant, R. P. (2017)
Kilgo, A. (2017)
Kotula, P. M. (2017)
McKenzie, B. M. (2017)
Vianco, P. T. (2017)
Walker, C. A. (2017)
Busbaher, D. (2018)
Preuss, T. (2018)
Fu, H. (2018)
Leone, E. (2018)
De Smet, D. (2019)
Grant, R. (2019)
Kilgo, A. (2019)
McKenzie, B. (2019)
Vianco, P. T. (2019)
Walker, C. A. (2019)
Guerrero, E. (2020)
Kilgo, A. (2020)
McKenzie, B. (2020)
Price, W. J. (2020)
Vianco, P. T. (2020)
Williams, S. (2020)
Bo, J. (2021)
Li, Z. (2021)
Ma, L. (2021)
Xu, Z. (2021)
Yan, J. (2021)
De Smet, D. (2022, 2023)
Grant, R. (2022, 2023)
Kilgo, A. (2022, 2023)
McKenzie, B. (22, 23)
Vianco, P. T. (22, 23)
Walker, C. A. (22, 23)
Yan, J. C. (2024)
Chen, S. (2024)
Xu, Z. (2024)
Ma, Z. (2024)
Li, Z. (20024)
Ma, L. (2024)
Zhang, B. (2025)

"RESEARCH ON THE STRENGTHENING MECHANISM OF MWCNTS-CU_f COMPOSITE INTERLAYER FOR SI_3N_4/TC4 BRAZED JOINTS"

LIANGLIANG CAO

No information provided.

JINGMIN GAO

No information provided.

BINBIN LI

No information provided.

RUIBIN LI

No information provided.

QIANLI LIU

No information provided.

PLUMMER MEMORIAL EDUCATION LECTURE AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society to recognize Fred L. Plummer's service to the Society as President from 1952 to 1954 and Executive Director from 1957 to 1969. This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the national education lectures presented at the AWS Annual Welding Show and Convention.

Recipients of award:

Lawrence, T. W. (2011)
Adonyi, Y. (2012)
Polanin, W. R. (2013)
Vetter, L. (2014)
Stone, R. T. (2015)
Burdge, S. L. (2016)
Cotner, D. R. (2017)
Baber, T. (2018)
Turner, D. (2019)
No presentation (2020)
Colton, J. N. (2021)
Carney, J. N. (2022)
Mosman, J. (2023)
Emery, R. (2024)
Camacho, B. (2025)



DAVID G. VIAR

David G. Viar is an accomplished welding educator, Certified Welding Inspector, and department leader with more than two decades of experience in welding instruction, program development, and technical inspection. He serves as the department chair of Mechanical Technologies at Moraine Valley Community College, where he oversees the HVAC, automotive technology, and welding programs while managing faculty hiring, budgeting, scheduling, and grant coordination. Since joining Moraine Valley as an instructor in 2002, Viar has taught a wide range of welding processes, metallurgy, inspection methods, and safety practices, while developing curriculum and supporting student job placement.

Viar's expertise extends beyond the college. He is an ATF Consultant and CWI for U46 School District, helping Elgin High School earn and maintain accredited testing facility status. He has also represented the American Welding Society as a seminar instructor in Poland and the United States, teaching CWI preparation, aerospace code requirements, and inspection principles.

A highly decorated professional, Viar has earned numerous honors, including Moraine Valley's 2022 Professor of the Year, the ICCTA Outstanding Full Time Faculty Award, and multiple AWS District awards for both CWI excellence and education.

Viar holds a BA from Governors State University, multiple welding certifications including CWI, CWE and CW, and leadership roles within AWS, including chairman of the Chicago Section and District 13 Director.

PRIVATE SECTOR INSTRUCTOR MEMBERSHIP AWARD

This award was established by the AWS Board of Directors as a means of honoring educators in the welding community who teach in private facilities. These individuals, in the opinion of the AWS Education Committee, have advanced the knowledge of welding to their students through apprenticeship programs, internal corporate training programs, and similar nonpublic educational activities.

Recipients of award:

Trevithick, M. (2012)
Cox, E. J. (2015)
Rolla, G. T. (2016)
Adolphi, S. (2017)
Sperko, W. (2017)
Cowman, R. D. (2018)
Grantham, J. A. (2022)
Szabla, D. (2023)
Jones, J. W. (2024)
Becker, J. (2025)



PADRAIC BEAN

Padraic Bean is a seasoned welding professional with over 22 years of hands-on industry experience. After attending welding school immediately following high school, he built a diverse career fabricating hot rods, race cars, and commuter rail cars. Expanding his skill set, he also earned a commercial diver certification before transitioning into quality assurance, where he obtained and has maintained his AWS Certified Welding Inspector credential for seven years.

At Lincoln Electric, Padraic progressed from customer trainer to weld process consultant and now serves as welding curriculum manager. In his current role, he leads the development of training programs, combining real-world expertise with instructional leadership to shape the next generation of skilled welders.

2025 PAPER
WARREN F. SAVAGE MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is endowed by former associates of Professor Warren F. Savage to honor his dedication and accomplishments in the field of welding metallurgy. This award recognizes the paper published in the Research Supplement of the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year that best represents innovative research resulting in a better understanding of the metallurgical principles related to welding.

Recipients of award:

Caron, J. L. (2011)
Heinze, C. (2011)
Schwenk, C. (2011)
Rethmeier, M. (2011)
Babu, S. S. (2011)
Lippold, J. C. (2011)
Kou, S. (2012)
Limmaneevichitr, C. (2012)
Wei, P-S (2012)
Yue, X. (2013)
Lippold, J. C. (2013)
Alexandrov, B. T.(2013)
Babu, S. S. (2013)
Caron, J. L. (2014)
Babu, S. S. (2014)
Lippold, J. C. (2014)
Bundy, J. (2015)
Gerlich, A. (2015)
Najafabadi, H. I. (2015)
Mendez, P. F. (2015)
Lippold, J. C. (2016)
Hodgson, D. K. (2016)
Dai, T. (2016)
Javernick, D. A. (2017)
Lienert, T. J. (2017)
Liu, S. (2017)
Tate, S. B. (2017)
Kannan, R. (2018)
Li, L. (2018)
Wang, Y. (2018)
Zhang, L. (2018)
DuPont, J. (2019)
Hamlin, R. (2019)
DuPont, J. N. (2020)
Kant, R. (2020)
Alexandrov, B. T. (2021)
Penso, J. A. (2021)
Wang, H. (2021)
Fink, C. (2021)
Derrien, R. (2022)
Liu, S. (2022)
Moine, E. (2022)
Briand, F. (2022)
Sullivan, E. M. (2022)
Dai, T. (2023)
Feng, Z. (2023)
Wang, Y. (2023)
Kiser, S (2023)
Baker, B. (2023)
Sridharan, N. (2024)
Ramakrishnan, (2024)
Robertson, J. (2024)
Jordan, B. (2024)
Lee, Y. (2024)
Lyu, Z. (2025)
Wang, Y. (2025)
Wu, Z. (2025)

2025 PAPER
WARREN F. SAVAGE MEMORIAL AWARD *(cont)*

"LIQUID METAL EMBRITTLEMENT ELIMINATION IN RSW OF GALVANNEALED AHSS DP980"



ABDELRAHMAN ABDELMOTAGALY

Abdelrahman Abdelmotagaly is a materials engineer with Siemens Energy and a PhD graduate in metallurgical and materials engineering from the Colorado School of Mines, where he also earned his master's degree as a Fulbright alumnus. His research centers on advancing the understanding of thermomechanical behavior, corrosion resistance, and fatigue performance of heat-resistant alloys and their weldments, with a particular focus on next-generation energy systems. During his doctoral work, he conducted influential studies on additive manufacturing, explosion cladding, and fusion welding of Ni-based superalloys, contributing to DOE-sponsored research activities and multiple industrial collaborations.

Abdelrahman's professional experience spans Siemens Energy, General Motors, and leading research institutions in both Egypt and the United States. He is a named co-inventor on multiple U.S. patents developed through collaborative efforts between Honda Motor Co., Ltd. and Colorado School of Mines, advancing the use of high-entropy alloys to improve resistance spot welding of advanced high-strength steels. His award-winning research reflects a deep commitment to applying innovative experimental and computational methods to resolve long-standing welding challenges. Abdelrahman continues to employ his expertise in failure analysis and the R&D of high-performance materials to support critical energy and manufacturing technologies, particularly within the rapidly expanding field of large gas turbines.



ANDREW CHIHPIN CHUANG

Dr. Andrew (Chihpin) Chuang is a physicist at Argonne National Laboratory's Advanced Photon Source, where he plays a leading role in the development and commissioning of state-of-the-art high-energy X-ray instrumentation for materials research. His research focuses on using synchrotron X-ray imaging and scattering techniques to investigate the structure-property relationships of engineering alloys. His work is central to advancing the laboratory's high-speed diffraction and high-throughput characterization programs, enabling novel in situ studies of dynamic processes such as welding and additive manufacturing. He also frequently collaborates with industry partners to develop solutions for real-world applications and challenges. He holds a PhD in materials science and engineering from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



JIANXUN HU

Dr. Jianxun Hu is a principal materials engineer at the Automotive Development Center of Honda Development & Manufacturing America. He specializes in materials science and physical metallurgy, with more than 20 years of experience in metallic materials, alloy development, joining technologies, and forming processes for automotive applications. At Honda, he leads development in lightweight materials, dissimilar material joining, sustainable processing, and end of life battery reuse and recycling.

Dr. Hu earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in applied and physical chemistry from Fudan University, and a PhD in materials science and engineering, along with an MBA, from Marquette University. He previously served as a research assistant professor at Marquette University, focusing on sensing technologies for automotive systems, and later as an assistant professor of Mechanical Engineering at the Milwaukee School of Engineering. Before joining Honda in 2016, Dr. Hu held technology development roles at Johnson Controls. He has authored more than 20 publications, holds over 10 patents, and serves as a reviewer for several scientific journals.



BENJAMIN SCHNEIDERMAN

Dr. Benjamin Schneiderman earned his PhD from Colorado School of Mines in 2022. He has since held concurrent positions as a researcher at Mines and as chief science officer of HYSA Fillers LLC, a company which he co-founded in 2021 that is dedicated to the commercialization of new filler materials for challenging joining applications. His current position at Colorado School of Mines is Research assistant professor. His areas of expertise include computational materials design and modeling, and characterizations based in high energy diffraction at both synchrotron and neutron sources. His papers have received awards from both the American Welding Society and DVS (German Welding Society). He is also an active member of the American Welding Society's standards committee on brazing and soldering.



ZHENZHEN YU

Zhenzhen Yu is a professor in the department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering at Colorado School of Mines (CSM) and co-founder of HYSA Fillers LLC that tackles challenges in metallurgical joining and repair.

Dr. Yu also currently serves as site director of NSF I/UCRC Manufacturing & Materials Joining Innovation Center (Ma2JIC) and Director of the Center for Welding, Joining and Coating Research (CWJCR) at CSM. She received MS and PhD degrees from the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Her research interests include weld metallurgy, development of similar/dissimilar joining technologies, consumables design, and simulation and characterization of transient material states during welding. She received the American Welding Society District Educator Award, National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development CAREER Award, Prof. Koichi Masubuchi Award, and best paper awards such as James. F. Lincoln Gold Medal, McKay-Helm and the A.F. Davis Silver Medal Awards.

2025 PAPER
WILLIAM SPRARAGEN MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is sponsored by the American Welding Society and honors William Spraragen, a founding member of the Society and the first Editor of the *Welding Journal*, serving from 1922 to 1954. It is presented for the best paper published in the Research Supplement section of the *Welding Journal* during the previous calendar year.

Recipients of award:

Tordonato, D. (2011)
Madeni, J. C. (2011)
Liu, S. K. (2011)
Babu, S. S. (2011)
Mendez, P. F. (2011)
Sowards, J. W. (2012)
Liang, D. (2012)
Alexandrow, B. T. (2012)
Frankel, G. S. (2012)
Lippold, J. C. (2012)
Atabaki, M. M. (2013)
Chun, E. J. (2014)
Hayato, B. (2014)
Terashima, K. (2014)
Saida, K. (2014)
Nishimoto, K. (2014)
Fusner, E. W. (2015)
Hope, A. T. (2015)
Lippold, J. C. (2015)
Amata, M. A. (2016)
Babu, S. S. (2016)
Bundy, J. C. (2016)
Chai, X. (2016)
Chen, S. (2016)
Kou, S. (2016)
Zhang, C. (2016)
Zhang, F. (2016)
Carlton, H. D. (2017)
Elmer, J. W. (2017)
Vaja, J. (2017)
Dai, T. (2018)
Lippold, J. C. (2018)
Kou, S. (2019)
McCarthy, J. (2019)
Thompson, K. (2019)
Yu, P. (2019)
Tanaka, M. (2020)
Tashiro, S. (2020)
Nguyen, A.V. (2020)
Wu, D. (2020)
Ji, C. (2021)
Murugan, S.P. (2021)
Park, Y-D. (2021)
Vijayan, V. (2021)
Hintze Cesaro, A. (2022)
Mendez, P. F. (2022)
Lai, X. (2023)
Wang, X. (2023)
Wei, Z. (2023)
Yong, L. (2023)
Zhang, D. (2023)
Cross, C. E. (2024)
Fink, C. (2024)
Barraza, A. M. (2024)
Stull, C. J. (2024)
Martinez, J. N. (2024)
Acuna, A. (2025)
Dalpiaz, G. (2025)
Paes, M. T. P. (2025)
Ramirez, A. J. (2025)
Riffel, K. C. (2025)
Silva, R. H. C. (2025)

"QUANTIFYING THE SUSCEPTIBILITY OF 316H AND 347H TO REHEAT-TYPE CRACKING"



GEORGE A. YOUNG

Dr. George A. Young is senior technical Fellow at X-energy, where he leads their efforts to qualify structural alloys for the Xe-100 reactor system. Previously, George has worked as a Fellow scientist at Kairos Power, a Consulting Scientist in the U.S. Naval Nuclear Program, a Faculty Research Associate at Oregon State University, and as an adjunct professor at Clarkson University. Dr. Young has a BS in materials engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he learned welding metallurgy from professor Bob Messler, and MS & PhD degrees in materials science from the University of Virginia with professor John Scully as his academic advisor. He has over 30 years of experience in the nuclear power industry and has authored over 50 peer-reviewed articles with a focus on environmentally assisted cracking of weldments and welding metallurgy.

ANDREW BRITTAN

No information provided.

ANDREW DONG

No information provided.

KYNA CHEN

No information provided.

NICK NGUYEN

No information provided.

R. D. THOMAS MEMORIAL AWARD

This award was originally sponsored by the Arcos Co. and its president, R. D. Thomas, Jr. It honors the late R. D. Thomas, an AWS charter member and the AWS Representative to the first organization meeting of the International Institute of Welding (IIW). This award is presented to a member of the American Council of IIW or to an AWS member who has made a substantial contribution to the activities of the IIW.

Recipients of award:

Milewski, J. (2011)
Elmer, J. W. (2012)
Melfi, T. (2013)
Lippold, J. C. (2014)
Gould, J. E. (2015)
Miller, D. R. (2016)
Conrardy, C. (2017)
Hochanadel, P. W. (2018)
Tumuluru, M. (2019)
Kautz, D. (2020)
Grewell, D. (2021)
Liu, S. (2022)
Feng, Z. (2023)
Peters, C. (2024)
Black, A. N. (2025)



DAVID A. WERBA

David A. Werba, manager of Product Design Compliance and senior Electrical Engineer of Miller Electric Manufacturing Company (an ITW Welding Products Company), has over 40 years of progressively responsible experience in the Electrical Engineering and Design Compliance areas of three major companies that design and manufacture electronic chemical analysis equipment, electric motor drives, and arc and laser welding equipment.

Additionally, David is an iNARTE Certified Product Safety Engineer and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Product Safety Engineering Society. He is currently the chair of an array of standards-facing bodies concerning the welding space, including the International Institute of Welding (IIW) Commission VIII, Health, Safety and Environment; the American Welding Society (AWS) Safety and Health Committee; the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) TC26; and the Electric Welding Committee. Alongside this, David is also a member of multiple NEMA, European Welding Association (EWA), NFPA and UL committees.

ELIHU THOMSON RESISTANCE WELDING AWARD

This award is sponsored by the Resistance Welding Manufacturing Alliance and was established in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the invention of resistance welding. This award is presented for an outstanding contribution to the technology and application of resistance welding, including equipment innovations, unique applications in production, a paper published in the *Welding Journal* or other prestigious publication, or other activity of merit.

Recipients of award:

Brafford, W. (2011)
Tumuluru, M. (2012)
Hirsch, R. B. (2013)
Gould, J. E. (2014)
DeCorte, D. B. (2015)
Maatz, Jr. D. F. (2016)
Siehling, M. (2017)
Karagoulis, M. J. (2018)
Cohen, R. (2019)
Wei, P.S. (2020)
Snow, Jr., T. (2021)
Kimchi, M. (2022)
Spinella, D. (2023)
Zhang, H. (2024)
Hofman, K. A. (2025)



MICHAEL GASKILL

Mr. Gaskill has nearly 40 years' experience in the Resistance Welding Industry, starting his career working in the weld controls area, including field service. He also has nearly 27 years of induction heating project experience. In the past several years, linear friction, and laser welding have been added to the lab capabilities and thus fall under his responsibility and skill set. On average since August of 1998, Mike has completed a project a week. He also has previous experience in control and machine assembly, as well as machining using manual lathes and mills.

Mr. Gaskill has worked in the Taylor Winfield Technologies R&D laboratory since August of 1998 and has been the laboratory manager since July 1999. Managing and scheduling of projects, direct customer interaction, hands on project work, determining and applying the best process for the application, designing proto-type tooling, as well as consulting on final tooling design are part of his repertoire. Projects involve proof of concept through the completion of proto-type assemblies culminating in a semi-formal written report. In some cases, the part design is fixed and in others, recommendations on joint design are made to facilitate a successful outcome. Technologies used include all of the resistance welding variations, induction heating, linear friction with mechanical oscillation and Laser. Mr. Gaskill was promoted to technical director of R&D in December of 2025.

GEORGE E. WILLIS AWARD

This award is sponsored by The Lincoln Electric Company to honor George E. Willis. It is presented to an individual for promoting the advancement of welding internationally, by fostering cooperative participation in areas such as technology transfer, standards rationalization, and promotion of industrial good will.

Recipients of award:

Sindel, A. W. (2011)
Chin, B. A. (2012)
Miller, D. K. (2013)
Bernasek, M. (2014)
Shaw, Jr. R. J. (2015)
Rager, D. D. (2016)
Perdomo, J. J. (2017)
Davis, A. (2018)
Melfi, T. (2020)
Henson, R. M. (2021)
DeCorte, D. (2022)
Flohn, T. A. (2023)
Porter, N. (2024)
Mendez, P. F. (2025)



MURALI TUMULURU

Murali Tumuluru is a senior welding consultant with Tumuluru Welding Consulting, LLC, bringing more than thirty-five years of experience in welding research and engineering. He spent over twenty-five years in the steel industry, where his work focused on the weldability of advanced high-strength steels (AHSS). His pioneering research significantly advanced the understanding of weldability and fracture behavior and supported the successful implementation of Generation 1 and Generation 3 AHSS grades in the automotive industry. Tumuluru has published extensively on the weldability of AHSS and has delivered numerous invited presentations and educational seminars worldwide. He holds degrees in materials and welding engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and The Ohio State University. Since leaving the steel industry, he has continued to contribute to the field through consulting in welding science and technology.

He has been an active member of several AWS committees and the International Institute of Welding (IIW), serving in Commission III as co-chair of Commission IIIA. He also serves as a principal reviewer for the Welding Journal and Welding in the World.

Tumuluru has received numerous awards for his contributions to welding research and technology. These include the James F. Lincoln Gold Medal Award (2008 and 2011), the Elihu Thomson Resistance Welding Award (2012), the A.F. Davis Silver Medal Award (2013), the William Irrgang Medal Award (2019), and the R.D. Thomas Memorial Award (2019) from the American Welding Society. In 2023, he received the Evgeny Paton Medal from the IIW in recognition of his lifetime dedication to applied research and development in advanced welding technologies. He is a Fellow of both the American Welding Society (2013) and the International Institute of Welding (2021).

About AWS

The American Welding Society is the worldwide authority in the development of standards, certifications and educational programming for the welding community. We are committed to connecting the welding industry to our extensive collection of resources, informing our members of technological advancements, and developing the next generation of welding professionals.

For more information, visit: