

For Immediate Release

Microscopy Society of America Tech Forum Celebrates 35th Anniversary

MSA Technologists' Forum to mark significant anniversary in conjunction with Society's 75th at Microscopy & Microanalysis 2017 in St. Louis, Missouri.

RESTON, Virginia – June 8, 2017 – The Microscopy Society of America (MSA) announced today that in conjunction with its 75th anniversary meeting it would celebrate the 35th anniversary of the creation of its Technologists' Forum, the Society's original "Focused Interest Group" and still its largest and most influential. The "Tech Forum" provides opportunities for networking and the discussion of interests, problems, and professional needs of technologists within the Society. It has organized scientific symposia at the annual meeting since its founding in 1982, has annually chosen the winners of annual Professional Technical Staff Awards (PTSAs) since 1996, and provide a representative to serve *ex officio* on the Society's Awards and Fellows Committees.

"As the present Chair of the Technologists' Forum, I would like to extend congratulations to all of those who have been a part of and helped to keep this group together as an integral part of the Microscopy Society of America," said Forum Chair Caroline Miller.

A number of technologists will be honored for their accomplishments at Microscopy & Microanalysis 2017 in St. Louis, Missouri. The winner of this year's Professional Technical Staff Award, which is chosen on the basis of the quality of a paper submitted to the annual meeting, is Isabel Boona of the Ohio State University. Two major Society awards for significant contributions by technologists will also be awarded. The Hildegard H. Crowley Award for a biological scientist will be conferred on Patricia S. Connelly, recently retired from the National Institutes of Health; the Chuck Fiori Award for a physical scientist will go to Rich Martens of the University of Alabama. In addition, Jeanette Killius, who served as Chair of the Technologists' Forum during 2000-2002, will be recognized as a Fellow of the Microscopy Society of America in the Class of 2017.

"Microscopy being a technique-driven science, it relies heavily on the innovative work of those who make practical contributions to improve the efficacy and applicability of the host of available microscopy techniques," said Ian M. Anderson, MSA President. "The contributions of technologists to the microscopy field are essential to these innovations, and the Tech

Forum has made the Microscopy Society of America a driver of progress in the field.”

The Microscopy Society of America was founded as the Electron Microscope Society of America in 1942, a time of rapid development for an instrument that promised, for the first time, better resolving power than that (of the order of one micrometer) of the traditional light microscope. The Society adopted its current name on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, to reflect the diversity of microscopy techniques represented by its membership. Today, a variety of microscopes are capable of imaging individual atoms, and providing chemical information to identify what kind of atom is being imaged, while a variety of microscopes of lower resolving power continue to play an enabling role in understanding the world around us at a microscopic scale, and the development of new technologies. As it celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, the Microscopy Society of America champions all forms of microscopy through its annual meeting, its publications, and its educational outreach.

Microscopy & Microanalysis (M&M) is the annual meeting of the Microscopy Society of America and the Microanalysis Society (MAS). M&M 2017, to be held August 6-10 in St. Louis, Missouri, will be cosponsored for the first time by the International Field Emission Society (IFES). M&M 2017 marks significant anniversaries for all three societies: the 75th anniversary of MSA, the 50th anniversary of MAS, and the 50th anniversary of the invention of the atom probe field ion microscope, an instrument based on high-field science, the scientific emphasis of IFES.

The Microscopy Society of America is an affiliate society of the American Institute of Physics (AIP) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

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A description of the activities of the MSA Technologists' Forum, as well as a list of past Chairs, can be found on the Society web site:

http://microscopy.org/communities/technologists_forum.cfm

A description of the MSA Professional Technical Staff Award, along with a link to the names, institutions, and presentation titles of the 2017 awardees, can be found on the MSA web site:

<http://www.microscopy.org/awards/conference.cfm> .

Photographs and biographic profiles of the Hildegard H. Crowley and Chuck Fiori Award winners can be found on the MSA web site:

<http://microscopy.org/awards/society.cfm#crowley>

For a given award, click on the "List of Recipients" link, then on the name of the individual award winner in the list.

Photographs and citations of the Society's Fellows, can be accessed by clicking on the name of individuals in the list of Fellows by year elected on the MSA web site:

http://microscopy.org/awards/listoffellows_year.cfm

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