Ernst-Eckhard-Koch Prize

The Ernst-Eckhard-Koch Prize is awarded annually by the Society of Friends and Sponsors of BESSY for an outstanding PhD thesis in the field of synchrotron radiation carried out at BESSY or HASYLAB. In 2007 the prize was awarded to two young researchers.

Dr. Justina Schlappa (II. Physikalisches Institut, University of Cologne) received the award for her thesis on 'Investigation of Electronic Order using Resonant Soft X-ray Diffraction'. Her thesis deals with the application of the quite novel technique of Resonant Soft X-ray Diffraction (RSXD) for the investigation of electronically ordered phases in transition metal oxides. The method was first systematically explored through application to a model system and later two real, more complex, systems were investigated: stripe phase in $La_{1.8}Sr_{0.2}NiO_4$ and orbital order in Fe_3O_4. The main focus of the work was on the spectroscopic potential of the technique.

Dr. Alexander Rack (HMI Berlin, Technical University of Berlin) was awarded the prize for his thesis on 'Untersuchung komplexer Materialsysteme mittels Synchrotron-Tomographie und 3D-Bildanalyse'. The thesis deals with synchrotron microtomography in combination with 3D image analysis to investigate microstructered, multi-component material systems. Selected applications are pore formation in metallic foams and biodegradation of ceramic particles in regenerating bone tissue.

Dr. Justina Schlappa one of the two Ernst-Eckhard-Koch awardees.

Innovation Award on Synchrotron Radiation

The Innovation Award on Synchrotron Radiation is awarded annually by the Society of Friends and Sponsors of BESSY for outstanding achievements that contributed significantly to the development of experimental methods, techniques or uses of synchrotron radiation.

Dr. Christian Brönnimann, Dr. Eric F. Eikenberry and Dr. Roland H. Horisberger from DECTRIS, PSI - Paul Scherrer Institut, received the Innovation Award for pioneering the technology of two-dimensional hybrid pixel array detectors in single photon counting mode for a range of X-ray application at synchrotron radiation facilities with unprecedented performance, notably protein crystallography with the 6 million pixel detector Pilatus 6M.

The winner of the Innovation Award: Dr. Christian Brönnimann, Dr. Eric F. Eikenbery and Dr. Roland H. Horisberger from Paul-Scherrer-Institut (left to right).