

Awards Committee Report Fall 2010

The committee has selected Oliver Bolduc and Karolin Kroenig to receive a 2010 SAS student award. We were impressed with the quality of research from all of the nominees, and the committee faced a difficult decision in nominating two students.

Each committee member reviewed the nomination packet of all students. We especially looked at the scope, difficulty, and the potential of the research to open a new field of spectroscopy. The ability of a student to provide insight and leadership to a research project was also considered. We used the nominating letters, publication record and presentation history as indications of the student's ability to perform top-level research and maintain a strong connection to the scientific community. We considered patents and intellectual property as another indication of the novelty of research. It is especially exciting to see nominees as inventors or co-inventors! We wanted to acknowledge that cultivating intellectual property is a relatively new aspect in the development of graduate students, but is important because students are opening new avenues of applications, or developing new instrumentation, to solve difficult problems. Leadership skills, community service and membership to SAS were other factors we considered. However, these factors were not as heavily weighted as publication/presentation record and nomination letters.

Best regards,

Karen Esmonde-White