

PERSPECTIVES



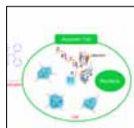
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CORPORATE NEWS



L'Oréal Award for women scientists - Three years in a row for IMRE

RESEARCH



New live-cell-permeable, fluorescent probe for real-time cell apoptosis imaging

AWARDS



Grant award for work on proposed hydrogel wound dressing

PEOPLE



Harnessing sustainable solar energy: Profile - Dr Leong Wei Lin

OUTREACH



The 2nd IMRE-LAM Bilateral Workshop on Advanced Materials

UPCOMING EVENTS



Seminars and workshops to look out for!

Highlight on Awards

CORPORATE NEWS

L'Oréal Award for women scientists - Three years in a row for IMRE

For her materials science work in biomimetic materials technology Dr Jaslyn Law won the 2012 L'Oréal For Women in Science (FWIS) National Fellowship. Jaslyn is the third female scientist from IMRE to be honoured with the award. As further recognition of IMRE's high calibre talent pool, Dr Tan Yen Nee and Dr Teo Ee Jin were also shortlisted as finalists for the award.



Dr Jaslyn Law - 2012 L'Oréal For Women in Science National Fellowship recipient.

Jaslyn's award was for her work in developing engineered nano-sized structures that give materials like plastics unique properties that mimic those of naturally-occurring surfaces. Her studies on micro and nano-topographies can be used to produce plastic films that have anti-reflectivity, self-cleaning properties or allow viewing of 3D movies without special glasses.

Other L'Oréal FWIS 2012 Finalists from IMRE



Dr Tan Yen Nee

Shortlisted for her work on multifunctional biogenic metal nanoparticles for biomedicine.



Dr Teo Ee Jin

Shortlisted for her work on next generation optical communications and a new class of super bright and high-speed LEDs.

The research is inspired by studying natural surfaces such as the anti-reflection property of a moth's eye or the water-repelling effects of water lily leaves.

"I am very glad to receive the award," said Jaslyn, who is a Deputy Head of IMRE's Patterning and Fabrication capability group. "Fellowships like this help bring

prominence to R&D as a viable career option for women."

"The award is a testament and recognition not just for the cutting edge research that Singapore has produced but for the important role that women scientists play in R&D," added Prof Andy Hor, IMRE's Executive Director.

Past L'Oréal FWIS winners from IMRE



Dr Liu Bin (2011)

Dr Liu was recognised for her efforts to make solar energy accessible to the masses.



Dr Low Hong Yee (2010)

Dr Low was recognised for her work in nanoimprint technology.

More awards on page 4



Dr Joel Yang Kwang Wei and Dr Chen Wei, an IMRE adjunct from NUS, were conferred the prestigious awards at the annual President's Science and Technology Awards ceremony which honours Singapore's best and brightest scientific talents.



Dr Chen Wei (2nd from right) and Dr Joel Yang (right) with their awards posing for a picture with the other winners as well as Mr S Iswaran, Second Minister for Trade and Industry (3rd from left) and Mr Lim Chuan Poh, A*STAR Chairman (3rd from right) during the President's Science and Technology Awards ceremony.

Joel was honoured for his research on nanolithography and nanoplasmonics where he leads a research group in IMRE that focuses on the development of high-resolution (sub-10-nm) lithographic processes and their application to create metal nanostructures that act as antennas for light. Chen Wei was awarded for his research on interface engineering for molecular, organic and graphene electronics which focuses on surface and interface science.

Sofshell wins Silver Prize at Asian Innovation Awards 2012

IMRE spin-off company, Sofshell Pte Ltd, which commercialises soft, flexible and lightweight body-armour padding technology that was developed in IMRE, was given the Silver Prize in the competition organised by the Wall Street Journal.



Elgin Yap (left) and Davy Cheong (right) from Sofshell Pte Ltd with the AIA 2012 Silver Prize.

Inspired by a popular science experiment where a liquid cornstarch solution would harden when impacted by a sudden force, Dr Davy Cheong, a former IMRE scientist, used the principles of shear thickening fluids to invent a

new flexible, lightweight, impact-resistant composite material. The armour padding material is now being commercialised by Sofshell, which Davy had set up together with Mr Elgin Yap who was from Exploit Technologies, A*STAR's commercialisation arm.

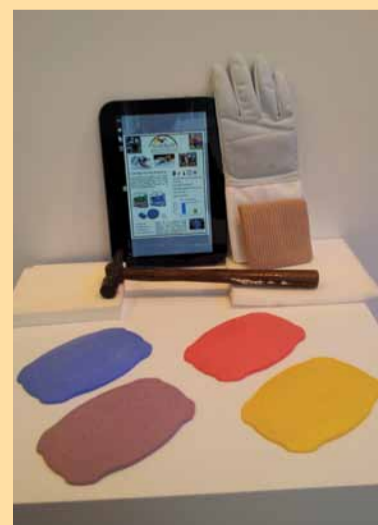
The company, which had also won the 'Coolest Innovation' award at TECHVENTURE Asian Innovation Awards 2011, is planning to start manufacturing operations in the early half of 2013. For a start, Sofshell will focus on products for the elderly and for sportswear.

For more information about Sofshell, please visit www.sofshell.com.sg



Elgin and Davy (left and 2nd from left) from Sofshell Pte Ltd with the other AIA 2012 winners.

What is shear thickening?



Prototype products that Sofshell hopes to market include protective padding for the elderly and sports equipment.

The composite material is based on the concept of shear thickening, whereby the material is soft and fluid at rest but becomes rigid upon impact. When moved gently, the molecular chains that hold the material together can 'slide' past one another, hence giving the material a soft consistency. In other words, the material will bend and flex smoothly under lightly applied force. But hit it or make sudden movements and the molecular chains do not have time to react properly and become entangled, turning the material rock-solid.

