

IUPAP Interdisciplinary Early Career Scientist Prize

IUPAP General Assembly, October 9th, 2023

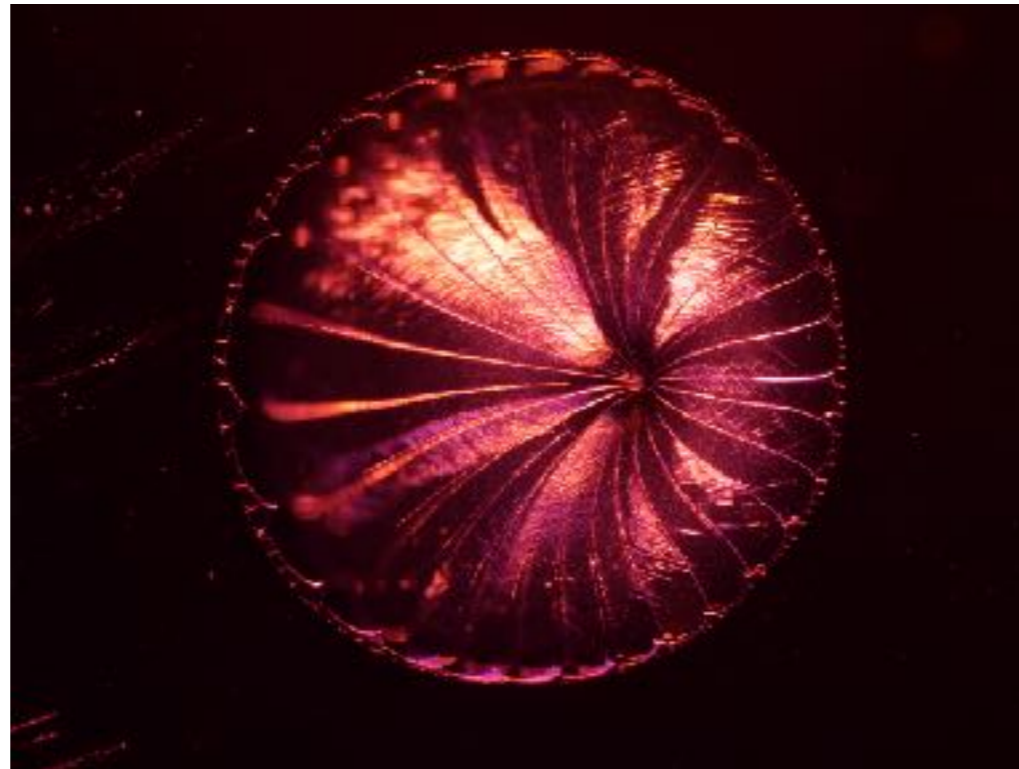


Photo by Paul Lilin

Silvina Ponce Dawson

DF, FCEN-UBA & IFIBA, UBA-CONICET

President Designate, IUPAP



We opened the first call for nominations for the IUPAP Interdisciplinary Early Career Scientist Award this year. The deadline for nomination submissions was May 31st, 2023

The plan was to consider up to two winners (one for 2022 and one for 2023) to be presented at this GA. The prize consists of 1000 euro, a medal, and a certificate.

We decided to limit this first call to candidates who do research in fields covered by more than one Commission or WG. The nominations had to include the choice of at least two Commissions and/or WGs.

We received 14, in principle, “valid” nominations.

The Chairs of the Commissions and WGs of the nominations were invited to look in detail at the nominations that had chosen those commissions or WGs.

After our first discussion, we decided to discard 3 of the nominations because the candidates had defended their PhDs more than 8 years before the closing of the call (May 31st, 2023) and there were no indications of career interruptions.

The chairs involved in the discussions ranked the candidates and after a round of discussions we proposed the names of the two awardees.

The EC&CC approved these two names at its meeting of last week.

It was also decided that the year 2023 will be assigned to the two prizes.

Evelyn Tang, Rice University

For her development of new topological and geometrical analyses that reveal fundamental physics aspects which allow the characterization of robust emergent phenomena in complex systems, from quantum phases of matter to biological systems and the brain.

Evelyn did her PhD at MIT working on Topological Phases in Narrow-band systems. She is now establishing a cutting-edge theoretical biological physics program at Rice University where she is Assistant Professor.

Stefano Martiniani, New York University

For groundbreaking contributions to the understanding of the statistical mechanics of active and amorphous systems via the development of uniquely original approaches for quantifying order, entropy and entropy production in systems far from equilibrium, including granular and active matter, neural networks and biological systems.

Stefano holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry and a M.Phil in Scientific Computing from the University of Cambridge. He is now Assistant Professor of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics at NYU. He has co-founded the Colabfit project a large-scale effort to share molecular data and machine learning models.