



SPE[®] ISSUES CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR GRADUATE-LEVEL RESEARCH IN AUTOMOTIVE COMPOSITES

*Scholarships Application Forms Due July 21, 2010 for
Two Awards to be Announced August 2010*

The organizing committee for the **SPE Automotive Composites Conference & Exhibition** (SPE ACCE) announced today that it will again bestow two \$2,000 USD scholarships for graduate-level research in polymer composites that has impact on ground transportation. Students interested in applying will find a *Scholarship Application* form available for downloading at www.speautomotive.com/comp.htm; applications should be submitted electronically to ACCEpapers@speautomotive.com by July 21, 2010 for awards to be announced in August. Donations made by the **SPE Automotive** and **Composites Divisions** are funding this year's scholarships.

Winners will be selected from the pool of qualified applicants by **SPE ACCE** committee members and invited industry experts. Winning students will be required to report on the results of their findings during the eleventh-annual **SPE ACCE**, which takes place September 13-15, 2011. This is the fourth year conference organizers have offered these graduate scholarships.

In 2009, awards were presented to **Gregorio Manuel Vélez-García**, a Ph.D. candidate at **Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**, whose work is focused on *Development of a New Method for Predicting Fiber Orientation in Fiber-Reinforced Injection-Molded Thermoplastics*, and to **Zeba Farheen Abdul Samad**, a doctoral candidate at the **University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign** whose work research topic is *Novel Aromatic Thermosetting Copolyester (ATCP) / Carbon Fiber Composites*. Students will present the results of their research at the tenth-annual **SPE ACCE**, September 15 and 16, 2010. In 2008, the winners were **Uday Sharma** of **University of Michigan-Dearborn**, whose topic was *Analysis of Thermoplastic Woven Composites at High-Strain Rates*, and **Tobias Potyra** of **Fraunhofer Institute of Chemical Technology**, who worked on *New Direct Processing Technology for the Manufacture of SMC Parts (Direct-SMC)*. The first scholarships were given in 2007 and were made in honor of journalist and composites-industry insider, Steve Loud who passed away in 2006. The recipients were **Roston Elwell** from **Texas A&M University** for research on the *Use of Active-Core Composite Sandwich Panels for Improved Automotive Safety*; and **Alejandro Londono-Hurtado** from **University of Wisconsin-Madison** whose work involved *Simulation and Numerical Modeling of Fiber Orientation and Density Distribution During Molding of Fiber-Reinforced Automotive Parts*.

For more information about the SPE Automotive Composites Conference, visit the Automotive Division website at www.speautomotive.com/comp.htm, or the Composites Division's website at <http://www.compositeshelp.com/>, or call +1.248.244.8993, or write SPE Automotive Division, 1800 Crooks Road, Suite A, Troy, MI 48084, USA. For more information on the Society of Plastics Engineers International or other SPE events, visit the SPE website at www.4spe.org, or call +1.203.775.0471.

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