2019 Henry Clifton Sorby Awardee: Professor Helmut Clemens

It is my great pleasure to announce Professor Helmut Clemens as the 2019 Henry Clifton Sorby Awardee. On behalf of the 12-member IMS Sorby Award Selection Committee, I congratulate him on this achievement.

Our 44th Awardee is head of physical metallurgy and metallic materials at the Montanuniversität Leoben, Austria. Prof. Clemens is well known for his research work in the field of intermetallic titanium aluminides for high-temperature applications. Employing innovative research methods, he and his group developed advanced “materialographic preparation methods,” which were instrumental in improvement of properties for these lightweight structural materials.

Throughout his career, Prof. Clemens has been involved in a broad range of topics, including powder metallurgy, surface modification of medical implants, phase transformations, and recovery and recrystallization behavior of refractory metal alloys. He has authored or co-authored over 600 publications and given more than 110 invited talks.

His awards include the Grand Prize in Excellence in Metallography from the American Powder Metallurgy Institute International (U.S.), the Great Medal of Styria (SE Austria), and the Honda Prize (Japan). He has organized numerous conferences, including the International Metallography Conference in Leoben.

Early recipients of the Sorby Award include Cyril Stanley Smith, remembered for his pioneering work in nuclear metallurgy and contributions to the Manhattan Project, Len Samuels, for work on fundamentals of metallography and the microstructure of steels, and Gunter Petzow, for development of ceramography and properties of ceramics.

More details regarding Prof. Clemens’ Sorby Award Lecture—to be presented at the MS&T meeting in Portland this coming September—will appear in a future issue of SlipLines. IMS Members depend on fidelity of microstructure in metallographic preparation for their interpretation and analysis. So this is one lecture not to be missed.

Chris Bagnall
Chair, IMS Henry Clifton Sorby Award Selection Committee