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EMSL In Brief

Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory

EMSL Researcher Receives Diatome Award at Microscopy Meeting

An expert microscopist from the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL) received a prestigious award during the national meeting of the Microscopy Society of America on August 8 in Fort Lauderdale.

Alice Dohnalkova was presented with the Diatome Award, which recognizes distinguished scientists who present new and enlightening work in the field of microscopy. She received the award for the best use of ultramicrotomy in the presentation "Creating 3D Reconstruction of Cyanobacterium *Cyanothece* sp. by Alignment of Serial TEM Tomograms." As part of this award, Dohnalkova will receive a trip to Switzerland to visit the Diatome factory, where precision diamond knives are manufactured for electron microscopy applications.



Alice Dohnalkova is announced as recipient of the prestigious Diatome Award at the Microscopy Society of America national meeting on August 8. She is congratulated by the society's president, Michael O'Keefe (center) and Diatome representative Helmut Gnaegi (right).

Dohnalkova is the primary expert for EMSL's new cryo-transmission electron microscope, a unique instrument featuring a cryostage for observing samples in a frozen-hydrated state and a high tilt stage that allows image tilt series to be obtained for three-dimensional reconstruction using electron tomography. Her imaging expertise has been instrumental to EMSL's Membrane Biology Scientific Grand Challenge, a large systems biology project aimed at gaining fundamental insights into the carbon sequestration and circadian biology of cyanobacteria.

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