

## Press release

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# Young Researcher Award recognises outstanding mixing research of Non-Newtonian Fluids

**Dr. Federico Alberini** has been awarded the **2018 EFCE Young Researcher Award in Mixing**. The Award was conferred upon him for his excellent PhD thesis "Blending of Non-Newtonian Fluids in Static Mixers: Assessment Via Optical Methods."

The judges praised the thesis for being both innovative and useful, providing an important next step in the understanding of static mixers in an area where no-one else was willing to work. They also noted that Alberini had written 14 outstanding journal papers, participated in several mixing conferences including the European Conference of Mixing series, NAMF and ISMIP, and the industrial significance of his scientific activity was recognised. Overall, the award jury stated that Federico



Alberini fulfils all of the evaluation criteria, being fully dedicated to the field of mixing, and that he is the worthy award winner.

Federico Alberini obtained his Bachelor and Masters' degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Pisa, Italy, and completed his PhD in Chemical Engineering at the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom, under the supervision of Professor Mark Simmons. Currently, Federico Alberini holds the position of Lecturer/Assistant Professor at the University of Birmingham, School of Chemical Engineering. His research interests include fluid dynamic studies using Particle Image Velocimetry (PIV), Planar Laser Induced Fluorescence and Positron Emission Particle Tracking, Rheology Analysis, and Image processing.

Nominating Federico Alberini for the award, Mark Simmons stated: "In a short time, he has built himself a strong publications track record and I believe he is on a high trajectory to becoming an international leading academic in the fields of mixing of fluids and mixtures with complex rheology."

The prize, supported by Bayer AG, consists of a certificate and €1500 cash prize, a travel grant and an invitation by the conference organiser to attend the 16th European Conference on Mixing in Toulouse, France, where the prize has been awarded during the conference dinner on 11 September 2018.

Furthermore, the award jury gave special recognition to the runners-up, **Dr. Antonio Buffo**, Assistant professor (RTD A) at the Department of Applied Science and Technology of Politecnico di Torino, Italy, for his outstanding research as shown by his PhD thesis "Multivariate population balance for turbulent gas-liquid flows", numerous publications in top rated journals and conference contributions, the industrial relevance of his work, and his continuing activity, which overall ranked him second best based on all criteria.

Ends

#### Related links

EFCE media centre (https://efce.info/Media+Centre.html)

Young Researcher Award in Mixing (<a href="https://efce.info/YoungResearcherAward\_Mixing.html">https://efce.info/YoungResearcherAward\_Mixing.html</a>)

16th European Conference on Mixing (<a href="http://www.mixing16.eu/">http://www.mixing16.eu/</a>)

#### Notes to media:

For further information, please contact:

Claudia Flavell-While tel: +44 (0)1788 534422 email: <u>Claudia@icheme.org</u>

### About chemical engineers

Chemical, biochemical and process engineering is the application of science, maths and economics to the process of turning raw materials into everyday products. Professional chemical engineers design, construct and manage process operations all over the world. Oil and gas, pharmaceuticals, food and drink, synthetic fibres and clean drinking water are just some of the products where chemical engineering plays a central role.

#### **About EFCE**

Founded in 1953, The European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE) is a non-profit-making association, whose object is to promote co-operation in Europe between non-profit-making professional scientific and technical societies in 30 countries for the general advancement of chemical engineering and as a means of furthering the development of chemical engineering. See <a href="https://www.efce.org">www.efce.org</a>