The AIST Awards and Recognition Program was established in 2004 and is administered through a standing committee of the board of directors. The purpose of the AIST Awards and Recognition Program is to recognize, through peer review, the active leadership and significant contributions of individuals or companies to AIST and the global iron and steel industry. Barry T. Schneider, Steel Dynamics Inc., served as chair of the AIST Awards and Recognition Program Committee for 2020.

/ AIST William T. Hogan, S.J. Memorial Lecture Award
Leon J. Topalian
president and chief executive officer, Nucor Corp., Charlotte, N.C., USA

Lecture Title: “The Steel Industry in 2020 and Beyond”

/ AIST Steelmaker of the Year Award
John J. Ferriola
retired chairman, president and chief executive officer, Nucor Corp., Charlotte, N.C., USA

Recognized for his leadership and strategic vision in growing Nucor Steel and maintaining its profitability in an economically challenging steel market. His contributions transcend Nucor as a voice for the entire industry, articulating to policymakers the problem of unfair trade, and advocating for the strengthening and enforcement of trade laws.
Distinguished Member and Fellow Award

William P. Breedlove
senior vice president and chief commercial officer, American Zinc Recycling Corp., Coraopolis, Pa., USA

For his dedicated service to AIST and the AIST Foundation. Having served as AIST Foundation president from 2005 to 2007 and AIST president from 2010 to 2011, his guiding principles and work ethic set a standard of excellence. His promotion of the Foundation successfully drove fundraising to new levels, significantly advancing its mission to enable the next generation of steelmakers in their academic pursuits.

Dale E. Heinz
retired operations manager, ArcelorMittal Burns Harbor, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA

For his leadership and support of AIST through its Technology Committees, Member Chapters and student-oriented programs. His passion and dedication in support of the AIST Foundation and its mission to educate the next generation of our workforce has been an invaluable contribution to the steel industry.

John R. Middleton
director, Multon Process Technology Ltd., Scunthorpe, U.K.

In recognition of more than six decades of contributions to advancing technical development in the production and processing of steel. His work in the implementation of industrial-scale continuous casting and vacuum degassing in the 1960s in the U.K. was significant. Middleton was a pioneer in the infancy of industrial computer applications, having developed dynamic modeling as well as integrated management and optimization systems which are now in use at steel plants around the world. He is a dedicated member of the Specialty Alloy & Foundry Technology Committee and has led their first Study Tours to the U.K. and Spain. Middleton is a distinguished gentleman with a distinguished career in our industry.
/ AIST Tadeusz Sendzimir Memorial Medal

Giovanni Arvedi
chairman, Acciaieria Arvedi SpA, Cremona (CR), Italy

In appreciation and recognition of his exceptional vision, keen intellect, passion for improvement, resolute determination, and insightful know-how that has spanned a stellar career of more than 55 years in the steel industry. In his pursuit of excellence, Giovanni Arvedi has overcome all obstacles in his quest to improve the processes that continuously produce high-quality steel products. ARVEDI ESP is the acronym for his endless cast-rolling steel strip production process; the result of a vision he pursued relentlessly for over 20 years, so as to finally achieve in 2010 a paradigm-altering method of hot-rolled strip production, encompassing levels of compactness, production rate, quality, product flexibility, energy efficiency and cost-effectiveness previously thought to be unattainable in a single production line.

/ AIST J. Keith Brimacombe Memorial Lecture Award

John J. Jonas
professor emeritus, McGill University, Montreal, Que., Canada

Lecture Title: “Recent Developments in Thermomechanical Processing of Steels”

/ AIST John F. Elliott Lectureship

Phillip J. Mackey
president, P.J. Mackey Technologies, Kirkland, Que., Canada

For innovation in the development of pyrometallurgical processes for the production of primary metal, and for promotion of the profession of metallurgical engineering.
/ AIST Benjamin F. Fairless Award (AIME)

Sara A. Hornby
principal and owner, Global Strategic Solutions, Charlotte, N.C., USA

For outstanding contribution to the international steel industry over several decades. Sara has been successful in plant engineering, in research and development, in technical sales, as an educator and as a strong advocate of technical societies, particularly the Iron & Steel Society and AIST. She has been a trailblazer for the many women now entering the steel industry.

/ AIST Hunt-Kelly Outstanding Paper Award

First Place
Title: “Modeling of Heat Transfer and Phase Transformation Phenomena During Runout Table Cooling”

Yufeng Wang (top row, left), research engineer, SSAB Americas, Muscatine, Iowa, USA

Dengqi Bai (middle row, left), principal research engineer, SSAB Americas, Muscatine, Iowa, USA

Rick Bodnar (bottom row, left), metallurgical consultant, SSAB Iowa Inc., Muscatine, Iowa, USA

Second Place
Title: “Inclusion Evolution Comparison of Aluminum-Killed Silicon-Bearing and Silicon-Restricted Grades”

April Pitts-Baggett (top row, right), chief metallurgist, Duferdofin - Nucor Srl, San Zeno Naviglio (BS), Italy

Laurentiu Nastac (bottom row, right), associate professor of metallurgical and materials engineering, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala., USA
Third Place

Title: “Holistic Approach of High-Quality Flat Steel Production — Dynamic Production Scheduling in Respect to Process Quality, Control System and Plant Condition”

Franck Adjogble (top row, left), general manager, SMS group Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa., USA

Harald Rackel (top row, right), chairman of the board, Elexis AG, Wenden, Germany

Gregor Schneider (middle row, left), head of technology, electrics and automation flat rolling mills, SMS group GmbH, Hilchenbach, Germany

Klaus Pronold (middle row, right), vice president, electrics and automation flat rolling mills, SMS group GmbH, Hilchenbach, Germany

Wolfgang Spies (bottom row, left), vice president, electrics and automation flat rolling mills, SMS group GmbH, Hilchenbach, Germany

Hans-Georg Jentsch (bottom row, right), specialist, digital solutions, SMS group GmbH, Hilchenbach, Germany

// Outstanding Chapter Growth Award (numerical)

Northern Member Chapter
David Nicol (pictured), chair

St. Louis Member Chapter
Terrence P. Laird, chair
Outstanding Chapter Growth Award (percentage)

Pittsburgh Member Chapter
William K. Schlichting (top row), chair

Southwest Member Chapter
Christopher G. Welfel (bottom row), chair

AIST Presidential Citations

John Patrick Philbin
retired, Association for Iron & Steel Technology, Warren, Ohio, USA

For his mentorship and guidance of AIST’s Continuous Casting, Ladle & Secondary Refining, Specialty Alloy & Foundry, and Electric Steelmaking Technology Committees; his support for expansion of study tours in these committees; and for his tireless efforts to support and develop the future leaders of AIST. Pat’s gift for engaging our members and supporting their ascent into AIST’s leadership has been a true benefit to AIST and the steel industry.
Bryan Webler
assistant professor, Materials Science and Engineering Department, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pa., USA

For his countless contributions to AIST’s The Making, Shaping and Treating of Steel: 101 course and for his service within the Metallurgy — Steelmaking & Casting Technology Committee. Bryan’s commitment and dedication to AIST is genuine as he continually serves to advance the next generation of steelmakers.

Chenn Zhou
director, Center for Innovation Through Visualization and Simulation; director, Steel Manufacturing Simulation and Visualization Consortium, Purdue University Northwest, Hammond, Ind., USA

For her relentless support to ensure the resounding success of the 8th International SteelSim Conference, thereby helping to disseminate knowledge of simulation modeling technologies associated with steel manufacturing. As the event chair, Chenn leveraged her extensive network to attract a global audience. Her friendly, affable, hardworking demeanor has enabled her to be a strong and effective ambassador for AIST.

AIST Member Chapter Outstanding Service Award

Northern
Shannon F. Clark, senior specialist — metallurgy and quality, ArcelorMittal Dofasco G.P., Hamilton, Ont., Canada
AIME Honorary Member

Glenn A. Pushis
senior vice president, special projects, Steel Dynamics Inc., Fort Wayne, Ind., USA

2020 AIST Awards and Recognition Program Committee

The committee is comprised of Technology Division representatives to the Board of Directors, and is chaired by the first Officer-at-Large of the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee Liaisons
Barry Schneider (Chair), Steel Dynamics Inc.
Allen C. Behr, Nucor Corp.

Safety & Environment Technology Division
Conrad D’Costa, ArcelorMittal Dofasco G.P.

Cokemaking & Ironmaking Technology Division
Angelo A. Manenti, Metal Consulting LLC

Steelmaking Technology Division
Stephan A. Ferenczy, TCI Consultants

Refining & Casting Technology Division
Richard M. Besich, ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor

Rolling & Processing Technology Division
William C. Seres, Steel Dynamics Inc. – Flat Roll Group
Sinton

Metallurgy Technology Division
Scott R. Story, U. S. Steel Research and Technology Center

Energy, Control & Digitalization Division
Rishabh Bahel, ArcelorMittal Cleveland

Plant Services & Reliability Technology Division
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Material Movement & Transportation Technology Division
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Northern Member Chapter
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Ohio Valley Member Chapter
Darrell E. Sturgill, Imerys Steelcasting USA Inc.

Pittsburgh Member Chapter
Steven C. Asseff, Charter Steel

Smaller Member Chapters
Stephen M. Bunch, California Steel Industries Inc.

Southeast Member Chapter
Kevin J. Bort, TMEIC

Nominations for 2021 AIST Board of Directors Awards are currently being accepted!
For more information, visit AIST.org/BOD-awards