

Annual review 2014

CLAAS Foundation has a new website



Dear ladies and gentlemen,

Another year full of events lies behind us: we support new research projects, provide seed funding for new student teams at the Field Robot Event and at our annual Award Ceremony we met new talented students who are surely going to make their career in natural sciences and agricultural engineering.

We were also busy with own matters: our website has got a new layout and is now online in German and English. Our target groups - pupils, students and universities - may now find the relevant information in a more detailed and better-structured manner, presented in a new design.

In the course of the forthcoming festive season you might find a moment of peace and quiet, so we kindly invite you to have a look at our new website at claas-stiftung.com. If you have any comments and improvement proposals, we would greatly appreciate your feedback.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and all the best for 2015.

We thank you for an intensive year with interesting projects and for taking an interest in the CLAAS Foundation.

Yours sincerely,



Sylvia Looks Uwe Lütkeschümer
Executive Board CLAAS Foundation



The new team from Turkey joined by Sylvia Looks

CLAAS Foundation supports new teams at the Field Robot Event 2014

On the road to become a „field champion“

For three student teams from Portugal, Finland and Turkey it was a premiere to take part at the student competition Field Robot Event. The CLAAS Foundation financially supported these teams who constructed their own field robots. The tasks the robots had to master were numerous: the robots had to, for example, autonomously navigate through maize rows and detect weed (represented by golf balls). Although none of the new teams quite made it to any of the first prizes, they all gained valuable experience which will help them to prepare for the next year and bring a trophy back home in 2015!

New teams, which would also like to build their own autonomous field robot and take part at the Field Robot Event 2015 and are looking for financial support, may send their application

to the CLAAS Foundation by 27.02.2015. Further information on the application details can be taken from our website at:

claas-stiftung.de/studierende/field-robot-event/

More than 10 years ago, the Field Robot Event was established by agricultural engineers at the University of Wageningen, the Netherlands. Student teams compete with their own developed robots and show their performances in an exciting and international contest. In 2014, the Field Robot Event was organized by the University of Hohenheim in cooperation with the DLG (German Agricultural Society) at the field days DLG-Feldtage.



Team Portugal



Team Finland

Talented students receive awards

The CLAAS Foundation awarded international students with the Helmut Claas-Scholarship, bonus prizes and the International Student Prize coming to a total value of 44.100 Euro.

1. Prize: Ufuk Akay (24) was awarded the first prize coming to a total value of 7.200 Euro. He is a civil engineering student at the Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg. For many years, next to his studies, he has been involved in a UN-project called „Agua es vida“ („Water is life“). This initiative aims of install solar-based field irrigation systems in developing countries. In his bachelor thesis he developed a tool which helps to determine the optimal field irrigation system for any farming land in the world.

2. Prize: 27-year old student of economics and environment Benedikt Kramer was awarded for his bachelor thesis on the effects of hail damage on yield components in corn. The prize is of a value of 6.000 Euro..

3. Prize: Yale Brewer from Harper Adams University in the UK received the third prize of a value of 4.800 Euro. During his industrial placement with CLAAS in Harsewinkel he investigated the suitability of an industrial bulk material weighing system for grain throughput measurement.

4. Prize: The fourth prize of 3.600 Euro went to Ben Bretschneider (25). He is currently doing his diploma course in engineering at the Technical University of Dresden. During his studies he worked with the company AgriCon where he developed a sensor-based scoring system for an automated scoring of characteristics in field tests..

Apart from the yearly scholarships, three students received a bonus prize of 1.500 Euro each. Furthermore, 12 International Student Prizes were presented worth between 1.000 and 2.000 Euro.



CLAAS Foundation supports students: Prize winner, Board of Trustees and Jury gathering for the group photo after the ceremony..



Ludovic Freund from the Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Metz .

ENIM – new partner of the CLAAS Foundation

The CLAAS Foundation predominately has been collaborating with European universities based in Germany, the UK and Eastern Europe. The happier we are to now also be able to add a French institution to our partner list: the Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Metz. Ludovic Freund from the Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Metz opened up the ceremony by presenting his master research project on mechanical characteristics of natural fibers. These can be used to reinforce transparent material which might then serve as a possible alternative to e.g. glass.

+++In a nutshell +++ In a nutshell +++

+++ The University of Paderborn each year awards the „Pupils Prize“ to gifted pupils in the field of natural sciences. Also this year, the CLAAS Foundation invited a coach load of prize winners to Harsewinkel to be a part of the **Day of Agriculture**.

+++ New faces in the jury:
Prof. Eberhard Hartung, Director of the Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Christian-Albrechts-University Kiel is the successor of Prof. Bernd Johanning, University of Applied Science Osnabrück.

David White, Senior lecturer Engineering Department, Harper Adams University (Great Britain), takes over the tasks in the British Jury from Dr. Peter Darkins.



David White



Prof. Eberhard Hartung