Bartels Awarded for Outstanding Career Achievements

Electrical and Computer Engineering assistant professor Randy Bartels has been named the recipient of a prestigious award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Optical Society of America (OSA). Randy, who joined the ECE Department last year, earned both honors for his exceptional achievements and noteworthy contributions realized in the early stages of his academic career.

NSF CAREER Award
In late January, Bartels received the NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) award as part of a Foundation-wide program that offers the NSF’s most prestigious awards for new faculty members. The CAREER program recognizes and supports the early career-development activities of those teacher-scholars who are most likely to become the academic leaders of the 21st century. CAREER awardees are selected on the basis of creative career-development plans that effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their institution.

OSA Adolph Lomb Medal
More recently, Bartels was named the winner of the OSA’s Adolph Lomb Medal. The Adolph Lomb Medal, established in 1940, is awarded to one person per year who has made a significant contribution to optics at an early age, and must be presented to the winner by age 35. Bartels is being recognized by the OSA for “pioneering contributions to the coherent control of light, atoms, and molecules, including the shaped-pulse optimization of high order harmonic soft x-ray radiation.” Presentation of the award will occur during a special ceremony at the “Frontiers in Optics 2004 – OSA’s 88th Annual Meeting” to be held in Rochester, New York in October.

In addition, Bartels is a finalist for the American Physical Society (APS) Award for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Research in Atomic, Molecular, or Optical Physics. The winner of this award will be selected by the award committee based on presentations by the finalists in a special session at the annual meeting of the American Physical Society’s division of atomic, molecular, and optical physics.

Before joining the ECE Department in 2003, Bartels earned his Ph.D. in electrical engineering at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor in 2002. His research has concentrated on the generation and control of short laser pulses and their use for the control of quantum and extreme nonlinear optical systems. Bartels has published more than 20 peer-reviewed journal articles and has been invited to speak at more than 25 conferences. His research has been broadly reported in trade publications, as well as the popular press, including Scientific American. Bartels is a member of the Optical Society of America, the American Physical Society, and the Laser and Electro-optics Society / Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (LEOS/IEEE).

Click here for more information about Bartels’ credentials and research interests.