

Accolades

López-Ferrer Receives 2008 M.T. Thomas Award

Daniel López-Ferrer, a postdoctoral fellow in the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Biological Separations and Mass Spectrometry Group, has been selected as the 2008 recipient of EMSL's M.T. Thomas Award for Outstanding Postdoctoral Achievement.

This award acknowledges outstanding accomplishments by postdoctoral fellows who have conducted their research at the Department of Energy's EMSL during the past year. It is named in honor of Dr. M. Tom Thomas, a former PNNL staff member who played an integral role in the conceptualization of EMSL.

Dr. López-Ferrer was chosen for his remarkable contributions to high-throughput proteomics. He developed and characterized a high-pressure enzymatic digestion system that can be fully integrated in an on-line process. His discovery, aided by EMSL's unmatched mass spectrometry capabilities, is opening a new realm of research possibilities for EMSL users. The methodologies he developed for processing complex biological samples have been successfully demonstrated among other EMSL projects and documented in several journal publications.



Daniel López-Ferrer

The high-pressure enzymatic digestion system developed by Dr. López-Ferrer and his colleagues in EMSL was licensed by Pressure Biosciences, Inc., a company that provides technology to control biomolecular interactions. A patent is pending, and PNNL has submitted this technology for a 2009 R&D 100 Award.

According to Battelle Fellow Dr. Richard D. Smith, who nominated Dr. López-Ferrer for the award, Daniel "has been the creative force behind a number of technical advances that benefit EMSL's high-throughput proteomics capability by overcoming the bottleneck in throughput at the front end of the workflow."

Dr. López-Ferrer received his Ph.D in Biochemistry from the Autonomous University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain, in 2006. He has been a PNNL postdoctoral research associate since 2006.

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