

On the contest “Best reviews and articles published in *Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk* [*Physics – Uspekhi*] (*UFN*) journal in 2015”

In 2016, a competition for the best review and the best article published in the journal *UFN* in 2015 was carried out thanks to State assistance to scientific journals development programs.* Analogous competitions were carried out in 2014 (considered in the competition were articles from 2013; see *UFN* 185 (1) 2 (2015) [*Phys. Usp.* 58 (1) 1 (2015)]) and in 2015 (considered in the competition were articles from 2014; see *UFN* 186 (1) 2 (2016) [*Phys. Usp.* 59 (1) 1 (2016)]), and as the assistance to journals programs was extended to 2016, a competition of publications from 2015 was carried out.

Like last year, it was decided to carry out the contest separately for “Reviews of topical problems” and for papers from other *UFN* rubrics (two sets of nominations). The authors of monographic reviews published in *UFN* over already 22 years (from 1994 to 2016) were again invited as experts (except, of course, for authors of reviews and articles from 2015). This time, concrete nominations were proposed by a record number (147) of experts, and it was not so unexpected for us that 74 out of 78 papers published in the rubrics in the so-called Citable Items databases of Web of Science were nominated for the Prize! In our opinion, this shows that virtually each paper published in *UFN* in 2015 (as in 2013 and 2014) was also believed by some expert author to be the best, that is, most of the articles from 2015 also found interested and thoughtful readers, a pleasant outcome.

The ranked list of articles nominated by the expert authors was delivered to the members of the *UFN* editorial council and editorial board asking them to take into account this list and propose on its basis a list of nominations for 2015 *UFN* Prize.

The majority of members of the *UFN* editorial council and editorial board recommended that the laureates be awarded prizes according to the ranking obtained on the basis of the opinion of the expert authors, which was taken into account in summing up the competition results, in the category “Reviews of topical problems”, the largest number of expert authors voted for the review by L V Doronina-Amitonova et al., which became the winner in this category (first Prize), while the number of experts that voted for the next four reviews differed only slightly, and it was therefore decided to refer to authors of a “Best *UFN* Review of 2015”.

Among the papers from the rubrics “Physics of our days”, “Instruments and methods of research”, “Methodical notes”, and “From the history of physics”, the majority of votes were given to the paper by V I Dokuchaev and Yu N Eroshenko (from the rubric “Physics of our days”) and the paper by Yu E Kuzovlev (from the rubric “Methodical notes”). It was decided to recognize both papers as winners in the competition “Best papers of *UFN*-2015”. And as the number of votes given to other papers was one and a half times smaller than those given to these two papers (there were almost ten such papers with an approximately equal number of votes), it was decided not to give any more Prizes in this category but to divide the whole bonus fund in this category between the two winning papers. Thus, the list of reviews and papers that won the *UFN*-2015 Competition is as follows:

Best reviews for *UFN*-2015 (winner of the contest)

Doronina-Amitonova L V, Fedotov I V, Fedotov A B, Anokhin K V, Zheltikov A M “Neurophotonics: optical methods to study and control the brain” *Phys. Usp.* 58 (4) 345–364 (2015) [in Russian: “Neirofotonika: opticheskie metody issledovaniya i upravleniya mozgom” *Usp. Fiz. Nauk* 185 (4) 371–392 (2015)]

Best reviews for *UFN*-2015 (contest laureates)

Karnakov B M, Mur V D, Popruzhenko S V, Popov V S “Current progress in developing the nonlinear ionization theory of atoms and ions” *Phys. Usp.* 58 (1) 3–32 (2015) [in Russian: “Sovremennoe razvitiye teorii nelineinoy ionizatsii atomov i ionov” *Usp. Fiz. Nauk* 185 (1) 3–82 (2015)]

Barabanov A F, Kagan Yu M, Maksimov L A, Mikheyenkov A V, Khabarova T V “The Hall effect and its analogs” *Phys. Usp.* 58 (5) 446–454 (2015) [in Russian: “Effekt Kholla i ego analogi” *Usp. Fiz. Nauk* 185 (5) 479–488 (2015)]

Boos E E, Brandt O E, Denisov D S, Denisov S P, Grannis P D “The top quark (20 years after its discovery)” *Phys. Usp.* 58 (12) 1133–1158 (2015) [in Russian: “Top-kvark (k 20-letiyu otkrytiya)” *Usp. Fiz. Nauk* 185 (12) 1241–1269 (2015)]

Arseev P I “On the nonequilibrium diagram technique: derivation, some features, and applications” *Phys. Usp.* 58 (12) 1159–1205 (2015) [in Russian: “O diagrammnoi tekhnike dlya neravnovesnykh sistem: vyvod, nekotorye osobennosti i nekotorye primeneniya” *Usp. Fiz. Nauk* 185 (12) 1271–1321 (2015)]

Best paper for *UFN*-2015 (winners of the contest)

Dokuchaev V I, Eroshenko Yu N “Physical laboratory at the center of the Galaxy” *Phys. Usp.* 58 (8) 772–784 (2015) [in Russian: “Fizicheskaya laboratoriya v tsentre Galaktiki” *Usp. Fiz. Nauk* 185 (8) 829–843 (2015)] (Physics of our days)

Kuzovlev Yu E “Why nature needs 1/f-noise” *Phys. Usp.* 58 (7) 719–729 (2015) [in Russian: “Pochemu prirode nuzhen 1/f shum” *Usp. Fiz. Nauk* 185 (7) 773–783 (2015)] (Methodical notes)

All the authors of the winning papers of the “*UFN*-2015” Contest were given laureate diplomas at the P N Lebedev Physical Institute (FIAN) at the General Meeting of the Division of Physical Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences in March 2017. The English-language versions of laureate papers will be open for viewing on the site of our partners — the Institute of Physics Publishing (IOP): <http://iopscience.iop.org/1063-7869/> over the entire year of 2017 and will also be tagged with a special sign of laureate papers on the *UFN* site (www.ufn.ru), where a special page will be devoted to the “*UFN*-2015” Contest.

We congratulate the Prize winners of the “*UFN*-2015” Competition and are grateful to everybody who contributed to the implementation of this competition and took part in its organization. And although the State support for scientific journal development programs ended this year, we hope to find an opportunity to continue the Contest “Best *UFN* reviews and papers,” because we believe the Contest is interesting to the authors and readers of our journal.

Chairman of the Competition committee *V A Rubakov*
Secretary of the Competition committee *M S Aksent'eva*

* For information about government support for programs to develop scientific journals, see the next page.

*** Information about government support of the programs of development of scientific journals**

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation and the Nonprofit Partnership “National Electronic-Information Consortium” (NP “NEICON”) as executor of work announced in August of 1914 the competition for state assistance to scientific journal development programs. The competition was carried out in the framework of the federal special-purpose program, Research and Elaboration in Priority Directions of the Development of Scientific and Technical Structure of Russia in 2014–2020 (legislative enactment 3.3.1-IV turn-1) on the topic “Working out and implementing means for the demonstration and popularization of scientific-research and scientific-technical work and advances in education and science stimulating the formation of positive views in elucidation of topical processes in scientific research and intellectual technologies,” Code 2014-14-597-0006 (for information about the competition, see the sites <http://konkurs-jurnalov.neicon.ru/>, minobrnauki.rf/proekty/podderzhka-nauchnykh-zhurnalov/). Assistance to scientific journals for 2015 was continued.