



Pilania awarded Humboldt Research Foundation Fellowship

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Recipient of a Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers

Ghanshyam Pilania of the Laboratory's Materials Science in Radiation and Dynamics Extremes group is the recipient of a Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers presented by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

As a part of the fellowship, Pilania will visit the Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society in Berlin, Germany for 12 months to study rational materials design using state-of-the-art materials informatics and data mining techniques.

He will develop materials informatics models for complex functional oxides with a particular focus on perovskites and related compounds. These models are of practical interest for a range of applications requiring materials with pre-specified functionalities, including scintillation, photovoltaics, electronic device applications, energy storage, and catalysis.

Pilania's achievements

Pilania holds a doctorate in materials science and engineering from the University of Connecticut, where he used electronic structure theory to model the ferroelectric and catalytic properties of complex oxides. He also received the University of Connecticut's Materials Science and Engineering Department Outstanding Graduate Student Award. Pilania joined MST-8 as a postdoctoral research fellow in 2013 and received a Director's Postdoctoral Fellowship in 2014. His postdoctoral research has focused on the development and application of materials modeling tools ranging from electronic- to atomic- to meso-scale, simulations and materials informatics to understand and identify the relationships between the atomic scale structures/processes, and the macroscopic behavior and properties of materials.

About the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

The Humboldt Foundation promotes academic cooperation between excellent scientists and scholars from abroad and from Germany. The Foundation is unique in that it not only provides individual sponsorship for outstandingly qualified researchers but also provides a lifetime connection with Humboldt worldwide.

The research fellowships and awards enable scientists to come to Germany to work on a research project the individual has chosen together with a host and collaborative partner. Scientists or scholars from Germany also receive support to conduct research abroad as a guest of one of more than 27,000 Humboldt Foundation alumni worldwide.

The Humboldt Foundation grants about 500 fellowships each year to highly qualified researchers who are starting their academic careers. The postdoctoral program allows recipients to spend 6-24 months in Germany on a research program of their choosing. Fellowships are granted on the basis of an applicant's academic record and performance, the quality of key publications, the originality and innovation potential of the suggested research, and the applicant's future academic potential.

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