



Press information

Ulm, September 12, 2016

Josef G. Knoll European Science Award 2016 and Hans H. Ruthenberg-Graduate Award 2016 awarded by the Foundation fiat panis

Since 1986 the Father and Son Eiselen-Foundation Ulm, Germany and as successor the Foundation fiat panis starting from 2010 honoured young academics whose research focuses on solutions to mitigate hunger in food deficit countries with the Josef G. Knoll European Science Award. The research findings must be user-oriented and suitable to contribute to the improvement of the food and nutrition status and to reduce the impact of hunger (under-nutrition and malnutrition). The award is endowed with 30,000 Euros and awarded on September 19, 2016 during the Tropentag at the University of Soil Science (BOKU), Vienna.

The prize is awarded for outstanding scientific work which leads to an improvement of the world's food security. This year the jury selected from 12 top-class applications three outstanding works. The following doctoral theses are each awarded a prize of 10,000 Euros:

- “New Insights from Behavioral Economics in Developing Countries” by **Dr. Sabine Liebenehm**, supervised by Prof. Dr. Hermann Waibel, Leibniz University of Hanover
- “Sorghum Breeding Strategies for Phosphorus-Limited Environments in Western Africa: From Field to Genome Level” by **Dr. Willmar Leiser**, supervised by Prof. Dr. Bettina Haussmann, University of Hohenheim
- “Impact of Technological Innovation on the Poor – Integrated Aquaculture-Agriculture in Bangladesh” by **Dr. Abu Hayat Md. Saiful Islam**, supervised by Prof. Dr. Joachim von Braun, University of Bonn (ZEF)

The jury of the Josef G. Knoll European Science Award is composed as follows: Prof. Dr. Eva Schlecht, University of Kassel-Witzenhausen, Prof. Dr. Matin Qaim, University of Goettingen and Prof. Dr. Mathias Becker, University of Bonn. Since the first award ceremony in the year 1986 a total of 56 highly recognized Knoll winners received 330.000 Euro.

From 1999 to 2009 the Father and Son Eiselen-Foundation Ulm, Germany honored with the Hans Hartwig Ruthenberg-Graduate Award excellent diploma and master theses in the field of food security and poverty alleviation. The prize is awarded annually with the amount of 7,500 Euro. It can be divided up to not more than three prize winners. Since 2010 the Foundation fiat panis, as successor to the Father and Son Eiselen Foundation, awards the Hans H. Ruthenberg-Graduate Award. The award ceremony will take place also on September 19, 2016 during the Tropentag at the University of Soil Science (BOKU), Vienna. This year three excellent master theses are awarded:

- “Reproductive performance and modelled herd development of cattle kept by Borana pastoralists in Southern Ethiopia” by **Mrs. Mareike Aufderheide-Voigts**, supervised by Prof. Dr. Brigitte Kaufmann, University of Kassel-Witzenhausen
- “Citizen Science with Resource-poor Farmers as a new Approach to Climate Adaptation and Food Security: Evidence from Honduras” by **Mr. Jonathan Steinke**, supervised by Dr. Thomas Aenis, Humboldt-University Berlin
- “Evaluation of soil physical properties under long-term organic and conventional agricultural systems in Central India” by **Mr. Steffen A. Schweizer**, supervised by Dr. Sabine Zikeli, University of Hohenheim

The Jury of the Hans H. Ruthenberg-Graduate Award is composed as follows: Prof. Dr. Ulrike Grote, Leibniz University of Hanover; Prof. Dr. Regina Birner, University of Hohenheim and Prof. Dr. Michael Frei, University of Bonn. Since the first ceremony in 1999 a total of 49 Ruthenberg winners were awarded 122,500 Euros.