



**ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY**

**ICE - Italian Trade Commission**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Distinguished North American Students Win Italian Technology Award  
to Study Advanced Engineering in Italy**

November 2019 – The Italian Trade Agency (ITA) is pleased to announce the North American winners of its annual technology awards (see Attachment A for a full list). Essays by engineering students based in several renowned Universities in Canada, Mexico and the United States were selected by panels of Italian experts for their outstanding quality and innovativeness. Five scholars and eighteen students receiving the award have been honored with a one-week educational trip to Northern Italy commencing November 10th, 2019.

The initiative's fundamental mission is to enrich the engineering education of North American students while providing a *fast track* to the academic research conducted by students all the way through a ready audience of Italian machinery manufacturers, for their consideration and potential implementation. Among this year's awarded projects some can be mentioned by way of example. In the area of machine tools, the development of an IoT architecture for automated machining process controls enhances tool life in turning operations. In the glassworking sector included, new methods to synthesize BixFesOo nanoparticles ex-situ and conduct preliminary neutron diffraction experiments helping to determine the expected signal strength of glass crystals.

The 2019 winners will join distinguished students from other countries in an intense education program at the ICRIM - International Center of Research on International Management (Milan, Italy) to discuss innovations and best practices in the machine manufacturing industry. The program will not only provide academic growth but also an excellent opportunity for practical experience in international collaboration. Divided into groups according to their specialization, students will then tour top Italian machinery manufacturing factories and discover first-hand innovative technologies which have made Italian manufacturers recognized world leaders. The exposure to these ecosystems is another fundamental feature of the program, useful to disseminate awareness and create long-lasting relationships.

The awards are sponsored by ITA via its offices in Chicago and Houston for the US, Toronto for Canada and Mexico City for Mexico. A wide range of partners, both in Northern American countries and in Italy, helps with making them possible (see details in Attachment B).

**To learn about the Italian industrial machinery sector, please visit and register with [www.machinesitalia.org](http://www.machinesitalia.org)**

**For real time updates during the Award Program in Italy, follow us on Twitter @ITAttradeagency @ITACHicago @ITAHouston @ITAMachines @ITAMexico\_ and @ITAToronto.**

**For more information please contact the following ITA Staff**

For the US *Machine Tool Technology Award* Program: Italian Trade Agency, Chicago Office, Mr. Bart Pascoli, Tel. +1 312 670 4360, Fax +1 312 670 5147 – [chicago@ice.it](mailto:chicago@ice.it)

For the US *Glassworking Machinery Technology Award* Program: Italian Trade Agency, Houston Office, Mr. Salvatore Grignano, Tel. +1 281 888 4288, Fax +1 281 974 3100 - [houston@ice.it](mailto:houston@ice.it)

For the Canadian *Machine Tool Technology Award* Program - Italian Trade Agency, Toronto Office, Mr. James Johnson, Tel. +1 416 598 1566, Fax +1 416 598 1610 - [toronto@ice.it](mailto:toronto@ice.it)

For the Mexican *Plastic and Machine Tool Technology Award* Programs: ICE - Agencia Italiana para el Comercio Exterior, Ms. Eugenia Mesta, Tel. +52 55 52808425, Fax +52 55 52802324 - [mexico@ice.it](mailto:mexico@ice.it)

## Attachment A

### 2019 International Italian Technology Machinery Award North American Student and Professor Recipients

<b>Glassworking Award USA</b>	Justin Papa - Robert Morris University of Pittsburgh Thomas Siggillino - Lehigh University Prof. Arif Sirinterlikci - Robert Morris University of Pittsburgh
<b>Machine Tool Award Canada</b>	Raphael Boulis - University of Waterloo Devon Hartken - University of Waterloo Bruna do Nascimento Figueredo - University of Waterloo Hossein Pishyar - University of Waterloo Prof. John Montesano - University of Waterloo
<b>Machine Tool Award Mexico</b>	Martin Alejandro Cornelio Aguilar - UPAEP-CP José Mariano Flores Herrera - UANL Mitchel Alexis Serrano Mendencia - UPAEP-CP Erwin Guillermo Walter Sanchez - UPAEP-CP Prof. Alberto Javier Pérez Unzueta - UANL
<b>Machine Tool Award USA</b>	Kenneth Doyle - Texas A & M Vinh Nguyen - Georgia Institute of Technology Cara Stolz - Texas A & M Matthew Triebe - Purdue University Prof. Simin Nasseri - Kennesaw State University
<b>Plastic Award Mexico</b>	Gabriela Torreblanca Bustos - Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla, Valeria Nampula Constantino UPAEP-CP Wendy Lizbeth Gaytan Guardiola - Universidad Autónoma De Nuevo León (UANL) Mauricio Ramirez Partida - UPAEP-CP Prof. Daniel Pedraza Hernandez - UPAEP-CP

## **Attachment B**

### **Background information**

#### ***Awards by sector and relevant co-sponsors***

All awards are sponsored by the ITA in collaboration with relevant Italian entrepreneurial associations, which act as co-sponsors and take part in selecting the essays. The US programs have as their US counterpart the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME). The Canadian program partners with the University of Waterloo. The Mexican programs are carried out in collaboration with UANL and UPAEP universities. As collaborative partners in the initiative, each organization is motivated to support ITA's mission to advance knowledge globally within the machine manufacturing industry for the next generation of engineering professionals.

This year is the

- \* eighth US, fourth Canada and third edition of Mexico Italian Machine Tool Technology Award (IMTTA) in collaboration with the Association of Italian Manufacturers of Machine Tools, Robots, Automation Systems & Ancillary Products (Ucimu - Sistemi per produrre)
- \* third US Italian Glassworking Machinery Technology Award (IGMTA) in collaboration with the Italian Association of Glass-Processing Machinery and Accessory Suppliers (Gimav)
- \* sixth edition of Mexico Italian Plastic Machinery Technology Award (IPMTA), in collaboration with the Italian Plastics and Rubber Processing Machinery and Moulds Manufacturers' Association (Amaplast).

#### ***Italian Trade Agency***

The Italian Trade Agency is the governmental agency entrusted with the promotion of trade, business opportunities and industrial co-operation between Italian and foreign companies. It supports the internationalization of Italian firms and their consolidation in foreign markets. The Agency's educational programs are based on the following pillars: research, innovation, communication and quality control of training processes. The Agency has agreements and programs with Italian Regions and local governments for the education and training of technical personnel, students and firms. Follow @ITACHicago, @ITAHouston\_, @ITAToronto and @ITAMexico\_ on Twitter and visit [www.italtrade.com](http://www.italtrade.com).

#### ***Italian entrepreneurial associations***

##### **Italian Plastics and Rubber Processing Machinery and Moulds Manufacturers' Association (Amaplast)**

Founded in 1960, AMAPLAST, a non-profit Association, known as Assocomaplast until 2017, represents the most important companies, Italian plastics and rubber machinery, ancillary equipment and moulds manufacturers. The main aim of Amaplast is to promote worldwide the knowledge of the Italian sector technologies that are at the top of the world market, in terms of production and export outputs. Follow @AMP\_Amaplast on Twitter and visit [www.amaplast.org](http://www.amaplast.org).

### **Italian Association of Glass-Processing Machinery and Accessory Suppliers (Gimav)**

As an evolution of the Italian glass-making tradition, Gimav represents Italian excellence in glass-making machinery today. This industrial sector has expanded internationally by employing innovative technology that meets today's marketplace needs. Gimav's 69 member companies are known for customizing machines to meet exacting end-user specifications, from high-rise building construction to fine arts applications. Follow @GIMAV\_Italia on Twitter and visit [www.gimav.it](http://www.gimav.it).

### **Association of Italian Manufacturers of Machine Tools, Robots, Automation Systems and Ancillary Products Ucimu-Sistemi per produrre**

The objective of Ucimu-Sistemi per produrre has always been to promote the interests of the industry and the growth and spread of an entrepreneurial culture through the supply of services that are constantly updated to meet the requirements of the companies operating in this particular sector. Follow @UCIMU on Twitter and visit [www.ucimu.it](http://www.ucimu.it).

### ***US associations***

#### **Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)**

SME connects all those who are passionate about making things that improve our world. As a nonprofit US organization, SME has served practitioners, companies, educators, government and communities across the manufacturing spectrum for more than 80 years. Through its strategic areas of events, media, membership, training and development and through the SME Education Foundation, SME is uniquely dedicated to the advancement of manufacturing by addressing both knowledge and skills needed for the industry. Follow @SME\_MFG on Twitter or facebook.com/SMEemfg and visit [www.sme.org](http://www.sme.org).

### ***Universities and research centers***

#### **University of Waterloo**

In just half a century, the University of Waterloo, home to the world's largest post-secondary co-operative education program and located at the heart of Canada's technology hub, has become a leading comprehensive university with more than 36,000 full- and part-time students in undergraduate and graduate programs. Consistently ranked Canada's most innovative university, Waterloo is home to advanced research and teaching in science and engineering, mathematics and computer science, health, environment, arts and social sciences. From quantum computing and nanotechnology to clinical psychology and health sciences research, Waterloo brings ideas and brilliant minds together, inspiring innovations with real impact today and in the future. Follow @UWaterloo on Twitter and visit [www.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.uwaterloo.ca).

#### **Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León (UANL)**

UANL is the third largest university in Mexico and the most important public institution of higher education which offers the largest number of academic programs in Northeastern Mexico. Today, the university has about 153,000 students and 6,400 professors. There are 37 distinct research centers within the University network employing a wide number of highly recognized researchers; 530 of them are acknowledged by the National Researchers System (SNI). Follow @uanl on Twitter and visit [www.uanl.mx/en](http://www.uanl.mx/en).

### **Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla (UPAEP)**

Founded in 1973, UPAEP is currently a highly reputed university with both an important national and international presence offering over 43 undergraduate programs, 34 masters programs, 12 Ph.D programs and 11 specialized degrees. It hosts the High Technology Service Center (CESAT), responsible for providing technological development, research, certification and consulting about solutions to industrial as well as societal problems. Several Italian machines have been installed at the University, in its center dedicated to developing advanced plastic technologies. Follow @UPAEP on Twitter and visit [www.upaep.mx](http://www.upaep.mx)

### **International Center of Research on International Management (ICRIM)**

The International Center of Research on International Management (ICRIM) is part of a network of 35 university centers created on the Milan Campus of UCSC - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Europe's largest private university, founded in Milan in 1921. ICRIM is a scientific institution established in the fall of 2008 within UCSC, offering a meeting point for researchers from a multitude of Universities, University Departments and Research Groups throughout the world to promote scientific research activities in the field of International Management. Follow @MIB\_Master on Twitter and visit [www.icrim.eu](http://www.icrim.eu)