

“Research Award – Young Researcher 2014” to the University of Cyprus

Lecturer Triantafyllos Stylianopoulos

For the utilization of the funding he received from University of Cyprus for the creation of Cancer Biophysics Laboratory

This year the “Research Award – Young Researcher 2014” on the thematic area of “Physical Sciences and Engineering” was awarded to Dr Triantafyllos Stylianopoulos, Lecturer of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering at the University of Cyprus and Director of the Cancer Biophysics Laboratory.

Dr Stylianopoulos developed two mathematical models for the optimization of transferring pharmaceutical preparations to cancerous tumors. The use of the results of these mathematical models, together with their experimental confirmation from the laboratory of Professor Rakesh K. Jainm from the Department of Radiotherapeutic Oncology of the Harvard Medical School, led to specific guidelines on the nanoparticles design for optimizing of their transfer in the cancer area and consequently in maximizing the efficiency of the treatment. The results of this research effort were published in leading journals including: Nature Nanotechnology, PNAS, Cancer Research and Nature Communications.

The successful outcome of Dr Stylianopoulos’ funded project has assertively contributed for a grant of € 1.44 million from the European Research Council with which Dr Stilianopoulos completed the establishment of the Cancer Biophysics Laboratory, that was launched with a start-up fund of €85.000 set from the University of Cyprus. Grants of the European Research Council are the most competitive and prominent in the European Union with less than 7% success rate.

The research activity of the Laboratory has collected a total funding of € 1.6 million, almost entirely of European Union programmes. The work of the Laboratory is perceptible among the international scientific community with distinctions and awards from bodies, such as The American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.