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# [AIST grants 2021 Peaslee Award to Dr. Qing and Dr. Xu](#)

September 3, 2021

The Association for Iron & Steel Technology awarded the [Kent D. Peaslee Junior Faculty Award](#) to Dr. Jingjing Qing, Manufacturing Engineering; Dr. Mingzhi Xu, Mechanical Engineering; and Dr. Nilesh Kumar of the U. of Alabama. Dr. Xu and Dr. Kumar both also received the award in 2020, but this is Dr. Qing's first time receiving the award.

The purpose of the award is to increase the number of young engineering professors with an interest in the iron and steel industry by helping them build their research and professional service activities towards obtaining tenure. The maximum grant is \$35,000 per year, renewable for a maximum of three years. The grant provides seed money for steel-related research projects, develops relationships between university and industry personnel, and recruits students for employment in the steel industry.

[Dr. Jingjing Qing](#) joined Georgia Southern's Department of Manufacturing Engineering in 2018, and specializes in materials characterization, metallography, metal casting, and metal solidification. She earned her Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology.

[Dr. Mingzhi Xu](#) joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering also in 2018 and specializes in metalcasting, steel making, metallurgy, materials science, and materials characterization.

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