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### Student Author of the Year Award 2009

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The “Student author of the Year Award” is made for an outstanding paper in which an undergraduate or graduate student played a key role in the research and publication. The recipient of this award for 2009 is

**Rubén Díez Fernández**

for his contribution, co-authored with José R. Martínez Catalán 3D Analysis of an Ordovician igneous ensemble: A complex magmatic structure hidden in a polydeformed allochthonous Variscan unit *Journal of Structural Geology*, Volume 31, Issue 3, March 2009, Pages 222–236.

The Editors have selected this paper out of many student submissions in 2009. The basis of this paper is detailed field mapping, metamorphic petrology and structural analysis. These clearly establish a tectonic history for an area of felsic orthogneisses, paragneisses and schists deformed into large recumbent

folds in the Variscan orogeny, in the amphibolite facies. The paper unravels the original geometries of intrusions, which were affected by three phases of deformation. Down-plunge projection and sections perpendicular to local fold hinges provide the key to the three-dimensional geometry, which is constructed in CAD software. Folded surfaces illuminated from various directions beautifully illustrate the model. One of the orthogneisses is interpreted to have been a ring dyke, which is appropriate to its alkaline geochemistry. Unstraining the model validates this conclusion.

This paper was recognized as outstanding because it integrates several approaches: in this case, field mapping, structural and metamorphic analysis, and geometrical modelling. It tackles a difficult question, and the outcome suggests that other areas where intrusions have been strongly deformed could be understood by a similar approach. The well-directed use of CAD software for this type of problem opens up many interesting possibilities, such as the unstraining exercise carried out in this study, as well as other quantitative analyses.

Congratulations to **Rubén Díez Fernández** and indirectly to his PhD supervisor, José R. Martínez Catalán, who is mentoring him in structural geology. The *Journal of Structural Geology* is pleased to have the opportunity to publish this work.

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