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Prof. Angel Martí
Inaugural Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Awardee
See page 23

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THE Indicator

http://www.theindicator.org/

The monthly newsletter of the New York & North Jersey Local Sections of the American Chemical Society. Published jointly by the two sections and distributed to their 6,200 members.

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EDITORIAL DEADLINES

Issue	*Deadline*
March 2026	February 16, 2026
April 2026	March 16, 2026
May 2026	April 16, 2026
June 2026	May 16, 2026

The Indicator (ISSN 0019-6924) is published on-line monthly except July and August by the New York and North Jersey Local Sections of the American Chemical Society, Office of Publication.

THIS MONTH IN CHEMICAL HISTORY

Harold Goldwhite, California State University, Los Angeles • **hgoldwh@calstatela.edu**

In this column I am continuing my examination of Volume XXIII of the Annual Reports on the Progress of Chemistry for 1926 of The Chemical Society. On examining partially frozen helium no boundary was seen between the liquid and solid phases, indicating that the refractive indices of the two phases must be closely alike. Quartz glass is permeable to 100 atm. pressure of helium but under a similar pressure of hydrogen no permeability was detected.

A number of what are called metal hydrides seem to be solid solutions with compositions close to stoichiometric hydrides. For example calcium hydride contains less hydrogen than the formula CaH_2 and at room temperature shows a measurable pressure of gaseous hydrogen that steadily increases. Similarly copper hydride, formulated as CuH, contains less hydrogen than is implied in that formula, and loses hydrogen when it is heated. Comparable observations were made on the so-called hydrides of several lanthanides as well as zirconium and thorium.

In an unusual observation silver perchlorate, unlike most other metal perchlorates, is found to be highly soluble in toluene. A solution saturated at 25° was found to contain 50.3% of the perchlorate.

Relatively pure beryllium has been made by electrolyzing its fluoride at 1200° and then subliming the product in a crucible of Ba O. This purified beryllium has a density of 1.84 and m.p. above 1280°. It can be polished to a high brightness and does not corrode in the atmosphere but is not ductile. Experiments on the conductivities of neutral and basic solutions of beryllium chloride and oxalate indicate that they contain a complex cation of formula Be.xBeO where x is probably less than 4.

In an important environmental health publication Stock has drawn attention to the possible mercury poisoning of laboratory workers exposed to mercury vapor at room temperature. The symptoms of such poisoning must be treated by several years of avoiding all work that involves liquid mercury. The finding is controversial, and sensitivity to mercury may vary from one worker to another. Nevertheless the observations indicate the need for very good ventilation in laboratories in which substantial amounts of liquid mercury are used.

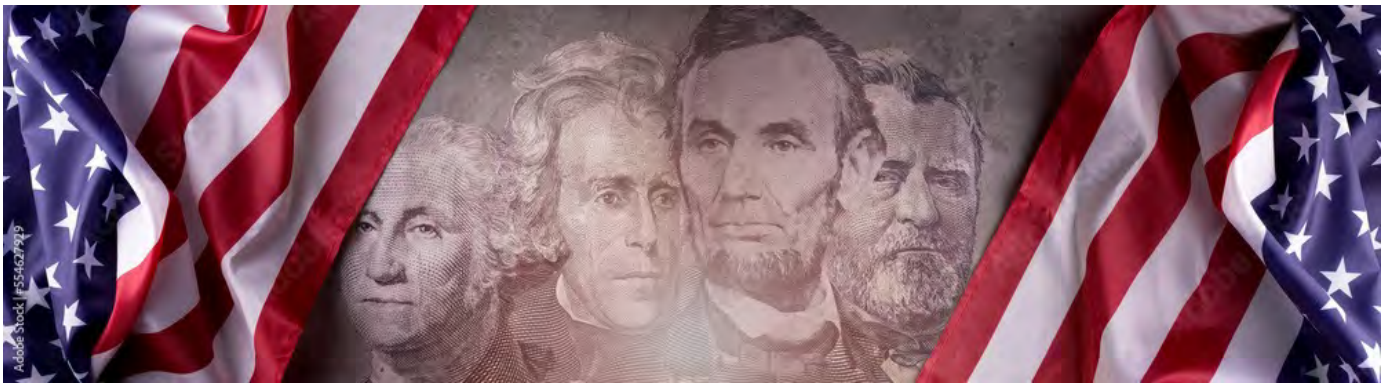
Diborane decomposes at room temperature to give B_5H_{11} b.p. 0°/57 mm. Diborane, unlike higher hydrides of boron, is not oxidized by oxygen or air at room temperature. Hydrolysis of diborane produces hydrogen and boric acid. When it is heated with excess ammonia above 200° the product formed is $B_2(NH)_3$. Linear structures are suggested for all the higher hydrides by analogy with carbon chemistry, thus B_4H_{10} "for which the constitution $BH_3BH_2BH_2BH_3$ is rendered probable if the "ethane" structure for diborane be accepted." Also "A study of the infrared absorption spectrum of diborane and its X-ray analysis affords strong evidence for the constitution $BH_3.BH_3$."

"By rapid manipulation and exact adherence to specified conditions , aluminium hydroxide is obtained in three forms,...which behave as distinct chemical compounds, all of the formula $Al(OH)_3$. By heating any one of these in a sealed tube at 250^0 with 10% ammonia, aluminium metahydroxide, AlO.OH, is obtained, having neither basic nor acidic properties but showing remarkable ability to adsorb enzymes selectively."

THIS MONTH IN CHEMICAL HISTORY (continued)

"Persistence in the search for element 61 has been rewarded by success. Examination of the L - series X-ray lines of carefully purified samples of rare earths showed a single faint line in the correct position for L 61." [This observation must be attributed to another cause. Promethium is so highly radioactive that if any had been present in terrestrial sources in past ages, with its longest-lived isotope having a half life of only 2.6 years , it would not have been detectable. The element was first produced at Oak Ridge in 1945.]

To be continued...



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Contact our Ad Sales Manager for more details

February Calendar

NORTH JERSEY SECTION

Monday, February 23, 2026
NJACS Mass Spectroscopy Discussion Group
Click above for updated information

Wednesday, February 25, 2026
Executive Committee Meeting
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Saturday, February 28, 2026
Nomination Deadline:
2026 North Jersey ACS Award for Creativity in Molecular Design & Synthesis:
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Long Island Subsection
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Westchester Chemical Society
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Board Committee Meetings
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Friday, April 10, 2026
William H. Nichols Distinguished Symposium and Medal Presentation Ceremony
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Ad Index

Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting
May 17 - 19, 2026 | Hershey, Pennsylvania

NORTH JERSEY SECTION MEETINGS

2026 NORTH JERSEY ACS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2026 North Jersey ACS Chair Mohammed R. Elshaer and the Executive Council welcome you to our monthly NJACS meetings. The meetings are normally held on the second **Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.** All members are welcome to attend and become more involved in section activities. The initial dates for 2026 are, as follows:

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 (virtual) **Wednesday, March 25, 2026** (virtual)
Wednesday, April 22, 2026 (hybrid) **Wednesday, May 20, 2026** (hybrid)
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 (hybrid)

For links to the virtual meetings and RSVP for in-person attendance at hybrid meetings, please see our Section Calendar.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2026 NORTH JERSEY ACS AWARD FOR CREATIVITY IN MOLECULAR DESIGN & SYNTHESIS

THE ACS NORTH JERSEY SECTION SEEKS
NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2026
AWARD FOR CREATIVITY IN MOLECULAR DESIGN & SYNTHESIS

The ACS North Jersey Section is soliciting nominations for the 2026 Award for Creativity in Molecular Design & Synthesis. The award recognizes initiative, creativity, leadership, and perseverance in pure and/or applied chemistry. Nominees must have had broad impact in the areas of chemical synthesis, method development, bioorganic/medicinal chemistry, pharmaceutical sciences, and/or molecular recognition.

Nominations should include a letter describing the nominee's achievements, a brief biography and curriculum vitae, and a list of the nominee's important published works. Supporting letters are strongly encouraged.

Please submit materials by **February 28** to Professor Magnus Bebbington: bebbingtonm@montclair.edu. The prize consists of a crystal plaque and a $5,000 honorarium.

NEW YORK SECTION MEETINGS

http://www.newyorkacs.online

BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2026

The dates for the Board Meetings of the ACS New York Section for 2026 have been selected and approved. Please note, the meeting date has changed to Wednesday and all meetings may be joined virtually except for the Nichols Symposium.

The meetings are open to all – everybody is welcome, but an RSVP for in-person attendance is required 5 days before the meeting, the Friday before the Wednesday meeting. All members who would like to attend any of the meetings should inform the New York Section office by emailing Ms. Bernadette Taylor.

All 2026 Board Meetings will be held as hybrid meetings from the CUNY Graduate Center (directions). New York ACS Chair Mr. Joseph Wiener will Chair all meetings. The meetings will start at exactly 6:30 PM.

The board meetings dates are, as follows:

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 (hybrid)

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 (hybrid)

Friday, April 10, 2026 (in person only)
William H. Nichols Symposium and Medal Award Presentation at St. John's University.

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 (hybrid)

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 (hybrid)

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (hybrid)

More information will be posted in future monthly issues of *The Indicator* and on the New York ACS website.

MEMBER REVIEW REQUESTED: NYACS OPERTATIONS MANUAL

The New York Local Section is pleased to announce that the final draft of the **NYACS Operations Manual** is now complete and ready for review by our general membership. This manual serves as the foundational guide for our section's governance, administrative procedures, and strategic operations.

How to Participate. We value the input of our members and invite you to review the document and provide feedback.
•**View the Draft:** A PDF copy of the final draft can be accessed by clicking here.
•**Submit Comments:** Please email your review, comments, or suggestions directly to **Eric P. Chang (echang@pace.edu)**, 2025 NYACS Chair and 2026 Immediate Past Chair.

Timeline and Next Steps. The open commenting period will conclude the week prior to the first Board meeting of the year, allowing for the consolidation of feedback.
•**Deadline for Feedback:** Wednesday, February 18, 2026, by 11:59 PM.
•**First 2026 Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 25, 2026**, held virtually.

Governance Action. During the meeting on February 25th, Dr. Chang will share the collected feedback with the NYACS Board of Directors. We also invite any interested members to attend this meeting to discuss any concerns or suggestions further.

Upon the conclusion of the discussion, the Board will move to:

1.Accept any revisions suggested during the open commenting period.
2.Vote on whether to adopt the Operations Manual, effective immediately upon the conclusion of the February 25, 2026 NYACS Board meeting.

NEW YORK ACS NANOSCIENCE TOPICAL GROUP

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY TOPICAL GROUP: SAVE THE DATE

LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

ACS Local Section
New York
Long Island Subsection

History and Chemistry of Mirror Through the Centuries

Dr. Paris Svoronos
Professor (Retired)
Department of Chemistry
Queensborough Community College

Tuesday, February 10th, 2026
6:30-7:30 PM on Zoom
Register to receive the Zoom link:
https://suny-ow-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/e_tKbLBMTTud7pX7ysR9UA

Abstract: The concept of mirror has been adopted by humans since the early history of ancient civilizations. The various ways of image reflections will be presented throughout the many societies over the centuries with emphasis on the social, artistic, religious as well as the various ways of mirror manufacture.

Biography: Paris Svoronos earned his PhD in Organic Chemistry at Georgetown (1979) and has served as a full-time faculty at CUNY Queensborough Community College (CUNY-QCC) for over 40 years (1981-2021). He was the first Chemist to be selected as Professor of the Year by the CASE/Carnegie Foundation (2003) and the only community college faculty to be presented the James Flack Norris Award by the ACS-NE section (2021). He has served Long Island Subsection of the American Chemical Society (LI-ACS) as its Chair (2002), Director-at-Large and Secretary. He was selected as the ACS-NY Section Chair (2015), Community College first Professor of the Year (2019) and alternate counselor. He is an ACS fellow (2018), as well as a recipient of the Stanley Israel Award for advancing diversity in the chemical sciences (2018), and the Ann Nalley Regional Award for volunteer service (2016). He chairs the ACS-Long Island Section Frances Sterrett Environmental Symposium held annually at Hofstra University. He has served MARM as co-General Chair (2008, QCC), co-Program Chair (2016, Mount St. Vincent), the poster co-chair (2023, CUNY, New York) as well as an ACS-General Chemistry Test Committee member (2018-2021).

Presented by the Long Island Subsection of the American Chemical Society

LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

A PCSK9 Vignette: From mRNA Display to Passively Permeable Macrocycles

Speaker: **Dr. Yuhua Huang**
Principal Scientist, Merck & Com. Inc.
Date: **Thursday, March 17, 2026**
Place: Zoom (registration)
Time: **6:30 PM**

Download flyer here

WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

The Critical Attributes of Tunable Lactide/Glycolide Polymers That Drive The Performance of Long-Acting Injectables

Speaker: **Tom Tice, Ph.D.**
Senior Director, Global Strategic and Technical Marketing
Evonik Corporation
Date: **Thursday, February 12, 2026**
Place: via Zoom
Time: **7:30 PM**

Download flyer here

Abstract: There are a small number of established pharmaceutical excipients that will continue to be cornerstones of drug formulation for the foreseeable future. Lactide/glycolide polymers (PLG polymers) are members of this unique group of proven excipients. PLG polymers have a long safety record with many inherent properties that make them particularly advantageous for complex parenteral drug products such as long-acting injectables, including microparticle, implant and in situ forming dosage forms. PLG polymers are exceptional in that their properties can be precisely tuned to achieve desired formulation performance for systemic or local delivery of all classes of drugs - including small molecules, peptides, proteins and nucleic acids - for durations of weeks and months. Although PLG polymers were invented over 90 years ago and have been used in medical products for over 50 years, their utility is sometimes overlooked and not fully appreciated. The goal of this presentation is to educate formulators - especially the next-generation of formulators - on the extraordinary value of PLG polymers because understanding PLG critical attributes helps formulators specify the PLGs they would like synthesized by their PLG suppliers. In addition to long-acting dosage forms, future PLG-based products like polymeric nanoparticles for immunotherapy will be discussed as well the newly published PLG monographs and PLG nomenclature.

.

Biography: Thomas R. Tice, PhD, Senior Director, Global Strategic and Technical Marketing, Evonik Corporation, provides scientific support to Evonik's product development, sales, M&A, and intellectual property teams. Dr. Tice is internationally recognized for his research and drug product development in the field of drug delivery. He has lectured on the topic throughout the world. His specialties include complex parenteral dosage forms formulated with bioabsorbable polymers. He has 47 years of experience developing long-acting injectable microparticles and implants made with bioabsorbable lactide/glycolide polymers. He is one of the inventors of the first commercial, bioabsorbable long-acting injectable microparticle product. Dr. Tice holds 49 US patents and has more than 230 publications, presentations and invited lectures to his credit. He has served on United States Pharmacopeia expert committees for 20 years dedicated to improving global health through setting pharmaceutical standards. He is presently serving on the General Chapters Dosage Forms Expert Committee, Excipients Nomenclature and Labeling Joint Subcommittee and LG Polymers Joint Subcommittee. In 2025, Dr. Tice received USP's highest award, the Beal Award, for distinguished volunteer service.

.

WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Our Chemical Heritage: Its Impact on Our Daily Lives

Speaker:	**Mary Virginia Orna, Ph.D.** Professor of Chemistry, Emerita College of New Rochelle
Date:	**Tuesday, March 3, 2026**
Place:	Westchester Community College & Zoom
Time:	**5:30 PM Coffee Hour** **6:00 PM Speaker**

Download flyer here

WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST AWARDEE

The Westchester Chemical Society is pleased to announce that its 2026 Distinguished Scientist Award will be granted to **Dr. Columba de la Parra**, Assistant Professor in the Chemistry Department at Lehman University, The Graduate Center, CUNY. She has received the NIH SuRE (Support for Research Excellence) R16 Award (2024-2028) and the Feliks Gross Award for Outstanding Research for Assistant Professors CUNY (May 2022), among other honors. She will be recognized for her teaching and research into translation initiation and the metabolic switch in breast cancer metastasis and molecular mechanisms by which bioactive compounds act on chronic diseases.

The 2026 Distinguished Scientist Award will be presented to Dr. de la Parra on **Tuesday, April 28, 2026**, at Pace University in Pleasantville at the Westchester Chemical Society Distinguished Scientist and Student Achievement Awards Dinner. The event will be in-person with a Zoom option. More details will follow in future issues of the Indicator.

2026 WILLIAM H. NICHOLS DISTINGUISHED SYMPOSIUM & AWARD PRESENTATON

FRONTIERS IN MATERIALS CHEMISTRY AND ENERGY INNOVATION

A distinguished symposium honoring

Professor Mercouri G. Kanatzidis
Northwestern University

for transformative work in halide-perovskite solar cells

Date: Friday, April 10, 2026
St. John's University
Directions

Time: 1:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Register here

Supported in part by the William H. Nichols Fund For Chemistry at the Boston Foundation

Symposium Program

1:00 PM **Welcome**
Mr. Joseph Wiener, 2026 New York ACS Chair, PepsiCo

1:05 PM **Greetings from St. John's University**

1:10 PM **Opening of the Distinguished Symposium**
Mr. Joseph Ulichny, 2026 New York ACS Chair-Elect, Columbia University

1:15 PM **Electrochemical Approaches for Sustainable Phosphate and Lithium Cycles**
Professor Kyoung-Shin Choi, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Phosphorus is one of the main components of fertilizers and is also essential for various industrial manufacturing processes. While the continued increase in the human population will require greater fertilizer production, global phosphate rock reserves are limited. Furthermore, the mining of phosphate rock, its conversion to phosphoric acid, and the disposal of phosphate-containing waste create multiple environmental concerns. Thus, it is highly desirable to develop cost-effective methods to recycle wasted phosphate into useful chemicals such as H_3PO_4, both to safeguard the supply of phosphorus and to protect the environment. Another element of critical interest is lithium. The growing number of electric vehicles (EVs) powered by lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) will generate a massive amount of spent LIBs in the near future. $LiFePO_4$ has recently become the most preferred cathode material for LIBs in EVs because it is significantly cheaper and safer than other cathodes. Recovering lithium from spent $LiFePO_4$ batteries using conventional methods, however, may not be economically viable

2026 WILLIAM H. NICHOLS DISTINGUISHED SYMPOSIUM & AWARD PRESENTATON (continued)

1:15 PM **Electrochemical Approaches for Sustainable Phosphate and Lithium Cycles**
Professor Kyoung-Shin Choi, University of Wisconsin-Madison (continued)

because, unlike Ni-, Mn-, and Co-based LIB electrodes, $LiFePO_4$ contains no valuable metals other than lithium. In this presentation, we will report new electrochemical approaches that we have been developing to selectively extract phosphate or lithium ions from waste and recover them as high-purity, useful chemicals (e.g., H_3PO_4 for phosphate and Li_3PO_4, Li_2CO_3, and LiOH for lithium). We will present the design and operating principles of electrochemical cells for phosphate and lithium recycling. Finally, we will highlight the sustainable nature of our electrochemical approaches, which minimize the use of chemicals and the generation of waste throughout the process.

1:45 p.m. **Application of Ductile Electronics Strategies to Soft Matter Solar Cells**
Professor Tobin Marks, 2010 William H. Nichols Medalist, Northwestern University

This lecture focuses on the challenging, understanding-based design, creation, and realization of new materials combinations for high-efficiency, environmentally stable, ductile (flexible and stretchable) polymeric organic solar cells (OSCs) which are also manufacturable at low cost and according to green chemical principles. While OSC power conversion efficiencies (PCEs) have now exceeded 20% and environmental stabilities have increased greatly, major materials design issues for next-generation polymer photovoltaic challenges remain and are the focus of this lecture. And it is clear that fabrication methodologies should include high-throughput, large-area, high-resolution printing techniques. Topics to be discussed are: 1. Targeting high-efficiency donor and acceptor materials classes that, among other properties, can be produced economically using established evaluation metrics of the pharmaceutical industry; 2) Developing synthetic methodologies that are environmentally benign (green) and produce materials with minimum structural/electronic defects and good opto-electronic performance; 3) Developing new non-fullerene acceptors that enhance molecular packing, hence PCE and OSC stability; 4) Creating exceptionally ductile OSCs with good PCEs by incorporating functional elastomers or plasticizing non-fullerene acceptors.

2:15 p.m. *Coffee Break*

2:45 p.m. **Discovering Compounds and Designing Materials**
Professor Ram Seshadri, University of California - Santa Barbara

In the literature, extended crystalline compounds are sometimes inaccurately labeled materials, but materials are usually compounds that display some useful functionality. Moreover, real materials, when employed in real-world applications, are rarely pure compounds. It is also of historical interest to note that the synthesis of chemical compounds often predates the discovery of the key functionality that would allow the compound to be declared a material, sometimes by decades. It is more often the case therefore, that compounds that have been previously synthesized are screened for their function. I will discuss approaches to the synthesis of new compounds (using examples of halide perovskites and double perovskites), and how computational tools aid in screening these compounds for useful functionality (using magnetocalorics and low-k dielectrics as examples). It turns out to be rarely the case that functional materials are made by design.

2026 WILLIAM H. NICHOLS DISTINGUISHED SYMPOSIUM & AWARD PRESENTATON (continued)

3:15 p.m. **Nature's Blueprint: Powering the Planet with Sunlight, Water & Carbon Dioxide**
Professor Aditya Mohite, Rice University

This presentation covers state-of-the-art research in solution-processed perovkite solar cells, where we have demonstrated commercially validated durability through the synergistic combination of 3D and 2D perovskites. We demonstrate state-of-the-art photoelectrochemical reactors for water splitting, which utilize perovskite photovoltaics where we have demonstrated >22% solar-to-hydrogen efficiencies with thousands of hours of on-sun operation. Finally, we make the case for CO2 as an asset and a valuable feedstock for the production of value added products and materials. Non-thermal or cold plasma processes present a the unique capability to perform chemical transformations in a non-equilibrium state, achieving efficiencies beyond those predicted by thermodynamics. One of the most attractive features is the opportunity to linearly scale this technology at flow rates of 100-200 liters per minutes per reactor in-house. These results have inspired the development of the "Plasma Foundry" for scalable decarbonization of industries.

3:45 p.m. **How Halide Perovskites Expanded the Frontiers of Photovoltaic Solar Energy**
Professor Mercouri G. Kanatzidis, 2026 William H. Nichols Medalist, Northwestern University

The discovery of halide perovskite materials as exceptional solar-absorbing semiconductors stemmed from the drive to develop more stable, all-solid-state dye-sensitized solar cells. What began as a modest goal led to far more than anticipated, resulting in the emergence of a remarkable new class of photovoltaic devices. Three-dimensional (3D) and two-dimensional (2D) halide perovskites have become standout semiconductors in recent years, known for their excellent carrier lifetimes and structural adaptability. Yet, the roles of Pb^{2+} and Sn^{2+} ions, along with the impact of organic spacer cations on structure and performance, remain areas that demand deeper investigation. Meanwhile, perovskitoids, a related but structurally distinct class of materials, offer expanded design flexibility through even richer structural and compositional diversity. Recent studies have shown that certain organic cations can stabilize these frameworks effectively. This presentation will explore the latest findings on structure–property relationships in halide perovskites and perovskitoids, providing practical insights into the rational design and integration of organic spacers in crystalline semiconductors and optoelectronic devices.

4:30 p.m. **Complimentary Reception for all Attendees and Speakers**

6:00 p.m. **William H. Nichols Medal Award Ceremony**

Supported in part by the William H. Nichols Fund For Chemistry at the Boston Foundation

2026 WILLIAM H. NICHOLS DISTINGUISHED SYMPOSIUM & AWARD BANQUET (continued)

6:00 PM **William H. Nichols Medal Award Ceremony**

Presiding;	**Mr. Joseph Wiener** 2026 Chair, ACS New York Section
ACS Greetings:	**To be announced**
Introductory Address:	**Tobin Marks, 2010 Nichols Medalist** Northwestern University
Medal Presentation:	**Mr. Joseph Wiener**
Acceptance Address:	**Dr. Mercouri G. Kanatzidis** Nichols Medalist

REGISTRATION

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50-year ACS member	**$0**	_____	$_____

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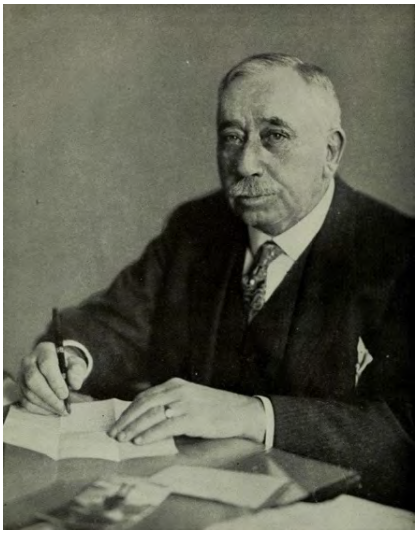
THE WILLIAM H. NICHOLS MEDAL AWARD



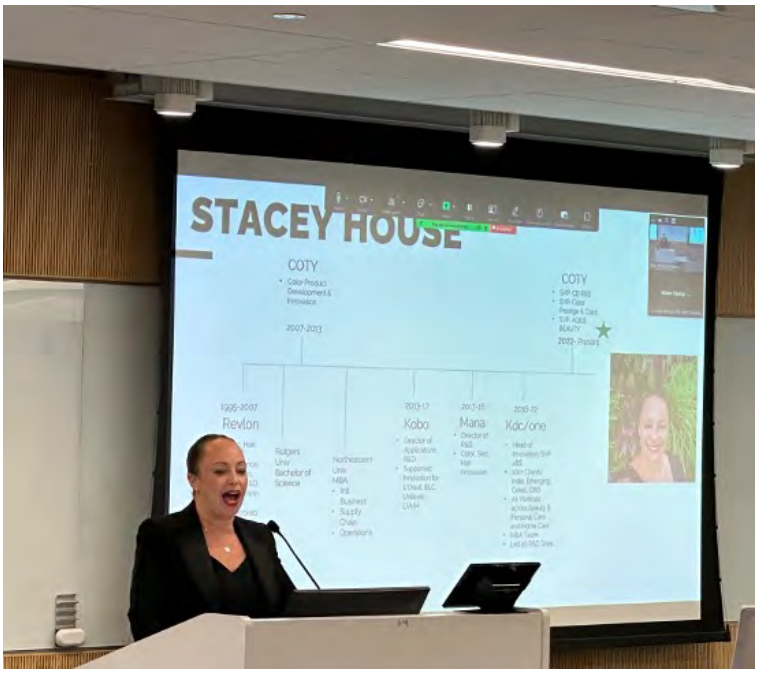
Dr. William H. Nichols, shown at right, established this annual award, the first of its kind, in 1902 to honor a chemical scientist for original research. Since its inception, the New York ACS has administered the award. It has been perpetuated through the generosity of Dr. Nichols, his family, and the Nichols Foundation, Inc. The Nichols Medal has been presented to 20 Nobel Laureates – including two double Nobel Laureates – and one Nobel Laureate twice, and 33 National Medal of Science recipients. Leo H. Baekeland won the Nichols Medal in 1910 and nine Nichols Medalists have also received the Leo H. Baekeland Award presented by the North Jersey ACS!

Read more here

Supported in part by the William H. Nichols Fund For Chemistry at the Boston Foundation

MEETING REPORTS

METROWOMEN CHEMISTS' SEMINAR

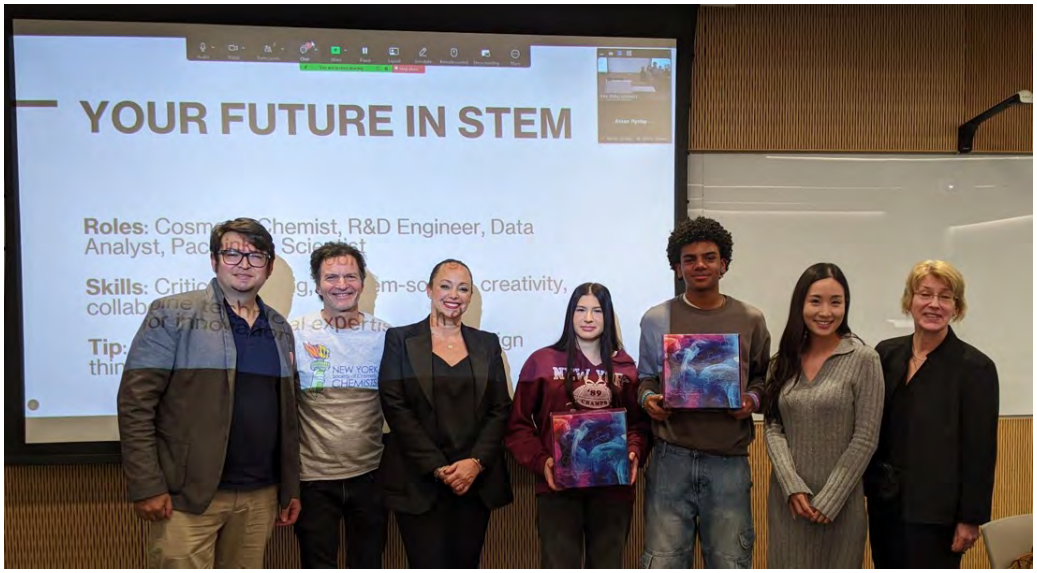


Stacey House, pictured at right & Global Senior Vice President, AGILE BEAUTY & INNOVATION at Coty gave a seminar at Pace University on November 20th, 2025, entitled "Cosmetics: Innovation in a Fast-Paced Industry". The presentation was also zoomed to our NY ACS members. A recording of the lecture can be accessed here.

Stacey spoke about how STEM is core to innovation and gave an account of her journey through her career, transitioning from working in Research & Development at Revlon to being involved in launching and marketing beauty products at Coty. This talk was of great interest to undergraduate students who are thinking of a future career in cosmetics.

Stacey was accompanied by two members of the New York Society of Cosmetic Chemists (NYSCC), Giorgio Dell'Acqua and Michelle Han. They brought two boxes of NYSCC merchandise that were raffled during the seminar.

After the seminar, Pace faculty and NYSCC members enjoyed a dinner at a local restaurant and were able to discuss the possibility of future collaborations. Importantly, this seminar provided a way for students interested in a career in Cosmetics to directly network and receive help from professionals in the Cosmetic Industry.



From Left: Eric Chang, Giorgio Dell'Acqua, Stacey House, Pace student winners of the two NYSCC merchandize boxes, Michelle Han and Rita Upmacis.

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE

The New York ACS gathered for some warm friendship on Saturday, January 24, 2026 at Iona University to celebrate the ACS's 150th Anniversary and the New York Section's 135th. The festivities were preceded with a continental breakfast. NYACS Chair Joseph Wiener, pictured at right, started the formal program which featured award presentations for volunteerism and excellence in the teaching of chemistry, celebration of the NYACS ChemLuminary Awardees, short talks by three Project SEED students, a brief talk about the ACS at 150 by ACS President Rigoberto Hernandez, and a inspiring lecture by Prof. Angel Marti (Rice University) who is the Inaugural Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Awardee.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDEE

Prof. Kathleen Kristian, 2022 New York ACS Chair, was recognized as the 2025 Outstanding Service Awardee for the New York ACS. She is being feted for her decade of impactful contributions to the New York ACS in terms of its programming, outreach, education, and inclusion. Dr. Kristian is the founding organizer of the Frontiers in Chemistry Symposium, a widely respected interdisciplinary forum that fosters collaboration among academia, industry, and students across the region. Since 2022, she have hosted the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Exam at Iona University and played a lead role in coordination the laboratory portion which prepares the next generation of chemists.

ACS PRESIDENT RIGOBERTO HERNANDEZ

ACS President Rigoberto Hernandez honored the New York ACS with his presence and brief remarks about the ACS @ 150 years. His talk was structured around the recent C&EN Article about the most consequential ACS Presidents and focused on fostering a sense of togetherness. He highlighted the role of Ira Remsen in founding the Johns Hopkins University Department of Chemistry, the ACS President's home department, and serving as an early ACS President. He brought enthusiasm for growing the ACS and engaging with its members. As he stated, it is ACS together, ACS first, and ACS for all.

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE (continued)

Outstanding Two-year College Teaching Awardee

Prof. Moni Chauhan is a Professor of Chemistry at Queensborough Community College (QCC) – City University of New York (CUNY). Dr. Chauhan came to QCC following undergraduate and Master's work in India, Doctoral work in France, and postdocs in Japan and North Dakota. She brought her incredible multinational work ethic to QCC starting in 2002. Dr. Chauhan currently serves as department Chairperson and serves QCC as the school's research integrity officer, college conflict officer, export control administrator, research agreement point person, and a coordinator of the STEM Academy (2009-2020). Instructor of record for 8 different courses offered by the QCC chemistry department and the author of 25 peer-reviewed publications, many co-authored with undergraduate students, Dr. Chauhan embodies the superlative teaching, research, and service of an R1 faculty member, and her community college students are lucky to have her.

Dr. Chauhan is the recipient of the 2025 Outstanding Two-year College Teaching award because she has consistently demonstrated exceptional innovation and creativity in the development of Chemistry curricular materials and her active involvements in QCC department. Her dedication to integrating chemistry into education and her active involvement in various QCC activities benefit her students and the local community.

Outstanding Four-Year Graduate College or University Teaching Award

Prof. Stanislaus S. Wong is a Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Stony Brook University who currently serves as Department Chair. Since Spring 2002, he has taught numerous graduate and undergraduate classes, specifically "Materials Chemistry" and "Introductory Chemistry Laboratory," respectively. Prof. Wong is research-active and has published over 200 papers to date. His research interest includes the development of organic materials to solve prominent challenges in sustainability and chemical biology. For his outstanding research contributions, Prof. Wong has been elected as a fellow to the American Chemical Society and the National Academy of Inventors. Prof. Wong is the recipient of this award due to continued success and commitment to teaching and research. Congratulations!

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE (continued)

Outstanding Four-Year Undergraduate College and University Chemistry Faculty Teaching Award

Prof. Elmer-Rico Mojica is a dedicated faculty member at Pace University, who employs innovative teaching methods, such as integrating pop culture and media (*e.g.,* "Chemtertainment") to make chemistry engaging and relatable. He has developed and taught unique courses, including a graduate-level course for high school teachers and a Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) in Analytical Chemistry. Dr. Mojica has published 87 peer-reviewed articles and 27 book chapters, with research spanning analytical chemistry, biochemistry, food science, and environmental science. He has mentored 93 students at Pace University, many of whom are co-authors. His students have presented at numerous academic conferences and have won awards. He has secured several research grants, including an NSF-MRI grant, and has equipped his lab with advanced instruments to enhance undergraduate research.

Prof. Mojica is the Director of Pace University's Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) that supports underrepresented students in STEM, and he also serves as Associate Director of the Forensic Science Masters Program and faculty advisor for the Forensic Science Student Organization. Dr. Mojica has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Kenan Award for Teaching Excellence (2023) and the Homer and Charles Pace Faculty Award (2021).

In recognition of Dr. Mojica's exceptional commitment to academic excellence and student mentorship, Dr. Mojica receives the 2025 New York Section of the American Chemical Society Outstanding Four-Year Undergraduate College and University Faculty Teaching Award. Congratulations!

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE (continued)

Outstanding Full-Time Lecturer Teaching Awardee

Dr. Julia Robinson-Surry, who unfortunately could not attend the Sectionwide Conference, has been a faculty member of the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering (CBE) at New York University's Tandon School of Engineering since September 2016, when she joined as an Assistant Industry Professor, and was most recently promoted to Industry Professor in September 2024. She is an exceptional educator whose primary professional calling is teaching, distinguished by meticulously prepared, student-centered instruction and a sustained commitment to curricular innovation. In addition to being an outstanding lecturer, she has developed new instructional materials for most of the courses she has taught, enhanced the rigor of organic chemistry courses at Tandon, designed twelve new hands-on molecular modeling activities, and optimized the analytical chemistry laboratory procedures. She has also created extensive lecture notes and problem sets for General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, and Analytical Chemistry. In recognition of her devotion to teaching excellence, she received the NYU Tandon Distinguished Teacher Award in 2019. In addition to her teaching achievements, Professor Robinson-Surry directs the undergraduate Biomolecular Science (BMS) program, overseeing faculty hiring and promotion, advising, course scheduling, and curricular development for chemistry and biology courses that serve nearly 1,000 engineering students annually.

In recognition of her teaching excellence, impact on student learning, and leadership in chemistry education, Professor Robinson-Surry is the recipient of the 2025 New York Section of the American Chemical Society Outstanding Full-Time Lecturer Teaching Award. Congratulations!

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE (continued)

Nichols Foundation High School Teacher Awardee

Krishna Alvarez of Midwood High School at Brooklyn College was honored as Nichols Foundation High School Teacher Awardee for 2025. Ms. Alvarez earned an M.A. in Adolescent Science Education from Brooklyn College, an M.S. in Chemistry from the University of Connecticut, and a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of the Philippines. Since 2016, I've been teaching Regents Chemistry and Science Research at Midwood High School at Brooklyn College, where her classroom is an everchanging mix of inquiry, discovery, and student choice. One of her proudest innovations is the Learning Menu Stations Activity, which is designed to give students ownership of their learning journey. By offering structured choices—experiments, modeling, analysis, reflection—students move through content at their own pace. It's more than differentiation; it's empowerment. I've watched hesitant learners light up as they realize, "I can do this."

The New York ACS proudly honors its 50-, 60- and 70-year members. Senior Chemist Committee Chair Mr. Frank Romano (at right) and Co-Chair Dr. Ronald D'Amelia (at left) are pictured with awardees Mr. Michael Epting (in red), and Dr. Herand M. Markarian.

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE (continued)

Inaugural Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Awardee

In 2023, the New York ACS honored Dr. Marie Maynard Daly, the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in Chemistry in the United States with a US National Historic Chemical Landmark at Columbia University. In 2025, the New York ACS extended its honoring of Dr. Daly's legacy with the establishment of an award in her honor. Profs. Maria Contel and Robert Hoyte, pictured at right, were co-chairs of the Dr. Marie Maynard Daly task force that established the award and they introduced the award at the 2026 Sectionwide Conference.

Prof. Angel Martí, Department Chair of the Rice University Department of Chemistry (pictured above at right with Dr. Marie Maynard Daly's picture at left), was presented with the first Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Award for his excellence as a research scientist, chemical educator, mentor, and unwavering advocate for diversity and inclusion in science. He presented an inspirational award lecture that detailed his childhood in Puerto Rico where he had to hitchhike to school and where his STEM interest started in mathematics. He detailed his first explorations in chemistry in his kitchen before moving his laboratory to an unused shower room. He credited his success in part due to the the excellent mentorship he received as an undergraduate and doctoral student at the University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras with Prof. Jorge L. Colón and in his postdoctoral position with Prof. Nicholas Turro at Columbia University.

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE (continued)

Inaugural Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Awardee (*continued*)

Prof. Angel Martí is exceptional academic, researcher, educator, mentor, and unwavering advocate for diversity and inclusion in science, he exemplifies the very ideals the Dr. Daly award represents. He has published over 125 impactful research papers which have garnered over 10,000 citations to date and explore inorganic and bioinorganic chemistry, nanoscience, and photochemistry. He chose to focus the technical section of his award address on his research using inorganic photochemistry to reveal metal binding sites in the amyloid proteins found in Alzheimer's Disease.

He also discussed his work in establishing the Rice Emerging Scholars Program (RESP), a residential academic program aiding college transition for first year students from underserved communities. RESP includes a six-week academic bridge program where students receive training in how to study in groups for college courses along with personalized mentoring. RESP has has proven effective in increasing retention rates and student success. Prof. Angel Martí noted in his award lecture, talent is universal, opportunity is not, He added that scientific leadership includes making room for other. His journey and contributions serve as a powerful source of inspiration for K–12 students, undergraduates, and early- to mid-career scientists from all backgrounds.

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Presentation of the Dr. Marie Maynard Daly award to Prof. Angel Martí (center). From left are Carly Ray Reid, granddaughter of Dr. Daly, Prof. Robert Hoyte, Prof. Angel Martí, Prof. Maria Contel and New York ACS Chair Joseph Wiener.

2026 NEW YORK ACS SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE (continued)

From Left to Right: Ms. Nadia Makar (NYACS Project SEED Coordinator and ChemLuminary receipient), three summer 2025 Project SEED participants – Serena Zheng, Karolyn Ali , and Ashanty Lopez – and Prof. Angel Martí (right).

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

STANLEY C. ISRAEL REGIONAL AWARD FOR ADVANCING DIVERSITY IN THE CHEMICAL SCIENCES

Recognizes individuals and/or institutions who have advanced diversity in the chemical sciences and significantly stimulated or fostered activities that promote inclusiveness within the region. This award is sponsored by the ACS Committee on Minority Affairs.

DUE MARCH 1, 2026

Learn more

WILLIAM "BILL" SUITS UNDERGRADUATE MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO THE ACS

Recognizes an outstanding undergraduate student who has provided exemplary volunteer service in the Mid-Atlantic Region of the ACS. Academic records, volunteer service in the region, and a student's application statement will be considered.

DUE MARCH 1, 2026

Learn more

E. ANN NALLEY REGIONAL AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Recognizes the volunteer efforts of individuals who have served the American Chemical Society, contributing significantly to the goals and objectives of the Society through their regional activities.

DUE MARCH 1, 2026

Learn more

E. EMMET REID AWARD IN CHEMISTRY TEACHING AT SMALL COLLEGES IN THE ACS MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION

Recognizes, encourages and honors high quality and outstanding achievements in teaching and research at small colleges in Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) of the American Chemical Society. Nominations for the Award are made by the Local Sections of the Middle Atlantic Region.

DUE MARCH 1, 2026

Learn more

ACS DIVISION OF CHEMICAL EDUCATION (CHED) REGION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HIGH SCHOOL TEACHING

Recognizes, encourages, and stimulates outstanding teachers of high school chemistry in the Middle Atlantic Region. The Region Award consists of a cash award and a plaque. The nominee must be actively engaged in the teaching of chemistry or a chemical science in a high school (grades 9-12) on at least a half-time basis.

Due March 1, 2026

Learn more

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

OPPORTUNITIES

For Undergraduates

AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science & Engineering (CASE) Workshop

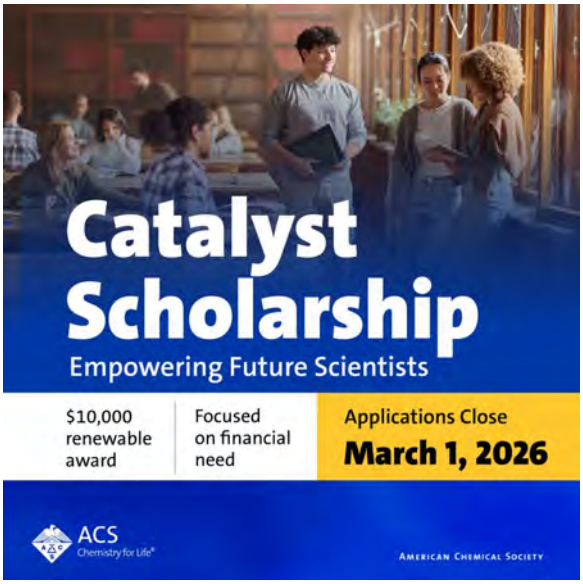
Due February 19

DOE & ACS Nuclear & Radiochemistry Undergraduate Summer Schools 2026

Due February 19

ACS Catalyst Scholarship

Due March 1



For Graduate Students / Postdocs

ACS Future Pharma Innovators Program

Due March 6

ACS Division of Organic Chemistry Undergraduate Award

Due March 18

For Professionals

Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Awards Program

Due February 3

2026 MARM Awards

Due March 1

ACS-PRF Grants

Due March 6

ACS Division of Organic Chemistry – Paul G. Gassman Distinguished Service Award

Due March 31

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

PUBLIC POLICY INTEREST?

The American Chemical Society is sponsoring two undergraduate or graduate students to attend the AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science & Engineering (CASE) Workshop on **April 12-15, 2026** in Washington, D.C. Participants learn more about the federal policymaking process, network with policy professionals, and collaborate with others engaged in science policy. **Applications are due February 19, 2026.**

Apply here

Submissions for the March 2026 issue of The Indicator are due on February 16, 2025.
http://www.theindicator.org/

INTERESTED IN AN ACADEMIC CAREER?

If you are a postdoctoral fellow interested in a faculty position in the chemical sciences at a college or university, the ACS is offering their Postdoc to Faculty Workshop (P2F) on **July 17-19, 2026** in Washington, D.C. The (P2F) provides postdoctoral scholars interested in pursuing faculty positions at institutions of higher education with guidance and resources to support their job search. The workshop consists of several panel discussions and presentations on topics ranging from finding positions, to the application and interview process, to navigating the first year. Key features include: individual consultations with current faculty, mock interviewing and networking opportunities.

Applications are due April 5, 2026.

Apply here

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS (continued)

INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE PHARMA INDUSTRY?

The ACS Future Pharma Innovators Program recognizes individuals who are interested in the pharmaceutical industry as a career path. This program provides an industry mentor and a $1500 stipend for travel to the Fall ACS Meeting to present their research and network with other program members and industrial chemists

[Application due March 6]

EASTERN ANALYTICAL SYMPOSIUM: CALL FOR SHORT COURSE PROPOSALS

Passion for teaching and expertise in analytical chemistry? The EAS Short Course Committee seeks proposals for course covering fundamental and advanced analytical techniques, as well as new, timely topics aligned with our 2026 theme: *Navigate the Future of Analytical Chemistry: Intelligence and Integrity*. The EAS will be held November 15-18, 2026 at the Crowne Plaza Conference Center in Plainsboro, New Jersey

[Proposals due February 20]

THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

IUPAC invites all to join the Global Women's Breakfast - a worldwide celebration on the UN's Day of Women and Girls in Science – **February 10, 2026**. Under the theme of 'Many Voices, One Science', the GWB will unite scientists and advocates to champion inclusion and belonging. Visit IUPAC Global Women's Breakfast website to learn more and register your event.

JOB BOARD

Starting your career or looking for the next challenge? Review postings at the New York ACS Job Board. Email your job postings to Jobs@NewYorkACS.org for inclusion.

Academic Positions

Laboratory Manager – Pace University (Pleasantville)

Apply here

Chair, Department of Materials Science and Chemical Engineering – Stony Brook University

Apply here

Assistant Professor of Chemistry – Touro University

Apply here

Tenure Track Assistant Professor - Chemistry and Biochemistry– Seton Hall University

Apply here

Two Assistant Professors of Chemistry – Tenure Track – University of Mount Saint Vincent

Apply here

Associate or Full Professor – Computational Materials Science – City College of New York (CUNY)

Apply here

Associate Dean of Natural and Social Sciences – Lehman College (CUNY)

Apply here

Industrial Positions

Associate Scientist – Regeneron

Apply here

Grants and Finance Administrator – American Chemical Society

Apply here

R&D Analytical Chemistry Manager, KLA

Apply here

Principal Scientist, Complex Fluids & Surface – Vantage Specialty Chemicals

Apply here

Scientist III/IV: Purification Assessment and Analytics, Biotherapeutics – Boehringer Ingelheim

Apply here

Senior Principal Scientist, Chemical Process Development – Bristol Myers Squibb

Apply here

Scientist in Radiation Chemistry – Brookhaven National Laboratory

Apply here

Analytical Research & Development Scientist – Veranova

Apply here

Director, Computational Chemistry, Modeling & Informatics – Merck & Co.

Apply here

Sr. Scientist, Analytical R&D – Merck &Co.

Apply here