

# ACS New York Section's 2026 Election Candidates

(Offices of Chair-elect, Secretary, Directors at Large and Councilors)

## CANDIDATES FOR CHAIR-ELECT FOR 2027

(1 YEAR TERM OF OFFICE)  
VOTE FOR ONE



**DR. ROLANDE HODEL:** Westchester Subsection

**EDUCATION:** Ph.D. Organic Chemistry, City University of New York, CUNY; M.S. Inorganic Chemistry, University of Kansas, Diplom Pedagogy, University of Tübingen, Germany; Chemistry Laboratory Technician Certificate, BASF, Ludwigshafen, Germany.

**PRESENT POSITION:** President and founder of AIDSfreeAFRICA, a non-profit organization focused on establishing drug production in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**ACS ACTIVITIES: NEW YORK SECTION:** Westchester Subsection: Treasurer: 13 years, Chair: 2006-2023, Director at Large: 2023, Chair 2024 ongoing.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member since 1993; National Tour Speaker for the ACS Speakers' Bureau; Member National Board Division of International Activities.

**STATEMENT:** I am pleased to run for Chair-Elect of the New York Section. ACS has a powerful voice in American society and worldwide. We get a lot right. In the current climate of fear and division we need to communicate the virtues of science as beacon of truth and vision for the future. Growing up through diverse crises, I had and still have the unshakable trust that science will find answers to tackle the world's most pressing issues. I believe in the scientific approach to truth. When some want to stifle free speech and force half-truth onto a population whose eyes are wide open, science can deliver answers and comfort. National ACS collaborates with international societies. I believe we will want this on the level of the NY Section. Since my work of the past 21 years happens in Sub-Saharan Africa, teaching out that fast comes natural. When division is planted everywhere, fostering our common humanity becomes mandatory. I ask for your vote. Thank you for voting.



**Dr. ISH KUMAR:** Hudson Bergen Subsection

**EDUCATION:** Research Associate, Wesleyan University, Postdoctoral, SUNY, Upstate Medical University, Ph.D. Bioorganic Chemistry; Institute of Microbial Technology (National lab), Panjab University, MS and BS in Chemistry, Panjab University, India

**PRESENT POSITION:** Professor of Chemistry at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus

**ACS ACTIVITIES: NEW YORK SECTION:** Member since 2007; Chair, Hudson Bergen Chemical Society, 2009, 2012, 2022-2025 and board of directors 2008-2025. Co-chair: Student Research Symposium & Award Night for 25 years. Organizes National Chemistry Week activities annually.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member for more than 15 years; Contributor to ACS journals.

**STATEMENT:**

It is an enormous privilege to be nominated as NYACS chair. This large section of the American Chemical Society has served the chemistry community for the past 125 years. I have been passionate about chemistry my entire life. I still remember my first chemistry teacher in India, who strengthened my foundation and enhanced my passion for the subject. I was inspired by my uncle, a dedicated carbohydrate chemist, who spent his entire life serving science at the University of Buffalo, with hundreds of peer-reviewed publications. Somehow, interest in chemistry among new generations is declining. Chemistry is a central science as it connects and integrates with other disciplines. My objective as Chair is to rekindle enthusiasm for it by conducting more chemistry-related activities among high school and college undergraduates and by talking about chemistry in the community.

*Chair-Elect Candidate Bios continue on the next page*



**DR. CARLOS SANHUEZA CHAVEZ:** Long Island Subsection  
**EDUCATION:** B.S. in Chemistry, Universidad de Concepción, Chile (2004); Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry, Universidad de La Laguna, Spain (2009); Postdoctoral Fellowship, Alberta Glycomics Centre, University of Alberta, Canada (2009–2012); Postdoctoral Research Associate, The Scripps Research Institute (2012); Research Scientist: Georgia Institute of Technology (2013–2018).

**PRESENT POSITION:** Assistant Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, St. John's University (2018–Present)

**ACS ACTIVITIES: NEW YORK SECTION:** Chair, Long Island Subsection (2025); Chair, Chemagination Competition (Present), Organizer, Chemagination Competition (2018–Present); Active Member, New York Section (2018–Present)

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member, American Chemical Society (Since 2012); Reviewer, Various ACS Journals including Journal of Organic Chemistry and ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters; Presenter/Participant, ACS National Meetings and Expositions (Multiple Years)

**STATEMENT:** I am honored to stand for election as Chair-Elect of the ACS New York Section. My commitment to our community is rooted in service and the belief that a strong professional network is vital for scientists at every career stage. During my tenure as Chair of the Long Island Subsection in 2025, I focused on revitalizing member engagement and creating inclusive spaces for collaboration. Furthermore, my leadership as Chair of the Chemagination competition has allowed me to champion the next generation of scientists by fostering curiosity in high school students.

If elected, my vision for the New York Subsection rests on three primary pillars:

1. Strengthening Inter-Subsection Collaboration: Bridging our various subsections to leverage collective expertise for larger, more impactful events.
2. Enhancing Student and Early Career Researchers Support: Providing Early Career Researchers and students with the mentorship and professional resources necessary to navigate a shifting job market.
3. Expanding Outreach Excellence: Ensuring programs like Chemagination remain sustainable, diverse, and well-supported across the entire New York region.

My experience as a medicinal chemist has taught me the value of precision, persistence, and multifaceted problem-solving. I ask for your vote to help me serve this vibrant community and ensure that the New York Subsection remains a leading voice within the National ACS.

## CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY 2027 - 2028 (2 YEAR TERM OF OFFICE) VOTE FOR ONE



**DR. PATRICIA GONZALEZ:** New York Section

**EDUCATION:** Ph.D. The Graduate Center, City University of New York; Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Chemical Sciences, Universitat de Barcelona (Spain)

**PRESENT POSITION:** Doctoral Lecturer, Department of Chemistry, Lehman College, City University of New York

**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** 2026 NY Section ACS Director-at-Large; Co-chair National Chemistry Week (2025-present); Minority affairs committee (2026); National Chemistry Week Volunteer (2023-present); ACS Undergraduate Research Symposium Volunteer (2023-2024).

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member of ACS SOCED Undergraduate Student Advisory Board, USAB (2026-2028), ChemDemo Exchange Participant (2024 and 2025); Faculty advisor Lehman College Chemistry Club, ACS Student Chapter (2023-present).

# CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE FOR 2027

(1 YEAR TERM OF OFFICE)

VOTE FOR THREE



**DR. DANIEL AMARANTE:** Westchester/Long Island Subsections  
**EDUCATION:** Ph.D., Stony Brook University, Chemistry; B.S., St. John's University.  
**PRESENT POSITION:** City University of New York; Assistant Professor  
**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member of the NYACS Minority Affairs Committee (2021 - present); NYACS Secretary 2017 – 2024; Director-at-Large for Long Island Subsection (2023); Chair for Long Island Subsection (2021); Director-at-Large 2014-2016, 2026; NYACS Board of Directors 2014 to 2024, 2026; Co-advisor, College of Mount Saint Vincent ACS Chapter 2011-2019; Judge, Chemagination 2012 – 2015. MARM: Co-General Chair for MARM 2016.  
**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member, Inorganic Division.



**HANNAH ARIEL:** Long Island Subsection  
**EDUCATION:** Doctorate in Pharmacy Conferred, University of Michigan College of Pharmacy; Pharmacy Residency Director, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
**PRESENT POSITION:** Adjunct Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Researcher, CUNY, Queens College, and High School Chemistry Instructor, Hebrew Academy of Nassau County, Uniondale  
**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** High School Chemistry Chair 2026.  
**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** ACS author and poster presenter of research progress in nitroxide nanoparticle fabrication and synthesis; member of ACS Green Chemistry initiative; student preceptor and mentor for high school's ACS/ UNSCO Science Olympiad; preceptor and mentor for high school's ACS Chemistry and Biomaterials research initiative. Queens College Research Associate Mentoring Chemistry Students in Independent Research.



**DR. RONALD P. D'AMELIA:** Long Island Subsection  
**EDUCATION:** Ph.D. Adelphi University, M.S. Adelphi University, B.S. City College of New York, CUNY.  
**PRESENT POSITION:** Retired in July 2003 as a Sr. Principal Scientist, Polymer Research, Corporate Technology, R&D, Nabisco Foods Group; Currently Adjunct Professor, Hofstra University, Department of Chemistry; also emeritus faculty Advisor for the ACS Student Members chapter of Hofstra University; and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Nassau Community College.

**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** Recipient of the 2024 ACS New York section's Outstanding Adjunct Teaching Award. Recipient of the 2022 Hofstra Outstanding Chemistry Adjunct of the Year award for Excellence in Teaching, Research & Service. Recipient of the E. Emmet Reid award in Chemistry & Teaching at small colleges for MARM 2016. NY ACS Board Director at Large from 20-25. Organizing Committee member for the 23-24 Frances S. Sterrett Environmental Chemistry Symposia as well as the 2023 Marie Daly National Historic Chemical Landmarks committee. NY ACS Teaching Award Committee Member 19-24. Organizer, Presider, & Presenter for the 44<sup>th</sup> MARM symposium on Polymer Chemistry – Undergraduate Research & Teaching. 44<sup>th</sup> MARM. Planning Committee Consultant 2014-16. Member of the 2/4year Outstanding Teacher Award Committee 2019-2022. Member Student Activities – URS committee 2012-19; Member of the Chemistry Olympiad committee 2010-19; National Chemistry Week (NCW) and Chemist Celebrate Earth Day (CCED). Coordinator to the National ACS Committee of Community Activities (CCA) 2009 -2019, Chairperson of the MARM 2008 Career Services Committee, Organizer of MARM 08 Leadership Development Workshop and the Career & Resume Review Workshop, Member of the MARM 2008 Executive Committee; Outstanding Service Award for 1998; Councilor, 2009-2017, 2002-2007, 1993-1998, and 1989-1991; Alternate Councilor 2018-22, 2008, 1999-2002, 1991-1993 and 1985-1988; Chairperson of Councilor Coordinating Committee 1998-2019; Chairperson of the Outstanding Service Award Committee 2002; Member of the Outstanding Service Award Committee 1999-2002; Finance Chairperson for MARM 1997- Organizing Committee 1996-1998; Chairperson, Congressional Science Councilors Committee, 1992-1996; NY State and Local Government Program Coordinator 1994; Member, Audit Committee 1994-2017; Bylaws Committee 1997-2000; Industrial Relations Committee 1996-1999; Finance Chairperson for MARM 1993 Organizing Committee; Long Range Planning Committee 1991-2016; EAS Delegate 1989-1999; Publication Chair, 202nd National ACS Steering

Committee 1990-1991; General Interest Committee, National NYC-ACS Meeting, 1986; NYS Fund Raising Committee, 1986; "NYS-CHEM" 1984 Committee; Membership Committee 1980-1981; Co-author of N.Y. Section Pamphlet on "Reasons for Being an ACS Member".

**LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION:** Board of Directors, 1985-1992; Chairperson, 1984; Chair-Elect, 1983; Chair, Program Committee, 1983; Chair, Membership Committee, 1980-1981.

**NATIONAL:** Associate member of Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) (24), Member Committee on Ethics from 2017 to 2023. Team Leader/editor for NCW 2014 Celebrating Chemistry – "The Sweet Side of Chemistry – Candy" 2012-14. Member of the National ACS Fellows Selection Committee 2012-14. Received the ACS Fellows Award 2011; Member of the IYC 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Team on Materials wrote article on Plastics, Bio-plastics and Recycling for the Web edition of Celebrating Chemistry, Member of the Committee of Community Activities (CCA) and its subcommittee on Program Development & Promotion (PDP) 2009-2016; Task Force Leader for CEPA Operations and Functions Manual 2007-08; Member ACS Council Standing Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) 2003-08; Chair of the CEPA Standard Operational Task Force; Member CEPA subcommittee on Employment Services 2007; Member CEPA subcommittee on Professional Programs 2003-06. Member, ACS Council Standing Committee on Meetings and Exposition, 1993-1998 and 1990-1991; Chair of M&E Subcommittee on Expositions 1996-1998; Member of M&E Subcommittee on Site Selection 1996-1998; Member, Regional Meetings and Exposition Subcommittees of M&E, 1994-1995 and 1990-1991; NY Section Representative on State and Local Government (SLGA) Affairs Program Committee, 1994; Member, ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry; Co-chairman of "Food Polymer" Symposium at the 27th MARM and 18th NERM; Member, ACS Division of Chemical Education; Affiliate Member, International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. Attended most National ACS Meeting since 1993. ACSBIO-24A1.doc



**XUE QING LIANG:** New York Section

**EDUCATION:** Master in Adolescence Science Education, Master in Adolescence Chinese Education, Bachelor of Chemistry

**PRESENT POSITION:** High School Chemistry Teacher, New Utrecht High School

**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** Attended and participated in the Periodic Table People Science Cafe and Sectionwide conferences with and without my students; received the 2023 Nichols Foundation High School Chemistry Teacher Award; attended Nichols Symposium & Medalist Award Ceremony since 2024.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Attended and participated in 2024 The Middle Atlantic Region (MARM) of the American Chemical Society; received the 2024 ACS Division of Chemical Education (CHED) Region Awards for Excellence in High School Teaching; received the 2026 James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching; will attend and present at the ACS Spring 2026 meeting.



**RAFFI MANJIKIN:** Hudson-Bergen Subsection

**EDUCATION:** B.S. Chemistry, Seton Hall University; M.S. Chemistry, Seton Hall University

**PRESENT POSITION:** Instructor, Chemistry; Hudson County Community College

**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** Frances S. Sterrett Environmental Chemistry Symposium Committee since 2023.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member since 2011; Faculty Advisor for Hudson County Community College chapter since 2023.



**DR. QI WANG:** Long Island Subsection

**EDUCATION:** BS, Nankai University; MS, Nankai University; PhD, University of North Texas

**PRESENT POSITION:** Instructor; Nassau Community College

**ACS NEW YORK SECTION ACTIVITIES:** LIACS Chair, 2022; Frances S. Sterrett Environmental Chemistry Symposium Committee, 2022-present; LIACS Environment Committee Chair, 2020; Proctor for New York Chemistry Olympiad, 2022, 2023

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member: Division of Analytical Chemistry; Member: Division of Chemical Education; Attendees and Presenters in ACS Meetings; Author or Co-Author of publications in ACS Journals (JACS, Nano Letter, ACS Nano, JPCC, ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, Chemistry of Materials, Langmuir, Inorganic Chemistry, ACS Omega).

# CANDIDATES FOR NEW YORK SECTION COUNCILOR

(3 YEAR TERM OF OFFICE 2027-2029)

VOTE FOR **TWO**



**DR. YOSRA M. BADIEI:** Hudson-Bergen Subsection

**EDUCATION:** B.S. American University in Cairo; Ph.D. Georgetown University, Postdoc at Johns Hopkins and Brookhaven National Laboratory

**PRESENT POSITION:** Associate Professor, Saint Peter's University.

**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** 2022-2024 Alternate Councilor NY section, technical Chair of the Environmental Chemistry Symposium of the 2023 MARM NY symposium, alternate volunteer for MARM 2025, volunteer faculty advisor of the 2023 National Chemistry week, member of the ACS Director-at-Large 2018, ACS Project SEED, Participant of MARM, faculty advisor of a William Nichols Fellow Awardee 2016-2017, faculty advisor of ACS Student Chapter, Jersey City.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member since 2005; technical session president, recipient of the 2024 Rising Star Women Chemist Committee (WCC) award, participant and oral and poster presenter at various national meetings, an oral presenter in the Green Chemistry: Theory & Practice CHED session. Contributor to ACS Journals and reviewer of Inorganic Chemistry and the Journal of Chemical Education. Member: Division of Inorganic Chemistry.



**DR. MARIA CONTEL:** Brooklyn Subsection

**EDUCATION:** HERS Leadership Institute For Women in Higher Education (US), Leadership Certificate 2018; Public University of Navarra, Spain, Ph.D. 1996, University of Zaragoza, Spain, MS/BS, 1993.

**PRESENT POSITION:** Professor, Chemistry Department, Brooklyn College and The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY). Founding Director and Research Area Leader Brooklyn College Cancer Center.

**ACS NEW YORK SECTION ACTIVITIES:** Member since 2006. Councilor 2024-2026; ACS NY Local Section Director at Large (2021-2022, 2022-2023). Chair of the Minority Affairs Committee NY Local Section 2021-present. Producer of videos for high/middle school videos to increase number of underrepresented groups in Chemistry (2022-2023).

Member of the activities/symposium committee to honor Dr. Marie Maynard Daly (2023) and chair of the MMD Award Committee.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member since 2006. Presenter (talks) in symposium at different National (Spring 2013, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2021, Spring 2022) and Regional (NERM 2019) ACS Meetings. Co-organizer of a Pacifichem Symposium 2020. Organizer session at MARM 2023. Faculty Consultant for ACS Graduate School Readiness and Professional Development Boot Camp 2023. ACS Division: Inorganic Chemistry. Sub-division: Organometallic Chemistry.



**DR. PAMELA K. KERRIGAN:** Westchester Subsection

**EDUCATION:** Ph.D. Arizona State University; M.S. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; B.A. Lakeland College, Sheboygan, WI.

**PRESENT POSITION:** Professor, Assistant Dean, School of Natural and Mathematical Sciences, University of Mount Saint Vincent, Riverdale, NY.

**NEW YORK SECTION ACS ACTIVITIES:** Councilor 2015-2024; Immediate Past Chair 2015; Chair 2014; Secretary 2001-04; Alternate Councilor; Nichols Medal Jury 2013-17; Long Range Planning Committee; Student Affiliate Committee 1998-2012; 2023 - present; National Chemistry Week 1999-date. Chair of the Biochemistry Topical group. Chair Topical Groups and Subsections; Outstanding Volunteer for 2025.

**MARM (Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting 2016):** Co-General Chair 2015-16.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** SOCED Full Member – 2018-2023, Associate Member 2017; CPRC Committee, Associate Member 2003-05; full member: 2005-08; Liaison from CPRC to CMA 2007-08; Task Force for Undergraduate Programming, Program Chair, Anaheim 2004; Student Affiliate Peer Reviewer; Student Member Club Advisor 31 years; Operation Chemistry Team Leader for NYC. Division of Chemical Education, Co-Chair Regional Meeting Committee, 2024-2026. ACS Fellows 2025.

*Councilor Candidate Bios continue on the next page*



**DR. PARIS SVORNOS:** Long Island Subsection

**EDUCATION:** Ph.D. Georgetown University

**PRESENT POSITION:** Retired Professor - Queensborough Community College-CUNY

**ACS NEW YORK SECTION ACTIVITIES:** NY Section chair (2015); Director at large (2013); Long Island subsection chair (2002); Director at large (2003-2010, 2022-); History of Chemistry (2019-present); Microwave chemistry (2016-present); MARM 2008 (General-co-chair); MARM 2016 (Program co-chair); MARM 2023 (Abstract submission-co-chair); URS Hosting co-chair 2004, 2008, 2015. National Chemistry Week, Table/demonstration participant. 2021-present: The Annual Frances Sterrett Environmental Symposium-chair.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** ACS Fellow (2018); Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences (2018); American Chemical Society-NY section, Volunteer; Award recipient (2017); Ann Nalley Regional Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society (2016); Member of the 2016-2017, 2021 National American Chemical Society General Chemistry I/II Test committee.



**FRANK R. ROMANO:** Long Island Subsection.

**EDUCATION:** St. John's University, M.S., 1983; Adelphi University, B.A., 1978.

**PRESENT POSITION:** Field System Engineer, Agilent Technologies, Inc., 1986-Present

**ACS NEW YORK SECTION ACTIVITIES:** Chair 2010, Treasurer 2016-2021, 2000-06; Councilor 2005-19 & 2021-2026; Alternate Councilor 2000-01 & 2020, Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) Treasurer 2008 & 2016, Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) Chair 2022-Present, Indicator Treasurer 2021-Present. **MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING:** Treasurer 2018-present; Secretary 2012-18. **NY LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION ACTIVITIES:** Chair 1996; High School Awards Chair 2009-Present; Treasurer 2025-Present.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member ACS since 1979. Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) Chair 2025-2026, SCC Member 2023-2024; Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA), Chair 2019, Member 2014-2018; Committee on Meetings and Expositions (CM&E) Member 2008-13, Associate 2006-07; ACS Division: Analytical Chemistry.

**EASTERN ANALYTICAL SYMPOSIUM:** Bylaws Chair 2026, Special Functions Chair 2025, Immediate Past President 2024, President 2023, President Elect 2022, Treasurer 2021, Secretary 2020; Transportation Chair 2019; Awards Chair 2018, Awards Vice Chair 2017; Short Courses Chair 2016, Short Course Vice Chair 2015; Housing Chair 2014, Housing Vice Chair 2013; Registration Chair 2012; NYACS Delegate 2006-2011.



**JOSEPH WIENER:** New York Section

**EDUCATION:** Masters in Chemical Engineering from Manhattan College; Bachelors in Chemistry, Iona College.

**PRESENT POSITION:** R&D Senior Manager Latin America and Global Away from Home (Foodservice), PepsiCo Global R&D, Pepsi Lipton Joint Venture.

**ACS ACTIVITIES: NEW YORK SECTION: 2026 NY Section Chair**, Co-Chair Younger Chemists Topical Group (2019-2024), ACS NY Section member 2017-date. Co-Chair, National Chemistry Committee, 2019, 2021-date, NCW Coordinator for PepsiCo Team, 2012-19, 2021-date. International Year of Periodic Table Committee, 2019.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member since 2006.

## CANDIDATES FOR NEW YORK SECTION ALTERNATE COUNCILOR



**DR. KATHLEEN E. KRISTIAN:** New York Section

**EDUCATION:** PhD in Chemistry, Columbia University; Postdoctoral Research Associate, Ames Laboratory/Iowa State University.

**PRESENT POSITION:** Associate Professor and Chair, Chemistry and Biochemistry Department, Iona University.

**ACS NEW YORK SECTION ACTIVITIES:** 2026 Outstanding Service Volunteer Award; Committee for National Historical Chemical Landmark honoring Dr. Marie Daly, 2019-2023; Task Force for establishing Dr. Daly Award Committee, 2023-2024; 2022 NYACS Chair; 2023 Immediate Past Chair; 2021 NYACS Chair-Elect; Co-Chair of Inorganic and Organometallic Topical Group; Alternate Councilor, 2023-2024; Board Member, 2012-present; Session Organizer/Presider, MARM 2016.

**NATIONAL ACS ACTIVITIES:** Member since 2004; Reviewer, ACS Student Affiliates Chapter Reports, 2012-2017; Reviewer and contributor to ACS journals; Participant, ACS research symposia.