

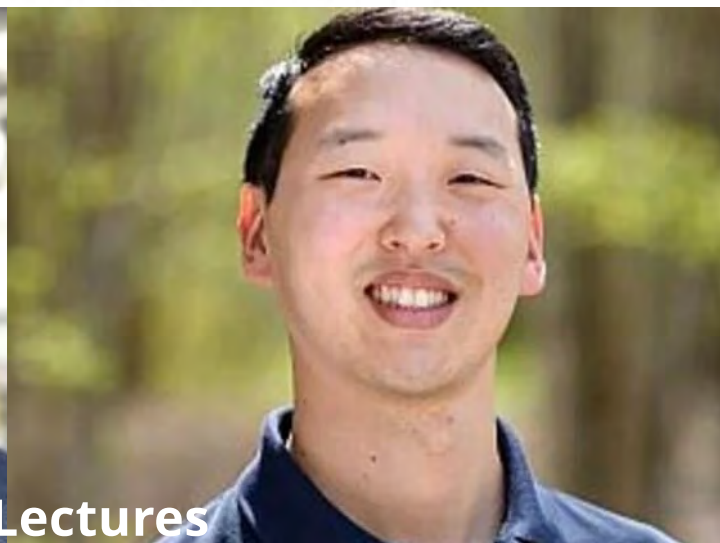
**Molecular
Milestones:
Crafting a
Sweet Future
Through
Chemistry**

MARM
2026 CELEBRATING
ACS
150

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



Professor Nazrul Islam
Crafting a Human-AI Workforce
for Chemistry



Professor Daniel K. Kim
Applications for Acetal Radicals
in Organic Synthesis

Plenary Lectures

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ACS Local Section
New York



ACS Local Section
North Jersey

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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

| <i>Issue</i> | <i>Deadline</i> |
|----------------|--------------------|
| June 2026 | May 16, 2026 |
| September 2026 | August 16, 2026 |
| October 2026 | September 16, 2026 |
| November 2026 | October 16, 2026 |

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All views expressed are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the New York and North Jersey Local Sections of the American Chemical Society unless so stated.

May Calendar

NORTH JERSEY SECTION**Tuesday, May 5, 2026**

Drug Metabolism Group Spring Symposium
and Vendor Exhibition

See page 11

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Chemical Consultant Network Meeting

See page 12

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Mass Spectrometry Discussion Group

See page 10

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Executive Committee Meeting

See page 10

NEW YORK SECTION**Friday May 1, 2026**

Hudson–Bergen Chemical Society

See page 8

Saturday May 2, 2026

Undergraduate Research Symposium

See page 6

Monday, May 11, 2026

Long Island Photochemistry Symposium

See page 9

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Organic Chemistry Topical Group

See page 8

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Board of Directors Meeting

See page 6



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MARM 2026

<https://www.marm2026.com>



MARM 2026

The Lehigh Valley, Southcentral PA, and Susquehanna Local Sections of the ACS warmly invite all to attend the 54th Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting. Being held at Hershey Lodge on May 17-19, MARM 2026's theme is "Molecular Milestones: Crafting a Sweet Future Through Chemistry".

The program ([click here to download](#)) features, the following

- Technical Sessions
- Chemical Education Sessions
- The Regional Chemagination Contest
- Workshops
- Plenary Lectures
- Networking Sessions
- A Vendor Exposition
- A Meet and Greet with ACS Leadership
- An Awards Dinner
- as well as Golf and a 3k Fun Run!

MARM 2026 REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration is open, [click here to register](#).

Hotel reservations may be made by [clicking here](#).

PLENARY LECTURES

Professor Nazrul Islam, University of East London, will present the plenary lecture entitled

"Crafting a Human-AI Workforce for Chemistry"

in the Red Room on Sunday, May 17th from 4:00– 5:00 PM.

Professor Daniel K. Kim, Temple University, will present the plenary lecture entitled

"Applications of Acetal Radicals in Organic Synthesis"

in the Red Room on Monday, May 18th from 4:00– 5:00 PM.



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. 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, 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.



VOTING

Ballots, electronic or paper, will be sent to the membership by May 1, 2026. Any member that does not receive voting materials by Friday, May 1, please contact the [Section Office](#).

NEW YORK ACS 2026 ELECTIONS

The Board of Directors thank the following candidates for accepting the nominations, and for their willingness to support the New York ACS and chemistry through donating their time, efforts, and sharing their expertise.

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Ms. Xue Qing Liang (New Utrecht High School)

Mr. Raffi Manjikin (Hudson County Community College)

Dr. Qi Wang (Nassau Community College)

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Dr. Maria Contel (Brooklyn College)

Dr. Pamela Kerrigan (University of Mount Saint Vincent)

Dr. Paris Svoronos (Queensborough Community College - retired)

Mr. Frank Romano (Agilent Technologies)

Mr. Joseph Wiener (PepsiCo)

Alternate Councilor

-to fill vacancy for 2027

Dr. Kathleen E. Kristian (Iona University)

[Download the candidate bios here](#)

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**Metasurface-On-Chip Flow Cytometry for Fluorescence Quantification**

Speaker: Tao Hong, Ph.D.
Date: Saturday, May 2, 2026
Place: Queensborough Community College
 – City University of New York
Time: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM



[Click here to visit website](#)

Abstract: Fluorescence flow cytometry (FFC) is a fundamental technique in cellular and molecular analysis, yet conventional instruments rely on bulky free-space optics and expert-driven workflows for channel calibration and compensation. We introduce a compact and calibration-free, metasurface-on-chip FC (MOCFC) that replaces filter assemblies or spectrometers with an inverse-designed metasurface array that encodes fluorescence spectra into spatially multiplexed intensity barcodes. We demonstrate statistical profiling of immunolabeled cell populations based on regressed per-fluorophore quantity and extend the approach to multi-cytokine quantification by using a commercial Cytometric Bead Assay (CBA), without the need for channel calibration. By encoding spectral information by a compact on-chip optical metasurface front end and decoding it with end-to-end spectral regression, this metasurface architecture enables quantitative, multi-fluorophore FC in a compact format, opening a promising path toward portable, point-of-care cellular and molecular analysis.



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- TGA
- DSC

CHROMATOGRAPHY

- Gas Chromatography (TCD/FID)
- GC-Mass Spectrometry
- Headspace GC-MS
- Liquid Chromatography (HPLC, UPLC)
- LC-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS)
- GPC, SEC
- Ion Chromatography (IC)

ATOMIC SPECTROSCOPY

- ICP Optical Emission (ICP-OES)
- ICP Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)
- Atomic Absorption

MOLECULAR SPECTROSCOPY

- FTIR
- UV/visible Spectrometry (UV/vis)
- Powder X-ray Diffraction (XRD)

ELEMENTAL ANALYSIS

- CHN
- Protein as N2

GENERAL CHEMISTRY

- Karl Fisher Moisture (KF)
- Titrimetry
- Coulometry
- ISE
- Gravimetry
- TOC

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HUDSON-BERGEN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**27th Annual Student Research Symposium and Award Night****Computer-Aided Design and Optimization of Novel Inhibitors as Therapeutic Candidates**

Speaker: Junyong Choi, Ph.D.
Queens College – City University of New York

Date: Friday, May 1, 2026

Place: Dickinson Hall, Room 4468
Fairleigh Dickinson University

Time: 4:30 PM Student Presentations
6:00 PM Dinner and Awards
6:45 PM Plenary Lecture



Abstract: Computer-aided molecular modeling is an efficient and cost-effective strategy for the discovery and development of small-molecule inhibitors in academic settings. This seminar highlights efforts to develop small-molecule inhibitors targeting *Trypanosoma brucei* Replication Protein A1 (TbRPA1) and Casein Kinase (CK1) for the treatment of infectious diseases and cancer, respectively. Specifically, this talk will cover the structure-based design and development of anti-*T. brucei* agent, which exhibits low nanomolar inhibition potency against *T. brucei* and over 2,000-fold selectivity versus human HeLa cells. In addition, a novel small-molecule inhibitor of CK1e was identified through *in silico* screenings of chemical libraries. This hit was subsequently optimized using molecular modeling, organic synthesis, and biochemical assays, leading to the development of highly potent and selective CK1e inhibitors. Our in-house inhibitors represent promising candidates for further investigation in *in vivo* models of parasitic infection and human cancers. Overall, computer-aided molecular modeling is a powerful technique for the development of therapeutic candidates in medicinal chemistry research.

[Download flyer here](#)

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY TOPICAL GROUPA flyer for an event. The background is a blue-tinted image of a molecular structure. The text is white and yellow. It includes the event title, location, date, a keynote speaker's name and affiliation, and a circular portrait of the speaker.

The Chemical Biology Discussion Group End-of-Year Symposium

NYU Silver Center for Arts and Sciences

May 21, 2026

Keynote Speaker

Thomas A. Paul, PhD
Pfizer



ACS Local Section
New York
Long Island Subsection

Long Island Photochemistry Symposium

Monday, May 11th, 2026

Poster Session: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Oral Presentations: 1:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Location: Stony Brook University

Registration: Free (numbers limited)



Founded in 2023 as a photochemistry ‘supergroup’ between scientists at Stony Brook University and Brookhaven National Laboratory, the Long Island Photochemistry Symposium (LIPCS) is marking its fourth year by partnering with the Long Island subsection of the ACS to bring together researchers from across Long Island for a half day symposium.

The symposium begins with a poster session (including a complimentary buffet lunch), followed by an afternoon of talks by local graduate students, post docs and early career researchers. It is a great opportunity to learn about photochemistry and connect with scientists from the Long Island and NYC area.

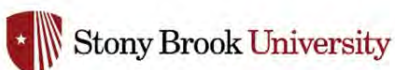
For further details, registration and to submit an abstract for a poster or presentation go to: <https://forms.gle/p6Rsof4Bh3oUbYyQ9> or scan the QR code below:



Organized by Dr. Jeffrey Lipshultz (SBU) and Dr. Matthew Bird (BNL)

In association with the Long Island Subsection of the American Chemical Society

With generous support from:



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, May 20, 2026 (hybrid)

Wednesday, September 13, 2026 (hybrid)

Wednesday, November 11, 2026 (hybrid)

Wednesday, June 17, 2026 (hybrid)

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 (hybrid)

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

NORTH JERSEY ACS MASS SPECTROMETRY DISCUSSION GROUP

The [North Jersey ACS' Mass Spectrometry Discussion Group](#) is proud to announce its April in person meeting featuring a social hour, complimentary dinner, and two talks. Attendance is free, but please register. Special thanks to Bruker for their sponsorship of this event.

Date: May 19, 2026
Time: 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Location: Somerville Elks Lodge
 375 Union Avenue
 Bridgewater, NJ 08807



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NORTH JERSEY ACS DRUG METABOLISM DISCUSSION GROUP

The North Jersey ACS' Drug Metabolism Discussion Group is proud to host its Spring symposium and vendor exhibition entitled:

*How Obesity Therapeutics Are Influencing the Pharmaceutical Industry,
and Other Current Topics in Drug Development*

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026
Time: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Location: The Palace at Somerset Park
 333 Davidson Avenue
 Somerset, NJ

Registration: [Click here to register](#)

Program

8:00 AM: Registration, Continental Breakfast & Vendor Exhibits
9:00 AM: Welcome and Introductory Remarks
Matthew Hoffmann, PhD — Insmmed, Chair of NJDMDG
9:10 AM: **Inclusion of Subjects with Obesity in Drug Development: Current Status and Regulatory Considerations**
Jaya Vaidyanathan, PhD — Silver Spring, MD
9:50 AM: **Applications and Challenges of Pharmacometrics in Antisense Oligonucleotides**
Xiang Gao, PhD — Vice President, PK & Clinical Pharmacology, Ionis Pharmaceuticals
10:30 AM: Coffee Break & Vendor Exhibits
11:00 AM: **Utility of Primary Human Hepatocytes from MASH Patients in Predicting Human Drug Metabolism and Transport in Patients with Hepatic Steatosis**
Gina Gallucci, PhD — Senior Scientist, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals
11:30 AM: **The Impact of Obesity on Drug Disposition and Response**
David Greenblatt, MD — Louis Lasagna Endowed Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine
12:10 PM: Lunch & Vendor Exhibits
1:30 PM: **Hypothalamic Circuit Control of Feeding: Implications for Obesity**
Mark Rossi, PhD — Rutgers University
2:10 PM: Coffee Break & Vendor Exhibits
2:40 PM: **Hijacking SLC Transporters for Targeted Drug Delivery**
Ricardo Cordova, PhD — Postdoctoral Research Associate, Rabinowitz Laboratory, Lewis-Sigler Institute, Princeton University
3:10 PM: **Navigating the Biomarker Spectrum: From Pharmacokinetics to Companion Diagnostics in a Complex Regulatory World**
Sarah Hersey, MS, MBA, RAC — Vice President, Head of Precision Medicine, Bioanalytical & Translational Medicine, Bristol Myers Squibb
3:50 PM: Adjourn

Registration Fee:

Online registration before the event is **\$150**
 Registration at the door is **\$200**
 Reduced fee for: Students and postdocs (**\$10**) and faculty (**\$50**)
 Unemployed individuals can attend **free of cost**

CHEMICAL CONSULTANTS NETWORK MEETING

MAY 13, 2026

ORIZABA SOLUTIONS AND ADVENTURES IN GOVERNMENT CONSULTING

Ingeborg Holt

DATE & TIME: Wednesday May 13, 2026, 6:30 PM ET

[Click here to register](#)

Location: Online via Zoom! (Registration required)

Abstract: What does it take to turn deep domain expertise into a government contracting business? In Orizaba Solutions and Adventures in Government Contracting, this talk shares a firsthand journey from federal health informatics leadership to founding a small business focused on data strategy, standards, and regulatory science

Blending practical guidance with lived experience, the session walks through the key steps to entering the federal marketplace—from establishing a business and identifying a niche, to navigating registrations and building a pipeline of opportunities. It demystifies core procurement concepts, including the differences between Requests for Proposals (RFPs), Requests for Information (RFIs), and Sources Sought notices, and explains how each fits into the government acquisition lifecycle.

The talk also provides a clear, accessible overview of small business set-asides—how they work, why they matter, and how they shape competition and teaming strategies. Attendees will learn how to effectively use SAM.gov as both a discovery tool and a strategic signal of where agencies are heading

Grounded in real examples from FDA and NIH-focused work, this session offers both a roadmap and a field guide—highlighting not just the mechanics of government contracting, but the judgment, positioning, and persistence required to succeed. Ideal for consultants, small businesses, and technical experts considering entry into the federal space, this talk turns a complex ecosystem into something navigable, actionable, and, ultimately, achievable.

Biography: Ingeborg Holt is the Founder of Orizaba Solutions, helping organizations solve complex challenges in data standardization, integration, and analytics. With over 20 years of experience across healthcare, technology, and government, she has led large-scale digital transformation initiatives. Previously, she held senior roles at IBM and Commonwealth Informatics. She holds an MS in Computer Science and a BA in Biology.

Click [here](#) to register to attend the event. This session is **FREE**.

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- If you'd like to speak with one of our members, come to a CCN meeting

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS**

AICHE's Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship Excellence is sponsoring the Chemical Ventures Conference 2026 at New York University Tandon School of Engineering. Keynote speakers include Judy Giordan, 2023 ACS President and Managing Director of ecosVC, Inc., and Anthony Schiavo, Senior Director and Principal Analyst, Lux Research. This year's conference will focus on chemical engineering solutions for growing infrastructure challenges and will be held on **August 11-12, 2026**.

[Click here](#)



Submissions for the June 2026 issue of The Indicator are due on May 16, 2026.

<http://www.theindicator.org/>

**EASTERN ANALYTICAL SYMPOSIUM:
ORAL ABSTRACTS DUE MAY 1**

Abstract submission is now open for both oral and poster presentations at the 65th Annual Eastern Analytical Symposium (EAS) – [click here](#). The North Jersey and New York ACS are a proud co-sponsor of EAS and this year's theme is Navigate the Future of Analytical Chemistry: Intelligence and Integrity. EAS will be held at the Crowne Plaza Princeton Conference Center, Plainsboro NJ on **November 16-18, 2026**. Abstracts for oral presentations are due May 1, with poster presentation abstract due September 1.

[Click here](#)

EASTERN ANALYTICAL SYMPOSIUM & EXPOSITION
Navigate the Future of Analytical Chemistry: Intelligence and Integrity
Crowne Plaza Princeton - Conference Center Plainsboro, NJ / November 16-18, 2026

65th edition

Call for ORAL & POSTER Abstracts

Submission is Still Open and Ends
Oral: May 1
Poster: September 1

Register Now!!!

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS (continued)**NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**

The New York Academy of Sciences is now recruiting scientists for our NYC K-12 mentoring programs. These programs offer Scientists a meaningful opportunity to share their love for science with NYC public school students over a semester or year-long placement.

We are currently looking for **undergraduate students (for ASMP), graduate students, postdocs, and STEM professionals who are interested in volunteering in a K-12 STEM classroom** to mentor students and inspire curiosity, confidence, and a lasting interest in STEM. Participants not only develop their teaching and mentoring skills but also receive a \$500 stipend, travel support, and a one-year membership to the Academy!

Now accepting applications:

•**Scientist-in-Residence (SiR):** This program matches scientists with classroom teachers and supports them in developing a year-long project with students. Scientists help design experiments, support classroom instruction, and guide the creation of a final presentation.

- Deadline to apply is Friday, May 29th
- Check out our [website](#) or [flyer](#) for more information
- Still have questions? Contact Rea Ruiz at rruiz@nyas.org

•**The Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program (ASMP):** Can't commit to a full year? Scientists receive training in STEM curriculum and youth development and work alongside site staff to co-implement engaging, hands-on activities over the course of a semester.

- Check out our [ASMP website](#) or [flyer](#) for more information.
- Still have questions? Reach out to the program team at asmp@nyas.org

Space is limited, and applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Don't miss your opportunity to give back to your community and inspire the next generation of Scientists!

Important links:

•[Scientist-in-Residence website](#) and [application](#) (due Friday, May 29th)

•[Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program website](#) and [application](#) (due Friday, July 31st)

Frontiers in Cancer Immunotherapy

Keynote Speaker

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

June 22-23, 2026

Ira Mellman, PhD
The Parker Institute

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS (continued)**ACS DIVISION OF HISTORY**

ChemHIST Talks is a free HIST WebSeries bringing two talks from each National ACS meeting to you. The next ChemHIST Talks will be on **Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 3 pm ET**. We will have two presentations from the Spring 2026 National ACS Meeting in Atlanta, GA:



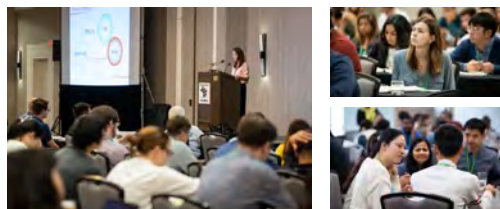
Mark Chalmers, (Univ of Cincinnati Libraries - Oesper Collections, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio) presenting "Chemical Symbolism through the Ages: A Rookwood Fountain's Visual Journey," and Kristine L. Konkol, (Department of Natural Sciences, Albany State University, Albany, Georgia) "Toward Consensus in Standardization: The 1892 Geneva Congress on Organic Nomenclature ." [Check their website for the abstracts and more information.](#)

ACS DIVISION OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY

Drew University's 39th Annual
**ResMed: Residential School on
Medicinal Chemistry and Biology
in Drug Discovery**
June 8-12, 2026
Sheraton Parsippany Hotel, Parsippany, NJ

ResMed is a week-long graduate level course organized to provide an accelerated program for medicinal chemists, biologists and other industrial and academic scientists who wish to broaden their knowledge of drug discovery and development. The School's aim is to concentrate on the fundamentals that are useful in drug discovery spanning initial target validation through development.

ResMed features lectures and case studies presented by an impressive faculty from a wide range of related disciplines. Attendees are able to network throughout the week with lecturers who are experts in their field.

**TOPICS INCLUDE**

- Principles of Med Chem
- Drug-like Properties
- Hit-to-Lead in Drug Discovery
- Lead Optimization
- Molecular Modeling
- Kinases
- Drug Metabolism
- Designing Around Problematic Functionalities
- Bioisosteres
- Covalent Inhibitors
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- Molecular Glues
- Proteolysis-targeting Chimeras
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An advertisement graphic with a green background featuring a pattern of white and yellow dots. On the left, there is a cartoon illustration of a man in a purple patterned suit jacket, a white shirt, an orange tie, and brown trousers. He is smiling and has his hands in his pockets. To the right of the man is a white rectangular box with a black border. Inside the box, the text reads: 'Your Ad Here' in large, bold, black letters; '\$200/month' in bold, black letters; '\$1500/year' in bold, black letters; and 'Click here to learn more' in a smaller, black font.

[Contact our Ad Sales Manager for more details](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

For Undergraduates

- ACS Hach Second Career Teacher Scholars
[Due May 1](#)
- ACS–Hach Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Scholarship
[Due May 1](#)
- Student Communities Professional Meeting Grant
[Due May 15](#)
- Communities Awards
[Due May 31](#)
- Undergraduate Award in Physical Chemistry
[Due June 15](#)
- Beckman Scholars Program
[Due June 15](#)
- Division of Organic Chemistry Undergraduate Award
[Due June 16](#)

For Graduate Students / Postdocs

- Priscilla Carney Jones Scholarship
[Due May 1](#)
- Pfizer Emergent Leader Award
[Due May 15](#)
- Division of Organic Chemistry Travel Award
[Due May 15](#)
- Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars Recognition Program
[Due May 31](#)
- Division of Inorganic Chemistry Travel Award
[Due June 29](#)

For Professionals

- ACS GCI Natural Polymers Consortium Research Grant
[Due May 1](#)
- Senior Chemists Mini Grant for Local Sections
[Due May 31](#)
- Local Section Member Engagement and Enhancement (LS-MEET) Grant
[Due May 31](#)
- William H. Nichols Medal
[Due May 31](#)
- Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Award
[Due June 2](#)
- Beckman Scholars Program
[Due June 15](#)



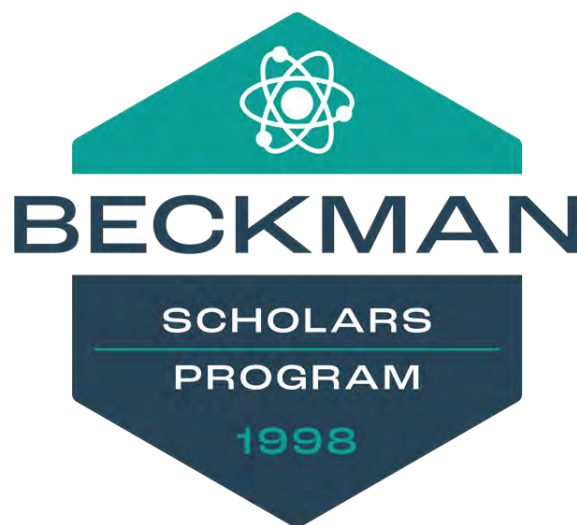
Apply Now!

Max Planck-Weizmann Joint Postdoctoral Program

Split your four-year research between two top-tier institutions.
Enhance your career with exceptional resources, world-class mentorship, and a competitive annual fellowship of up to €67,946.

Enjoy full family benefits, including health insurance, relocation support, and subsidized housing and childcare.

**Application Deadline
July 1, 2026**



MEETING REPORTS

CHEMISTRY CAREER PANEL

On April 22, 2026, the SPARK Center (Scholars Pursuing Arts, Research and Knowledge) at Adelphi University hosted a vibrant and inspiring Chemistry Career Panel from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, made possible through the generous support of the **American Chemical Society's LSAC IPG Grant**. The event brought together eight accomplished professionals from diverse chemistry-related fields — many of them proud Adelphi alumni — to share their career journeys and offer real-world guidance to the next generation of chemistry students.



A Remarkable Panel of Professionals

The evening featured an exceptional group of panelists representing a wide spectrum of industries and career paths:

- **Joseph Wiener** – PepsiCo
- **Ezer Castillo** – Estée Lauder (Adelphi alumnus/alumna)
- **Veronica Grebe** – Vogue (Adelphi alumnus/alumna)
- **Sandy Worrell** – Estée Lauder (Adelphi alumnus/alumna)
- **Vered Bello** – Medical Doctor (Adelphi alumnus/alumna)
- **Joseph Minutillo** – Educator (Adelphi alumnus/alumna)
- **Sophia King** – Clorox (Adelphi alumnus/alumna)
- **Angelica Leonardo** – Dentist (Adelphi alumnus/alumna)
- **Matthew Bird** – Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL)

The panel was skillfully moderated by **Harjot Kumari** and **Zaib Chaudhary**, both junior Chemistry students at Adelphi University, who led an engaging and thoughtful conversation throughout the evening.

CHEMISTRY CAREER PANEL (continued)

An Informative and Inspiring Conversation

The discussion spanned a rich range of topics designed to help students connect the dots between their academic experiences and the professional world. Panelists reflected on how closely — or not — their careers followed their original plans as students, and the pivotal moments, people, or experiences that shaped their professional directions. Many shared candid reflections on what surprised them most about transitioning from academic chemistry into their respective roles.

Students were especially engaged by honest conversations about day-to-day realities in various sectors — from how much bench chemistry actually shows up in a workweek, to the unexpected soft skills that prove most valuable on the job. Panelists from industry, medicine, education, and government research offered a compelling look at how different each path can feel, and what trade-offs came with their choices.

Undergraduate research was a recurring theme, with several panelists sharing how their own research experiences as students either confirmed their direction or pushed them toward something entirely new — underscoring the SPARK Center's core mission of connecting students to meaningful scholarly and creative opportunities.

Practical advice flowed freely: what a strong chemistry résumé looks like, how to stand out as a candidate, whether a graduate degree is necessary, and how to navigate the job market. Panelists also looked ahead, sharing their perspectives on which emerging areas of chemistry and biochemistry are likely to generate the most exciting career opportunities in the coming decade.

A Meaningful Investment in the Next Generation

The panel was an incredibly informative session, and each panelist's contribution played a significant role in its success. Students left feeling informed, motivated, and inspired — a direct reflection of the thoughtful perspectives and genuine generosity that every speaker brought to the room. The real-world guidance shared throughout the evening is exactly what helps students bridge the gap between the classroom and their future careers.

Events like this Chemistry Career Panel are only as impactful as the people who show up for students — and this group showed up in the best way.

The SPARK Center extends its sincerest gratitude to all of the panelists, to moderators Harjot Kumari and Zaib Chaudhary for their excellent preparation and poise, and to the **American Chemical Society** for its support through the IPG Grant, which made this event possible.

This panel was organized by **Dr. Justyna Widera-Kalinowska**, Professor in the Chemistry Department and Director of the SPARK Center at Adelphi University, whose dedication to connecting students with meaningful career development opportunities continues to make a lasting difference in the lives of Adelphi's chemistry students.

2026 WILLIAM H. NICHOLS DISTINGUISHED SYMPOSIUM & AWARD PRESENTATION

Professor Mercuri G. Kanatzidis of Northwestern University was presented with the William H. Nichols Medal Award on April 10, 2026 following a distinguished symposium in his honor. Dr. Kanatzidis earned the Nichols gold Medal “for transformative work in halide-perovskite solar cells.” In this, the 150th Anniversary of the American Chemical Society and the 135th Anniversary of the Nichols Medal, over one hundred forty chemists and guests attended the day’s events. Mr. Joseph Ulichny, Chair-Elect of the New York Section for 2026 (pictured at right), organized and emceed the symposium while New York ACS Chair Mr. Joseph Wiener hosted the evening’s award banquet festivities.



The William H. Nichols Distinguished Symposium, that preceded the medal presentation, was titled “How Halide Perovskites Expanded the Frontiers of Photovoltaic Solar Energy” The attendees enjoyed a slate of informative and inspiring talks by internationally known speakers who echoed the theme of ‘Once a chemist, always a chemist’.



Professor Kyong-Shin Choi, University of Wisconsin – Madison (pictured presenting a Pourbaix diagram at left), presented her talk entitled: *Electrochemical Approaches for Sustainable Phosphate and Lithium Cycles*. Professor Choi details how she designed a system to remove phosphate from waste water to make phosphoric acid as well as her newly funded research on extracting Li, Co and Nb from waste electric vehicle batteries, hard drives, and circuit boards. She challenged the students in the audience with the following:

Just because this old generation didn't do it, doesn't mean it can't be done.

-Professor K.S. Choi

Professor Aditya Mohite, Rice University, presented his lecture entitled “Nature’s Blueprint: Powering the Planet with Sunlight, Water & Carbon Dioxide”. The William H. Nichols Distinguished Symposium, that preceded the medal presentation, was titled “How Halide Perovskites Expanded the Frontiers of Photovoltaic Solar Energy” The attendees enjoyed a slate of informative and inspiring talks by internationally known speakers.

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

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



Lehman College



City College of New York



Prof. Marc Waters and Vijaya Korlipara



Younger Chemists



St. Peter's and New Jersey City Universities



Senior Chemists

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

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

Professor Aditya Mohite, Rice University (pictured at right), presented his lecture entitled “Nature’s Blueprint: Powering the Planet with Sunlight, Water & Carbon Dioxide”. He detailed his work on solution processible 3rd generation solar cells which have been commercially validated. He described how these cells which contain 2D and 3D perovskite photovoltaics can be used to split water into hydrogen and oxygen at >22% solar-to-hydrogen efficiency. These results demonstrate a significant advance since the introduction of perovskite solar cells in 2012.



Professor Ram Seshadri, University of California - Santa Barbara (pictured at left), presented his research in a lecture entitled “Discovering Compounds and Designing Materials”. He described his use of Artificial Intelligence in incorporating chemical intuition into the materials design phase. He challenged the crowd to think of their ‘dumb chemical intuition’ not as the work of an afternoon, but rather as what it really is: the experience of a lifetime. He also echoed that ‘Once a chemist, AI will not displace you from being a chemist’.

Professor Tobin Marks, Northwestern University, 2010 William H. Nichols Medalist, presented a fascinating lecture detailing his research in creating flexible and stretchable solar cells based on organic polymers. Entitled ‘Application of Ductile Electronics Strategies to Soft Matter Solar Cells’ he described high-throughput, large-area, high-resolution printing of organic solar cells with power conversion efficiencies of > 20%. His life-cycle and cost-analysis of these organic solar cells was enlightening.



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

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



ACS Past President Dorothy Phillips with students



ACS CEO Albert Horvath addressing attendees



Peter Corfield and David Sarno



Katherine Lee (ACS Board of Directors) with Marilyn Jespersen, Paris Svoronos and Ping Furlan

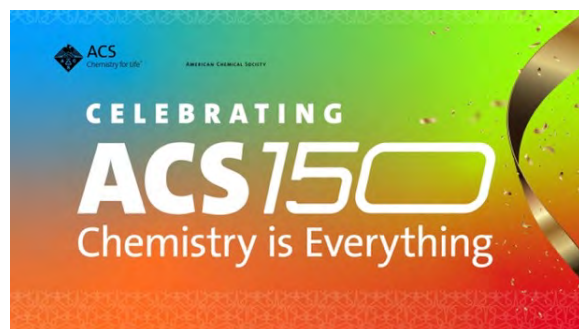
Supported in part by the William H. Nichols Fund For Chemistry at the Boston Foundation

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

Professor Mercuri G. Kanatzidis, Northwestern University and 2026 William H. Nichols Medalist is shown at right presenting his award lecture entitled: "How Halide Perovskites Expanded the Frontiers of Photovoltaic Solar Energy". Prof. Kanatzidis provided the crowd with a historical perspective starting with their discovery in the eighteenth century as calcium titanium oxide to the determination of the CaTiO_3 crystal structure in the early twentieth century to his groundbreaking 2012 application of these solution-processible, direct-gap semiconductor absorbers for fully solid-state photovoltaic devices. He told the story though people since people are chemistry and chemistry is people. It was a story of profoundly consequential research in a time when the world is seeking scalable energy solutions. He urged the audience to read more details about his research and perspective on the field ([click here](#)).



Following the award lecture, American Chemical Society dignitaries offered welcome to the assembled crowd. ACS President Rigoberto Hernandez offered greeting via video and underscored his theme of 'Once a Chemist, Always a Chemist'. Immediate Past President of the ACS offered remarks as did ACS CEO Albert Horvath. Following these remarks, Prof. Kanatzidis was presented with the 2026 William H. Nichols Medal by Nichols Jury Chair Kathleen Kristian, Iona University (at left in picture), and New York ACS Chair Joseph Wiener, PepsiCo (at right in picture).



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

NEW YORK MEMBERS EARN NATIONAL ACS HONORS IN SOCIETY'S 150TH YEAR

The American Chemical Society (ACS) recognized 57 national awardees at its Spring 2026 National Meeting in Atlanta, celebrating excellence across research, education, and service. Among them, two members of the New York Section (NYACS)—Dr. Ping Y. Furlan and Ms. Xueqing Liang—were honored with prestigious national awards, marking a proud moment for the Section in the year ACS celebrates its 150th anniversary.

Founded in New York City on April 6, 1876, ACS has grown into the world's largest scientific community. The recognition of two NYACS members at the national level during this milestone year highlights the Section's enduring leadership and impact across the chemical enterprise.

Dr. Ping Furlan, Professor of Chemistry at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, received the **2026 Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society** (established in 2001, sponsored by ACS) having been nominated by Prof. Paris Svoronos. Her award citation is, as follows:

“for 30 years of dedicated service, inspiring countless K–12 students, mentoring college students into leaders, and championing sustainability, inclusivity, and accessible chemistry for all.”

Ping Furlan's National Volunteer of the Year Award Citation

Dr. Furlan's recognition also reflects a broad and sustained record of leadership and service across ACS at the local, regional, and national levels over the past two decades. She served as 2024 Chair of the New York Section, previously chaired the Long Island Subsection, contributed to Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting leadership, and served on national ACS committees supporting students and undergraduate education. Her work has reached generations of community members through outreach, National Chemistry Week programs, and innovative initiatives such as the creation of a giant 3D Periodic Table (read the paper here). She also serves as a NYACS Councilor and will continue her national engagement as an invited keynote speaker at the ChemLuminary Awards Ceremony during the ACS Fall 2026 National Meeting in Chicago.



Dr. Ping Y. Furlan receives the 2026 ACS Award for Volunteer Service from ACS President Rigoberto Hernandez and Immediate Past President Dorothy J. Phillips.

***NEW YORK MEMBERS EARN NATIONAL ACS HONORS IN SOCIETY'S 150TH YEAR
(continued)***



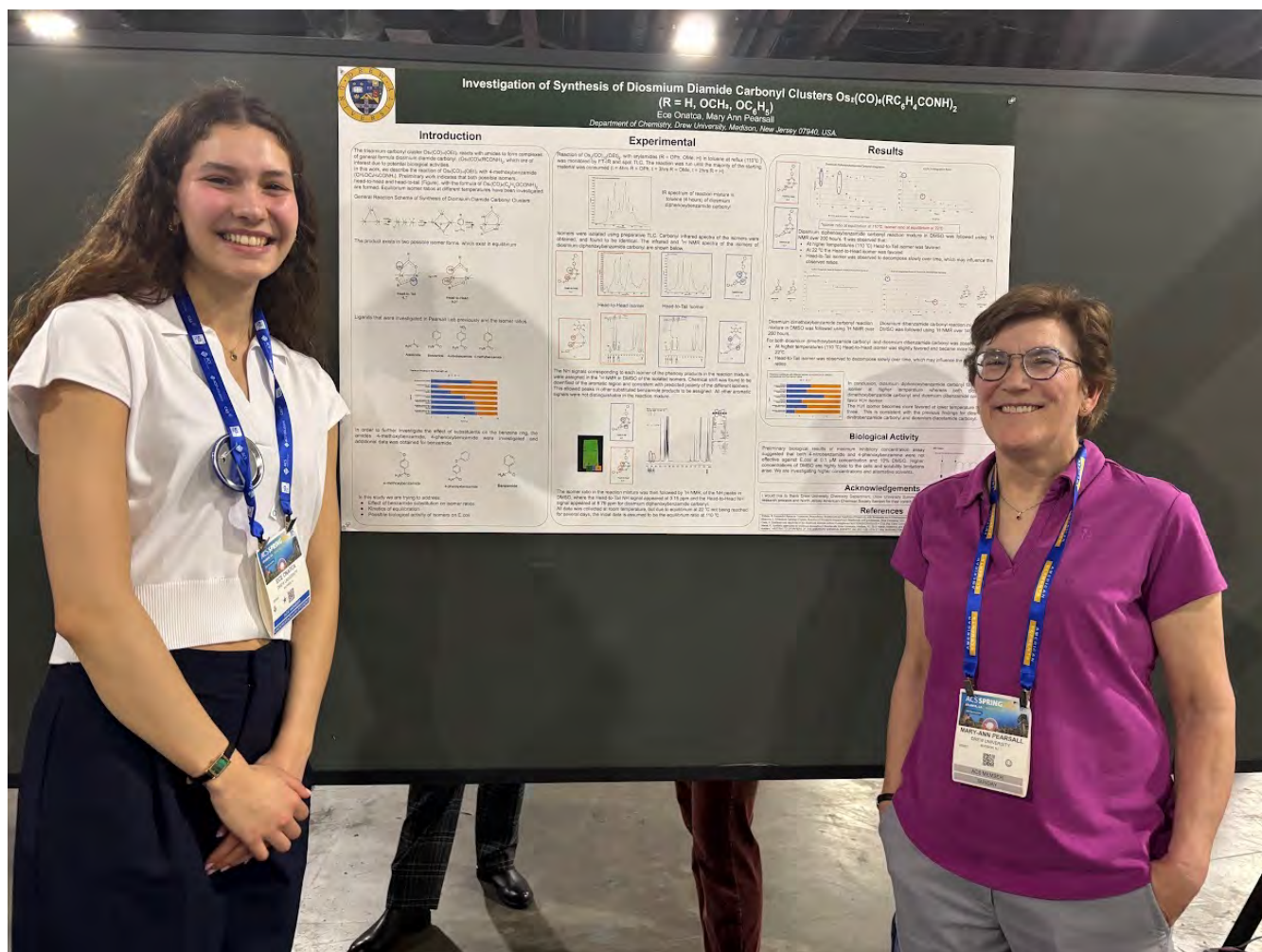
“for developing and implementing innovative, student-centered activities that improve learning accessibility and for expanding students’ opportunities through extracurricular STEM competitions.”

Xue Qing Liang’s Award Citation

Ms. Xue Qing Liang was honored with the **2026 James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching** (established in 1965; sponsored by the *Journal of Chemical Education* and ChemEd X since 2017). Ms. Liang’s work exemplifies excellence in chemistry education at the pre-college level, strengthening the pipeline of future scientists through creativity, accessibility, and student engagement.

Together, these recognitions highlight the Section’s continued leadership and impact in education, outreach, and service to the chemistry community and society at large.

NORTH JERSEY UNDERGRADUATE TRAVEL AWARDEE PRESENTS AT NATIONAL ACS



Travel Awardee Ece Onatca with advisor and mentor, Dr. Mary Ann Pearsall

The North Jersey Section ACS established the Undergraduate Travel Grant to assist and encourage students to present their research posters at ACS national meetings. Up to 4 grants of \$ 1,000 each are available each year. Students may apply for either the spring or fall meeting. Three 2026 travel grants are currently available to students whose research abstracts have been accepted for the fall meeting in Chicago. Application may be found at: ,

At the 2026 Spring National Meeting in Atlanta, GA, Ece Onatca, Drew University, Madison, presented her research as a recipient of the Undergraduate Travel Grant. Ece's research is under the guidance of advisor, Dr. Maryann Pearsall. Ece presented her research at 2 poster sessions, including SciMix during the *Frontiers of Inorganic Chemistry Symposium* sponsored by the Division of Inorganic Chemistry. Ece's outstanding research topic is *Investigation of the Synthesis of the Osmium Diamide Carbonyl Clusters Os₂(CO)₆(RCONH)₂ (R = CH, OCH, OCH)*. Ece described her experience at the national meeting as inspiring, professional, and very enjoyable.

Students wishing to apply for a travel grant for the 2026 fall meeting in Chicago, IL, please visit <https://www.njacs.org/ug-travel-grants/> for information and supporting documents.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

NEW YORK ACS OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

The New York Section of the American Chemical Society is one of the oldest and most distinguished sections of the Society. This distinction is derived from members whose achievements have inspired and driven significant activities that contributed to over 30 ChemLuminary Awards over the years. Please help us recognize these inspirational leaders and send us by **June 30, 2026**, your nominations including up to two letters of recommendation per nominee who meets the criteria for the Award as noted on the website.

[Read more here](#)



DR. MARIE MAYNARD DALY AWARD

Call for 2027 Nominations

Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Award

Presented by the New York ACS Local section

To honor excellence in the profession and in supporting and encouraging individuals from underrepresented groups to pursue careers in the chemical sciences.




This award honors **outstanding active professionals** in the fields of **chemistry and chemical engineering** who are high achievers in research careers in academic, industrial or government settings, and who have a demonstrated record of successfully mentoring and supporting individuals from underrepresented groups to pursue careers in the chemical sciences. The awardee's career path to excellence should serve as an inspirational model for K-12 students, college students and early to mid-career scientists

Nominees need to be active professionals in the United States or United States Territories as well as members of the American Chemical Society in good standing.

Nomination package (nominator's form, nominee CV, and two recommendation letters) should be sent as a single PDF to: Daly-award@newyorkacs.org

Deadline: June 2nd, 2026



About Dr. Marie M. Daly

In 1947 Dr. Marie M. Daly became the first Black woman to receive a PhD in chemistry in the United States (Columbia University). In addition to her outstanding research in Biochemistry (proteins, sugars, and cholesterol) she helped support programs to promote the inclusion of underrepresented groups in the chemistry profession. Learn more by watching this NYACS produced [video](#)

The New York Section of the American Chemical Society established the Dr. Marie Maynard Daly Award to honor the lasting legacy of the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in Chemistry. This award honors outstanding active professionals in the fields of chemistry and chemical engineering who are high achievers in research careers, and who have a demonstrated record of successfully mentoring and supporting individuals from underrepresented groups to pursue careers in the chemical sciences. Please help us identify the next Daly Awardee by nominating an inspirational leader by **June 2, 2026**, your nominations including up to two letters of recommendation per nominee who meets the criteria for the Award as noted on the website.

[Read more here](#)
[Download nomination package here](#)

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

Assistant/Associate Professor, Biomedical Sciences – New York Institute of Technology
[Apply here](#)

Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry – Colgate 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](#)

Industrial Positions

Research Chemist, KLA
[Apply here](#)

Program Associate, Higher Education – Sloan Foundation
[Apply here](#)

Program Specialist – Analytical Chemistry – Students 2 Science
[Apply Here](#)

Program Specialist, Office of Research Grants – American Chemical Society
[Apply here](#)

Associate Principal Scientist, Chemistry – Merck & Co.
[Apply here](#)

Associate Scientist, Product Biochemistry – Regeneron
[Apply here](#)

Grants and Finance Administrator – American Chemical Society
[Apply here](#)

Board Member, Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation
[Apply here](#)

Senior Laboratory Assistant, Bioanalysis – Regeneron
[Apply here](#)

Principal Scientist, Analytical R&D – Merck & Co.
[Apply here](#)

Analytical Chemistry – Senior Research Chemist – Exemplify Biopharma, Inc., a Symeres Company
[Apply here](#)