

2026 Frances S. Sterrett Environmental Chemistry Symposium

How Will AI Impact Our Environment? Artificial Intelligence — Promises, Risks, and Opportunities

Saturday, November 7th, 2026 | 9:00 am – 2:40 pm

Berliner Hall Room 117, Hofstra University; Hempstead, NY 11549-1000

The Frances S. Sterrett Environmental Chemistry Symposium is dedicated to presenting the public with up-to-date, factual scientific information on environmental topics. The symposium is organized by members of the Long Island Subsection of the American Chemical Society (LIACS) and cosponsored by the New York Section of the American Chemical Society (NYACS); This event is made possible with the support of Hofstra University's Chemistry Department, ACS Senior Chemists Committee and Shimadzu Scientific Instruments. We invite you to join us, together with scientists, educators, students, and community members, for a timely discussion on AI and the environmental future.

Dr. Debra F. Laefer

Professor of Urban Informatics
Department of Civil, Urban, and Environmental
Engineering and the Center for Urban Science + Progress;
New York University

*Frances Arnold, Left-handed Sugars, and Malthus:
Thoughts on Chemistry's AI-enabled Future.*

Dr. Arthur J. Sedlacek

Atmospheric Chemist
Environmental Science & Technologies Department;
Brookhaven National Laboratory

*From Self-Driving Cars to Self-Driving Cloud
Chambers: Embodied AI for Atmospheric Discovery.*

Dr. Hendrik Hamann

Professor of Atmospheric Sciences and AI Chief Scientist
Brookhaven National Laboratory & Stony Brook University

*Opportunities for AI in Environmental Sciences and
Beyond.*

Dr. Jenghwa Chang

Professor of Physics & Astronomy
Hofstra University and Radiation Medicine at the Zucker
School of Medicine

*Medical Physics & AI: What's Happening Now, What's
Coming Next, and What We Must Address.*

Dr. George K. Giakos

Professor
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering;
Manhattan University

*"AI for the Planet?" - Artificial Intelligence: Promises,
Risks, and Opportunities.*

Dr. Suchi Gopal

Professor
Department of Earth and Environment; Boston University
*From Cloud to Community: Rethinking Data Centers for
a Sustainable Digital Future. **

Dr. Marc Conte

Professor
Department of Economics; Fordham University

Query-level Accounting of GHG Emissions from AI.

Mr. Hessann Farooqi

Executive Director
Boston Climate Action Network

*Greening While Growing. **

Note: this symposium offers both in-person & virtual experiences; Zoom presentations are indicated with a "*".

Homepage: <http://newyorkacs.online/sterrett/>

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