THE IOTAN

Iota Sigma Pi National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry *Summer 2018*

No. 114

Attendees of the 32nd Iota Sigma Pi Triennial Convention

Row 1: Susie Banziger, Megan Sassin, Lucas Sassin, Teresa Bixby; Row 2: Joseph Malloy, QuynhGiao Nguyen, Gina Mancini-Samuelson, Tanya Malloy, Janet Clark, Reiko Simmons, Kathryn Thomasson, Anne Sherren; Row 3: Barbara Finlayson-Pitts, Hope Nguyen, Amy Pollock, Lois Ablin, Margaret Workman, Danielle Vellucci, Christine Hermann, Caroline Schneider, Anne Taylor, Rita Rhodes, Kelsey Bohn, Patty Wiley, Susan Marine; Row 4: John Osterhout, Janet Marshall, Amy Balija, Wynne Kandur, Julia Weister, Sarah Block, Miranda Paley, Stephanie Santos-Diaz, Kathryn Louie, Eileen Judkins, Tama Drenski, Gail Blaustein, Sophia Dill, Sarah Robey, Nick Sassin

Past National Presidents at the 32nd Triennial Convention. From left to right Janet Clark (2005-2008), Kathryn Louie (2008-2011), Anne Sherren (1978-1981), Susan Marine (1999-2002), and Margaret Workman (2011-2014).

The 32nd Triennial Convention of Iota Sigma Pi was hosted by the Plutonium Chapter in Indianapolis, Indiana 6-9 July 2017. It was the first time in several years that all chapters of Iota Sigma Pi were represented as well as five Past Presidents of Iota Sigma Pi (Anne Sherren, Kathryn Louie, Janet Clark, Susan Marine, and Maggie Workman), making this a fantastic meeting for brain-storming, networking, and socializing. Chapter delegates ranged from undergraduate members to retirees, giving a good cross-section of the membership and made for lively debates on the future of Iota Sigma Pi. Delegates arrived on Thursday evening and enjoyed a reception with hors d'oeurves and a poster session featuring chapter accomplishments as well as research by Iota Sigma Pi members and students of Purdue University. The next morning was spent discussing the business of the society with reports from National Council Officers and the Chapters. At lunchtime, awardees of the Centennial Award for

Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (Dr. Amy Balija and Dr. Amy Pollock) enlightened members with their insights into education in chemistry. Later that afternoon, delegates participated in committees (e.g. Chapter installation/development, rituals and ceremonies, finance, outreach, publicity) to discuss various aspects of the Society and develop recommendations. The evening awards banquet featured a great presentation by National Honorary Member, Dr. Finlayson-Pitts, in which she shared details about her career trajectory and her research on atmospheric chemistry.

Dr. Amy Balija
Radford University
2016 Centennial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Dr. Amy Pollock
Michigan State University
2017 Centennial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Dr. Barbara Finlayson-Pitts
University of California-Irvine
2017 National Honorary Member

The Saturday session consisted of committee reports, including motions that required a vote of the delegates. Next the group held a luncheon featuring a presentation by Iota Sigma Pi President/NASA Scientist, QuynhGiao Nguyen, on her life as an immigrant to the USA, NASA's role on women in science, and what it is like to be a scientist at NASA. Saturday afternoon was open for sight-seeing and informal gatherings of members. The Convention concluded on Sunday with the Installation of the 2017-2020 National Council and an address by the new National President, Dr. Megan B. Sassin.

Thursday evening reception at the 32nd Triennial Convention

Updates from 32nd Triennial Convention:

Non-discrimination policy update to Rules and Regulations

Article I- **General Statement**: Iota Sigma Pi does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

Article II- **Membership:** Gender transitioning cannot be used as a basis for revocation of membership under Article V Section II of the Constitution.

Article III- **Awards:** Criteria specified in award recipient descriptions should not be considered discriminatory.

Installation of New Chapters

The minimum membership requirement of a new chapter is 16 members, including the 6 officers as defined in Part C of the Rules and Regulations

Website:

Address: Iota Sigma Pi is now the proud owner of IotaSigmaPi.com and IotaSigmaPi.org

Updates: Coming soon- an online application form as well as an online application fee payment method for membership into Iota Sigma Pi via National Council Action

President's Corner

Over the past year I have given a lot of thought to how I spend my time, as I am realizing how precious a commodity it is and one that should be used wisely. With that, I have also given a lot of thought to what differentiates membership in Iota Sigma Pi from membership in other organizations many of us are a part. Here is my answer- Iota Sigma Pi is large enough (11,000+ members) to have an impact on your life and career, yet small enough for the interactions to be personal. This society is more than a line item on your resume- it is a platform of support when you need it- the women in the society, and the society itself, serve as your career champion; it is a platform for networking for your career- generating ideas for original proposals, curriculum for classes, and introductions to help you land that position you want; it is also a platform for professional development- honing your leadership skills, tactics for navigating work-life balance, and improving your communication/presentation skills. The society is all of this and it is also a group of friends (I made so many new friends at the Triennial Convention).

This is my experience of Iota Sigma Pi and I want to ensure you and your chapters have that same experience. Over the next two years, I am going to work with you through your chapters and new national committees and National Council (NC) to implement the following initiatives to enhance your membership in Iota Sigma Pi:

Chapter/Member Networking: Connecting members and chapters across the USA

Iota Sigma Pi Officers Facebook Group: real time discussions with other officers and NC to get ideas on chapter programming and recruitment strategies; share information on outreach, social, and professional development activities, and ask questions about reports, forms, membership rosters, and chapter rebates.

Iota Sigma Pi Academics Facebook Group: discussions and share ideas on best practices, curriculum, demos, and more. Want to serve as the administrator/moderator of this page? Please contact me and I will help you set it up!

Have ideas for other focused Iota Sigma Pi Facebook Groups (e.g. High School Educators, Chemistry Moms)? Please contact me to set them up!

Professional Networking: Connecting you to the correct people in Iota Sigma Pi

LinkedIn: Be sure to join Iota Sigma Pi LinkedIn Group. *Please let me know if you would be interested in serving as moderator/admin for this group.*

Database: The Database Modernization Committee is identifying commercial solutions for secure database management with the goal to keep the Iota Sigma Pi network complete and up-to-date so that it can be used to identify women for invited speaking/editor positions, help members search for internships/jobs with specific companies/serve as a source for

finding high quality interns, and facilitate mentor/mentee matching. *Have ideas or concerns about this or want to be involved? Please reach out to me to join this committee.*

Streamlining communication: Increasing efficiency of reporting

Website: Develop interactive forms and have them electronically delivered to the correct NC Officer, eliminating the need to determine who to send the form to!

Officer Facebook Group: Place to upload pictures of your initiation ceremonies and other chapter activities so that they can be included in *The Iotan* and on the Iota Sigma Pi website/ Facebook page. NC will also upload report templates making it easy for you to find them.

National Council Email: We have switched over to using standardized email addresses based on officer position (e.g. president@iotasigmapi.info), so you no longer have to look up the personal email address for each officer.

It is my hope that with the implementation of these initiatives, the value of your membership will be clear and differentiated from your membership in other organizations. Membership in Iota Sigma Pi has relevance at every stage of your career and I hope that you will continue to be an engaged member throughout your life. I also hope that you will share your time, talents, and ideas with your chapter and the Society- building something together is extremely rewarding and a great way to make connections (see ways to get involved throughout this newsletter)! In closing, I am so excited and honored to be your President. I am always open to suggestions and ideas, so feel free to reach out to me at president@iotasigmapi.info

Meet your 2017-2020 National Council Officers

President: Megan Sassin. I received my B.S. in Chemistry from Southwestern University and my Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of California, Irvine. While in graduate school, I discovered Iota Sigma Pi and worked with several graduate students to establish the Calcium Chapter and served as the founding President. After graduation, I joined the Advanced Electrochemical Materials section of the U. S. Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) in Washington, D.C. as a National Research Council postdoctoral fellow working on high performance electrochemical capacitors. In 2010, I was hired as a staff scientist at NRL and was awarded the *Jerome and Isabella Karle Fellowship* to investigate three-dimensional (3D) architectures for electrostatic capacitors. In 2012, I received the *Rising Star* award from the Women Chemists Committee of the American Chemical Society. Currently, my research interests are on the design, fabrication, and characterization of multifunctional 3D electrode architectures for energy-storage/conversion applications. Outside of the laboratory, I am passionate about facilitating scientific opportunities for women. I have served as the President of the NRL chapter of Women in Science and Engineers (WISE) as well as the National Vice President of Iota Sigma Pi from 2014-2017. Currently, I am also serving on the Board of Directors of The Society of Electroanalytical Chemistry (SEAC). If you have any questions, concerns, or want to be more involved in Iota Sigma Pi, please email me at **president@iotasigmapi.info**

Vice President: Patty Wiley. I joined the Plutonium chapter of Iota Sigma Pi to meet more senior female graduate students at Purdue University and soon realized the organization was going to be more than just for socializing and I would learn a lot of valuable skills! I served as Co-Outreach Chair in the Pu chapter, which taught me a lot about organizing large events, particularly responding to the unexpected and working as a team- skills that I still use today. I just finished my post-doctoral fellowship at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and in addition to my research, I also instituted a new high school outreach program at the NCI- the NCI-Scientists in the Community. I was just selected to serve as a AAAS Policy Fellow in Office of Science Policy and Communications at the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering at the NIH. I can honestly say I don't think I would be where I am now without Iota Sigma Pi! I particularly value how no discussion is off the table—from how to deal with a difficult boss, or questions on

when is the right time to start a family. I want all of our members to feel supported at every career stage; whether you are an undergraduate student or a tenured faculty member, I want to make sure our organization is benefiting you. I am energized and excited to serve as the National Vice President, in which I act as the liaison between Chapters and the NC. One of my goals is to increase our membership because as our network grows, so will our opportunities. If you have colleagues that are interested in establishing a Chapter or want to develop outreach activities on the National level, please send me an email at **vicepresident@iotasigmapi.info**

Secretary: Kelsey C. Bohn. I first joined Iota Sigma Pi through the Plutonium Chapter during graduate school at Purdue University. During those years, I served as chapter secretary and was able to attend the 2014 Triennial Convention in Emeryville, California. I was inspired and grateful to meet such a supportive group of female scientists and valued the new network I had gained. I left committed to continuing my membership in Iota Sigma Pi after graduation from Purdue in 2015. I am serving for the first time on the National Council as Secretary. My duties as National Secretary include recording the minutes of all National Council meetings, keeping all official documents of the Society, and sending initiation information or other correspondences to chapter officers and National Council. I look forward to getting to know more of you and learning about what the local chapters are accomplishing! I am currently working as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Cleveland Clinic doing androgen metabolism studies in prostate cancer. I want Iota Sigma Pi to continue to be a supportive environment for women scientists and I encourage you to reach out with any questions. Please reach me at **secretary@iotasigmapi.info**

Did you know? The Iota Sigma Pi Mini-Grant Program can be used to support your chapter's activities.

Each chapter is eligible for one mini-grant of up to $250 per triennium to support program development activities. Application for this program can be found at http://iotasigmapi.info/minigrant.html

Treasurer: Wynne Kandur. I am excited to serve on the National Council as National Treasurer for the next triennium. In this position, I will be taking care of dues notices and rebates to each chapter and keeping the national organization accounts. The dues you pay each year are divided between supporting the NC, your local chapter, and the next triennial convention. Please stay up to date on dues to ensure timely rebates to your chapter! During my tenure as Treasurer, I hope to engage with each chapter treasurer and share best practices across chapters. Please take a look at the awards we offer each year and think about who you may know that deserves one so we can continue to meet our goal of honoring outstanding women in chemistry. I am currently a AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow in Washington, D.C. If you have any questions about transitioning to science policy, please reach out or if you would like to connect on LinkedIn, please write me a note with your invite so I know you are a fellow Iotan. As of August, I will be starting a new position in the National Security Analysis Mission Area at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. Chapter Treasurers: please submit your chapter Financial Reports promptly to **treasurer@iotasigmapi.info** so that I can send rebates to your chapter ASAP.

Did you know? Part of your membership dues are returned to your chapter to support your chapter's activities and another portion serve to financially support your chapter's delegate at Convention.

SHOP AND SUPPORT Iota Sigma Pi!

Support Iota Sigma Pi when you shop at Amazon through the Amazon Smile program.

Simply go to https://smile.amazon.com/ and choose "Iota Sigma Pi National Council" as your charity.

Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchase to Iota Sigma Pi at no cost to you!

Webmaster: Teresa Bixby. Greetings, Iotans! I am honored to have been re-elected as your Webmaster. Over the last triennium, I have made a lot of changes to the website and I appreciate your patience with the changes, but we're not done yet. Be on the lookout for additional updates throughout this term as well. I received my Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Washington in Seattle in 2009, and was initiated into the Hydrogen Chapter in 2011 as a postdoctoral fellow at UC Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. I am currently an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Lewis University in Romeoville, IL, serving as the Treasurer of the Aurum Iodide chapter in Chicagoland. I teach General, Instrumental, and Physical Chemistry, and I emphasize active learning in the classroom and research-based projects in the lab. I am a trained Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL) facilitator and my primary research interests are currently in the Chemical Education realm. Other research projects include community partnership projects measuring heavy metal contamination in soil, and local air and water quality. You can reach me at **webmaster@iotasigmapi.info**

Historian: Lily Ng. I am very honored to be elected National Historian for the next two trienniums. My responsibilities include:

(1) Overseeing the preservation of all property of the Society not in current use, including records and documents, publications and material of historical interest to the Society (e.g. programs of National Conventions, installation of chapters and anniversaries).
(2) Keeping the history of the Society and chapters up-to-date.
(3) Communicating with chapter officers, especially the Chapter Historians, annually as to the receipt of documents and records generated by their office.
(4) Searching for historical records as requested by other officers and members.

To successfully fulfill my duties, I depend both on the help and cooperation of the National Council and chapter officers. During the triennium, I will request different documents and records for preservation. The vast majority of these can and should be filed electronically. During the next six years, I plan to create a digital collection of as many of the historical documents in the archives as possible to enable faster and easier searches of the historical records. Please send me information at **historian@iotasigmapi.info**. Go Scientists Forward!

Did you know? The National Historian (Lily @ historian@iotasigmapi.info) should be included in your email distribution list on your chapter correspondence. She should also be sent photos of chapter activities to ensure your chapter's activities are included in Iota Sigma Pi's historical archives.

Members-At-Large (MAL) Coordinator: Ellen Matson. Greetings to the Iota Sigma Pi community and especially to all of the Members-at-Large. I am excited to serve as the Coordinator of the extremely diverse chapter of Iotans without a home chapter, the MA:s. I am currently an Assistant Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Rochester. My research group studies the synthesis and reactivity of self-assembled heterometallic cluster complexes. We're especially interested in using these molecules to address problems related to energy storage. I graduated from Boston University in 2009 with degrees in Science Education and Chemistry. I pursued a graduate degree at Purdue University to further my knowledge of inorganic chemistry, where I worked in the research laboratory of Prof. Suzanne Bart. While in graduate school, I served as the outreach coordinator, and eventually the vice president of the Plutonium Chapter. In 2013, I was awarded the *Anna Louise Hoffman Award for Graduate Research*. I have been a MAL for the past 4 years, following the organization from a distance, but getting involved in opportunities whenever possible. I'm looking forward to serving the MALs by organizing virtual events during the next triennium. To make these events happen, I need to hear from you! Please e-mail me your ideas and professional/personal updates: accomplishments,

activities and awards. You can reach me at **membersatlarge@iotasigmapi.info** I'm looking forward to learning about the MALs over the next three years. Be sure to look for us and "like" us on Iota Sigma Pi Members-At-Large Facebook page.

Director of Student Awards: Reiko Simmons. Many members and friends of Iota Sigma Pi know me as the Coordinator of Initiates and Supplies. I served in that capacity for eleven-plus years (2005-2017). Although I have many wonderful memories, it is time to move on. For that and several other reasons, I am very happy to change my responsibilities but continue to serve the organization as the Director of Student Awards! Currently, I am an Instructor for the Department of Chemistry, at John Carroll University, Cleveland Ohio. This is my eighth year in this position and I am very happy to report that I have the support of the Department in promoting our Iota Sigma Pi. I received my PhD in Chemistry from Cleveland State University, very late in my career (2000). After my first career in Public Education, as a Special Education teacher and a supervisor, I became interested in Chemistry, and thus went back to college and completed my post-graduate degree in Chemistry. Over these years and the rich experiences provided by them, I feel I have come to recognize the instances of excellent work achieved by many, many students. This is why I look forward to honoring our student members with Iota Sigma Pi awards, including the Anna Louise Hoffman Award for Outstanding Achievement in Graduate Research, the Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Chemistry, Gladys Anderson Emerson Scholarship, and the Members-at-Large Reentry Award. If you have questions, please contact me at **studentawards@iotasigmapi.info**

Director of Professional Awards: Anne K. Taylor. I hold a PhD in organic chemistry from Cornell University and a B.A. degree in chemistry from Gettysburg College (PA). I am now fully retired, but previously was a technical writer and consultant to the pharmaceutical industry. Before that, I spent 14 years working in pharmaceutical analytical chemistry in New Jersey. I was employed by Parke-Davis (now Pfizer) and Schering-Plough (now Merck), developing test methods for new drug formulations. Earlier in my career, I taught at several colleges in Upstate New York and was a "full time Mom" for a few years. That is at least four careers! Each was fulfilling in a different way. My husband and I currently reside in Northern California (Petaluma) and I find myself quite busy in this new phase (retirement) of our lives. I am co-editor of the newsletter for the Petaluma Branch of the women's group AAUW, a docent for the Petaluma Wetlands Alliance, and volunteer coordinator of St. John's Episcopal Church. I also serve on the national Committee on Public Relations and Communications of the American Chemical Society. I first joined Iota Sigma Pi when I lived in Baton Rouge, LA and served as Treasurer, President, and Historian of Chlorine Chapter. I have enjoyed being involved in Iota Sigma Pi on the national level, and have served the last six years as National Secretary and interim Co-Editor, and am now honored to serve as the Director of Professional Awards. As Director of Professional Awards, I will be collecting nominations for the awards, organizing judging panels, and announcing results. If you have any questions, please email me at **professionalawards@iotasigmapi.info**

Join the Iota Sigma Pi Awards Committee! Get involved in three different ways!

Use your network and marketing skills to help promote Iota Sigma Pi's national awards

Serve on the judging panel for one of the awards

Identify and nominate women chemists deserving of an Iota Sigma Pi award

Contact Reiko Simmons at **studentawards@iotasigmapi.info** *to get involved*

Coordinator of Supplies and Initiates: Margaret Workman. I completed my undergraduate degree with honors in Chemistry from the Ohio State University in December 1991 and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. I received my graduate degree at Purdue University in Chemistry Education and Atmospheric Chemistry. I studied various oxides of chlorine and bromine and their possible role in ozone depletion cycles in the stratosphere. While at Purdue I was initiated into the Plutonium Chapter and served as Outreach Coordinator and President. I am currently an Instructor at DePaul University in the Environmental Science Program where I teach Liberal Studies classes including Introduction to Environmental Science and Discover Chicago. My research focuses on science education including student learning of Environmental Science, on-line learning, and teacher training along with chemical alteration of ecosystems due to urbanization and restoration. I am currently a member of the Aurum Iodide Chapter, serving as President and Treasurer. I also served on the National Council of Iota Sigma Pi as National President (2011 - 2014), Immediate Past President (2014 – 2017) and National Treasurer (2005 – 2008 and 2008 – 2011) and currently as Coordinator of Initiates and Supplies. My primary responsibility as the Coordinator of Supplies and Initiates is mailing merchandise and materials to all members. I am your contact person for purchasing Iota Sigma Pi merchandise (e.g., pins and graduation cords), which can be found on the Iota Sigma Pi website. In addition, I also mail initiation packets. Please email me at **initiatesandsupplies@iotasigmapi.info** I am always ready to answer your questions

National Editor: Miranda Paley. I am a graduate of Grinnell College and received my Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of California, Irvine, where my research, under the guidance of Dr. Jennifer Prescher, focused on engineering the light-generating enzyme from fireflies, called luciferase, to develop a tool designed for tracking different cell populations in live animals. While in graduate school, I joined the Ca chapter of Iota Sigma Pi. After graduation, I joined ACS and helped facilitate the launch of the American Chemical Society's first completely open access journal, ACS Central Science, in just three months. ACS Central Science is designed to highlight the most impactful science both in core chemistry and in allied disciplines, all without any fees to readers or authors. This year, my portfolio was expanded to include all the fully open access journals. In August, I will be starting a new position as a AAAS Policy Fellow in the Department of Defense. As the Editor of Iota Sigma Pi, I assemble and publish the Society newsletter, The Iotan, and will also work to develop e-blasts, to increase frequent informal communications. I am also working toward increasing our presence on social media, so look for Iota Sigma Pi on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. In addition, I would like to revamp the Iota Sigma Pi Speaker's Bureau and am looking for volunteers to help with this endeavor. My goal is to use all of these resources (social media, newsletters, speaker's bureau) to facilitate connections between Iota Sigma Pi chapters so that they can easily share resources for professional development and outreach activities. Please be sure to keep me updated via email at **editor@iotasigmapi.info** on your chapter's activities/accomplishments (members too!) and I will feature your goings-on in an upcoming newsletter and our social media pages.

Join the Iota Sigma Pi Publishing Committee! Three ways to get involved!

Generate content for social media pages (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter)
Write articles & help design the layout for *The Iotan*
Serve as a moderator for one of Iota Sigma Pi's focused Facebook groups

Reach out to Miranda Paley at editor@iotasigmapi.info to get involved in this committee

Records Chair: Danielle Vellucci. I am currently an affiliated assistant professor at NYU and recently participated in a fantastic study abroad program with my students in Shanghai. This was a fantastic opportunity in which I was able to teach a small class of NYU students, allowing me to incorporate student designed projects that culminated with a poster session. In addition, I got to be immersed in the Chinese culture, learn a new language, and travel. I highly recommend participating in this kind of program if given the opportunity! I joined Iota Sigma Pi as a founding member of the Calcium chapter while in graduate school at the University of California, Irvine and recently helped re-establish the Vanadium chapter in NYC. I look forward to serving the national organization as the Records Chair and get to know Iota Sigma Pi members outside of my local Vanadium chapter. My primary responsibility as Records Chair is to maintain an up-to-date and accurate database of our membership. Please feel free to contact me directly at **records@iotasigmapi.info** to update to your contact information, validate that we have your correct information on file, and request information about the current membership of your local chapter.

Did you know? The Records Chair enters your contact information by hand into the Iota Sigma Pi database. Currently there are over 11,000 members of Iota Sigma Pi!

Did you know? The Records Chair can send the Chapter President or Treasurer a roster of its members and their dues status. Email Danielle at **records@iotasigmapi.info**

Connecting with Iotans at American Chemical Society Meetings

Iota Sigma Pi organizes Coffee Breaks at the ACS meetings and on occasion, even happy hours, providing a fantastic way to make connections with women chemists from across the country in a friendly environment. These events are advertised on the Iota Sigma Pi Facebook page, so be sure to “like” and follow it to be informed of these events.

Iotans at the Iota Sigma Pi Happy Hour in Washington, DC. Mary Beth Daub (Ca), Patty Wiley (Pu/MAL), Wynne Kandur (V/MAL), Caitlin Bannon (Ca), Jennifer Brookes, Megan Sassin (Ca/MAL), and Margaret Grow-Sadler (MAL).

Iota Sigma Pi Coffee Break at the ACS meeting in Washington, DC. Anne K. Taylor (H), Wynne Kandur (V/MAL), Caitlin Bannon (Ca), Megan Sassin (Ca/MAL), Kathryn Louie (Np/MAL).

Get Involved in Iota Sigma Pi Social Networking Events! Use your event planning skills to help organize Iota Sigma Pi Coffee Breaks, Happy Hours or Dinners at national meetings/conferences.
It is not necessary to attend these events to help plan them!
Contact Patty Wiley at **vicepresident@iotasigmapi.info**

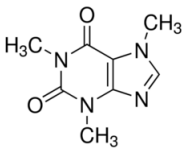
Iota Sigma Pi members gathered at the Starbucks in the Convention Center to network and socialize at the ACS meeting in New Orleans. Attendees included Kathryn Louie (Np), Mary Anderson (U), Angela Hoffman (Pr), Caroline Schneider (Cl), Anne Taylor (H), Kathryn Penton, Virginia Baker, Sharon Hamilton (MAL), Margaret Grow Sadler (MAL), Callie Stern (Cl), Julia Wiester (AuI), Janet Marshall (Ra), Anne Gorden (MAL),

Join us at the Iota Sigma Pi Coffee Break at the ACS Meeting in Boston!

Date: Tuesday, August 21, 2018

Time: 10:00-11:00 AM

Location: Starbucks
Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel
425 Summer Street



Chapters welcome new members into Iota Sigma Pi

New initiates of the Aurum Iodide chapter

New initiates of the Fluorine chapter

Did you know? All forms can be found on the Iota Sigma Pi website.
Go to http://iotasigmapi.info/membership/forms.html to download membership applications, summary of applicants form, and annual chapter/financial report templates.

Chapter Activities from Undergraduate Research to Trivia Night

Aurum Iodide Undergraduate Research Symposium

Calcium outreach activity with the Cerebral Palsy Foundation

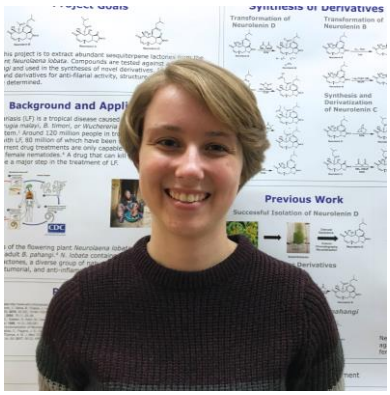
Winners of the Calcium trivia night fundraiser via Geeks who Drink- Quiz for a Cause

Congratulations to the 2018 Class of Iota Sigma Pi Award Winners

2018 Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Chemistry by a First-Generation Student: Zoua Pa Vang of College of St. Benedict & St. John's University. Zoua Pa Vang is a child of refugees to the US and says that she would have never imagined becoming a chemistry major with the hopes of becoming a researcher, but she has discovered that she can realize a dream of making a major contribution to the world through research. She is performing research under the direction of Chris Schaller, where she works with an aluminum complex that acts as a Lewis acid catalyst for the polymerization of cyclic esters via ring-opening trans-esterification. She has extended the initial studies with caprolactone polymerization to another monomer, lactide, and has explored the degree of control over polymer molecular weight afforded by this method.

The Iota Sigma Pi Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Chemistry by a First-Generation Student is awarded to a woman who is in their senior year at an accredited college or university that grants a four year degree. The candidate may be, but need not be a member of Iota Sigma Pi. Nomination must be made by a faculty member and only one nomination per institution is accepted. The award consists of $500, a certificate, and a waiver of Iota Sigma Pi dues for one year.

2018 Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Chemistry: Peyton Higgins of Smith College. As a participant in the STRIDE program at Smith College, Peyton has performed research during all four of her undergraduate years on a variety of topics including surface chemistry, biofilms, and natural products. In addition, Peyton has served as a chemistry tutor and a TA. Her academic advisor Kate Queeny writes: "Peyton works very well with her peers, both as a newer student learning from veterans in the lab and as more of a veteran herself, giving guidance to new students." Peyton wishes to pursue a Ph.D. in chemistry and an academic career at a liberal arts college– where she can foster scientific inquiry for the next generation of students.



The Iota Sigma Pi Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Chemistry is awarded to a woman who is in their senior year at an accredited college or university that grants a four year degree. The candidate may be, but need not be a member of Iota Sigma Pi. Nomination must be made by a faculty member and only one nomination per institution is accepted. The award consists of $500, a certificate, and a waiver of Iota Sigma Pi dues for one year.

2018 Anna Louise Hoffman Award for Outstanding Achievement in Graduate Research: Rachael Gabrielle Farber of Loyola University Chicago. Dr. Daniel Killelea describes Rachael as a student that truly has the potential for an academic career because she clearly demonstrates the intellectual capability, scientific curiosity, and dedication to excel as a researcher and professor. Under Dr. Killelea, Rachael's first project involved imaging silver oxides prepared by filament split O_2, which can be a delicate process. Rachael then moved on to discover double stranded water on stepped platinum surfaces as part of an international collaboration with Dr. Ludo Juurlink's group in The Netherlands. Rachael's imaging work was crucial in explaining the Dutch surface science results and was published in *Physical Review Letters* and featured on the front cover of the journal. Rachael then studied oxygen on and under catalytically relevant metal surfaces and has published many nice papers on Rh, Pt and Ag. Rachael is first author on two publications and co-author on five additional published manuscripts. This is truly exceptional for any graduate student in her 5th year of study. Rachael received the Kadanoff–Rice Postdoctoral Fellowship and has accepted a postdoctoral position at The University of Chicago.

The Anna Louise Hoffman Award recognizes outstanding achievement in research by a full-time female graduate student who is a candidate for a graduate degree at an accredited institution. Research must be original and in the field of analytical, biochemical, inorganic, organic, physical, or an ancillary division of chemistry. The candidate may be, but need not be a member of Iota Sigma Pi. The award consists of $500, a certificate, and a waiver of Iota Sigma Pi dues for one year.

2018 Gladys Anderson Emerson Scholarship: Claire Alexander Vinson of Smith College. Claire has performed physical chemistry research where she studied the chemical and topographical functionalization of Si(100) surfaces to further understand how multi-functionalization affects the surface of a silicon wafer and she is currently designing her own experiments with a focus on the hydrosilylation of oxidized Si(100) surfaces for her honors thesis. Her research advisor, Kate Queeney, writes that Claire pays attention to detail but also stays focused on the big picture, and has begun to share ideas for larger directions the work might take on. Professor Shea writes that he believes that Claire will continue to develop as an independent scientist at Smith and has a very bright future after graduation.

The Gladys Anderson Emerson Award recognizes excellence in chemistry or biochemistry by a female undergraduate student that is in her junior year of studies and has at least one semester of work remaining as of August 1st following the award announcement. The candidate must be a member of Iota Sigma Pi at the time of nomination. Candidates must be nominated by a member of Iota Sigma Pi and the nomination must be supported by faculty at the candidate's institution. Only one nomination per institution is accepted. The award consists of a $2000 stipend and a certificate.

2018 Centennial Award: Dr. Amandeep Sra PhD of University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Amandeep K. Sra obtained her B.S. and M.S. in Chemistry from University of Mumbai, India, and Ph.D. in Chemistry from Bhabha Atomic Research Center, India. She is currently Senior Lecturer-II, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, The University of Texas at Dallas.

Dr. Sra has been responsible for teaching freshman level General Chemistry and their associated laboratories since 2012 and has also served as Lab Coordinator for the General Chemistry labs since 2013 and now also teaches Quantitative Analysis. Dr. Sra has taught over 3000 students in lectures and thousands of students in laboratory, and still many consider her as a mentor and return to consult with her. Her "Teaching Philosophy" emphasizes three aspects, which begins with "How do I guide students, make them believe in themselves, and help them realize their potential?" Secondly,

she quotes a Chinese proverb: "Teachers open the door. You enter by yourself" and through her experience she has noted that different people have different doors. For example, she mentions that for some students, it may be necessary to open a small cabinet door, while others need a large double door and occasionally a student may even require that a wall be knocked down. Holding closely to her Teaching Philosophy, Dr. Sra spends many extra hours with her non-traditional students, veterans, and others who may need a jump start in their knowledge of chemistry. To meet the needs of the diverse and growing student population at UT Dallas, Dr. Sra has personally implemented the following changes: 1) mandatory prelab online safety quizzes, 2) revision of lab workshops where students work through procedures and calculations as a team, and 3) modification of lab procedures to reduce the amount of waste. All of these have had a profound impact on the students' education and the chemistry department. Dr. Sra's dedication and positive influence on her students was demonstrated through 5 letters of nominations from co-workers and 16 students, and all of these letters describe an individual who is warm, personable, non-traditional, compassionate and absolutely approachable.

The Centennial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching is given to a female educator for excellence in teaching chemistry or a chemistry-related discipline at an institution of higher learning who either (a) holds a teaching position at an institution that does not have a graduate program in her department or (b) holds a teaching position that is for teaching undergraduates > 75% of her time at an institution that does have a graduate program in her department. The nominee may be, but need not be, a member of Iota Sigma Pi.

2018 MAL Re-Entry Award. Christine Chang of University of Washington. Christine is an outstanding graduate student working in the laboratory of Iota Sigma Pi Member-at-Large, Alexandra Velian (Assistant Professor). Christine performed her undergraduate studies in chemistry at the California Institute of Technology, where she worked in the laboratories of Michael Roukes and Harry Gray. With formal research experience in both synthetic inorganic chemistry (Gray) and the characterization of nanomaterials (Roukes), Christine moved on to a position as a researcher at a startup company, Kinestral Technologies Inc., in the San Francisco Bay Area after graduation. During her two years of employment at this company, she worked on the development of conductive polymeric materials for high-performing smart (electrochromic) windows. Christine's current research project involves the application of fundamental inorganic synthetic principles towards the modification of two-dimensional materials in order to develop the next-generation electronics, sensors, catalysis, and beyond. She views her work as the perfect marriage between her pure chemistry background and her desire to explore materials design and optimization. Her interests have been shaped by her time spent in industry working on organic materials and learning just how challenging the step from perfect theoretical or small-scale work to actual implementation in real-world devices can be. Ultimately, she plans to return to industry with the intention of *leading* the development of new technologies which will transform the way in which future generations access the world.

The MAL Re-entry award recognizes excellence in chemistry and related fields achieved by a woman at the graduate or undergraduate level. At the time of nomination, the candidate must have have returned to academic studies (from any field) after an absence of three or more years , be a degree candidate at any level in chemistry or a related field at an accredited four-year college or university, have completed at least one academic year of college chemistry upon returning, and exhibit exceptional qualities of interest, excellence, and professional potential in chemistry.

Iota Sigma Pi congratulates these outstanding women for their achievement in research and education and wish them continued success in their careers. For complete biographies of the 2018 Class of Iota Sigma Pi Awardees, please visit our website at www.iotasigmapi.com

2017 Iota Sigma Pi Outstanding Young Women in Chemistry Award Winners

The following students from all over the U.S.A. were awarded the coveted Young Women in Chemistry Award for the school year 2017. They were nominated by high school chemistry/science teachers, guidance counselors, or principals. These women were graduating seniors with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.8/4.0 or higher, with high academic achievement in Chemistry. The award includes an official certificate issued by Iota Sigma Pi, and the awardee recognized in the IOTAN, the publication of the Society.

Student Name	High School	Nominator
Abigail E. Reid	**Grosse Point South High School, MI**	**John Theisen**
Kelly Kepler	**Poudre High School, Fort Collins, CO**	**John Knight**
Priya Sundaresan	**Pinewood School, Los Altos Hills, CA**	**Sabra Abraham**
Aubrey J. Roberts	**Denver School of the Arts, Denver, CO**	**Lisa Bradley**
Jenna Wichmann	**Central High School, Cheyenne, WY**	**Kim Hemenway**
Faith K Carpenter	**Idalia JR SR High, Idalia, CO**	**Cindy Soehner**
Amulya Surakanti	**Conestoga High School, Berwyn, PA**	**Jean Mihelcic**
Chloe Hansum	**Denver Christian High School, Lakewood, CO**	**Barry Meyer**
Rhiannon Broyles	**Fruita Monument High School, Fruita, CO**	**Terri Timmer**
Alaina Franklin	**Strasburg High School, Strasburg, CO**	**Alyssa Kallweit**
Kathia Madera-Huizar	**Arrupe Jesuit High School, Denver, CO**	**Stephan Graham**
Michelle Kummel	**Palmer High School, Colorado Springs, CO**	**Alexandra Madisen**
Grace Hamada	**Centaurus High School, Lafayette, CO**	**Emily Haynes**
Xiaohan Guo	**Gonzaga Preparatory School, Spokane, WA**	**Tom Flanagan**
Sarah Peterson	**Rockwood Summit High School, Fenton, MO**	**Emily McCown**
Jifeng Yu	**Mt. Lebanon High School, Pittsburgh, PA**	**Susan Meer**
Julia C. Gaubatz	**Air Academy High School, US Air Force Academy**	**Derek Stach**
Ann Bentajado	**Bishop Garcia Diego High School, Santa Barbara, CA**	**Heather Shafer**
Isabel Romeu	**Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, Miami, FL**	**Helene Nameth**
Catherine Hale	**Genoa-Hugo High School, Hugo, CO**	**Marguerite Yowell**
Pascale Boonstra	**University of Chicago Lab. Schools, Chicago, IL**	**Zachary Hund**
Hannah Burgo	**The Classical Academy, Colorado Springs, CO**	**Linda Cummings**
Leah Hickert	**St Mary's High School, Colorado Springs, CO**	**Suzanne Tibbits**
Serena Bennett	**Animas High School, Durango, CO**	**Steve Smith**
Allison McClain	**Columbine High School, Columbine, CO**	**Daniel Price**
Margaret Hime	**D'Evelyn JR/SR High School, Denver, CO**	**Eleanor McGee**
Morgan Orand	**Castle View High School, Castle Rock, CO**	**Roger Felch**
Lacey Dudley	**Orestimba High School, Newman, CA**	**Christine Van Rys**
Vidhya Dev	**Niwot High School, Niwot, CO**	**Diana L. Broesti**
Alexis Chan	**Rock Canyon High School, Lone Tree, CO**	**Dave Ferguson**

Kaitlyn Benton	**Mountain Vista High School, Highlands Ranch, CO**	**Justin Villard**
Holly Parker	**Vail Mountain School, Vail, CO**	**Brian Donalson**
Tryston Henderson	**Montezuma-Cortez High School, Cortez, CO**	**Eric Chandler**
Josie Lee	**Arapahoe High School, Centennial, CO**	**Brian Hatak**
Alexandra Ring	**Windsor High School, Windsor, CO**	**Glen Peterson**
Erin Hosto	**La Moille High School, La Moille, IL**	**Nicole Cromwell**
Tahlia Lucero	**Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts, Thornton, CO**	**Rebecca Stober**
Brook Jordan	**North Raleigh Christian Academy, Raleigh, NC**	**Cindy Mcinnis**
Veronica Tanner	**Buena High School, Ventura, CA**	**R. Smith**
Michelle Gehner	**Morton High School, Morton, IL**	**Kate Fritts**
Melanie Chuong	**Castro Valley High School, Castro Valley, CA**	**Deborah Yager**
Kaitlyn Derr	**Central High School, St. Joseph, MO**	**Mary Ann Dudley**
Maria Goyette	**St. Bonaventure High School, Ventura, CA**	**Susan Valle**
Jiayl (Julia) Nie	**Ramona Convent Secondary School, Alhambra, CA**	**Angelica Scager**
Caroline Kaminsky	**Edwardville Serior High School, Edwardville, IL**	**Terry Menz**
Kylie Gannan	**South Harrison R H High School, Bethany, MO**	**Denise Wagner**

Get involved in Iota Sigma Pi through the 365 Women Chemists Project!

Nominate/Identify women to be showcased (looking to feature undergraduates through retired chemists)
Serve as an interviewer via phone and/or email
Help compile and publish the profiles on Iota Sigma Pi's social media sites

To participate contact Lily Ng at **historian@iotasigmapi.info**

Internship and Employment Corner

Undergraduate Research Internship at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC.

An undergraduate research assistant position is available in the area of 3-D nanomaterials for electrochemical energy-storage applications in the Advanced Electrochemical Materials section at the U. S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. The research in this group spans fundamental investigations into structure/function relationships on the nanoscale all the way to fabrication of prototype electrochemical energy-storage devices. The research assistant will work closely with a staff scientist to learn all of the skills necessary for the synthesis, characterization, and fabrication of electrochemical energy-storage devices, such as electrochemical capacitors and batteries. Once trained, the assistant has primary responsibility to take samples from design, synthesis, and characterization, to application. More specifically, the research assistant will learn how to synthesize size-scalable ultraporous carbon nanofoams that were developed in this group and subsequently functionalize them with ultrathin conformal coatings of electroactive charge-storage materials such as manganese oxide, iron oxide, titanium oxide, conducting polymers, and ruthenium oxide. The ongoing research affords ample opportunity to learn appropriate techniques to characterize the properties of these materials/devices, including electrochemistry (cyclic voltammetry, electrochemical impedance spectroscopy, galvanostatic charge–discharge), scanning electron microscopy and energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy, thermogravimetric analysis/differential scanning calorimetry, nitrogen-physisorption porosimetry, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy, and X-ray diffraction.

Requirements: 3.5+ GPA, U.S. citizen, have at least 1 semester left after internship
Commitment: minimum 6 months (spring semester + summer or summer + fall semester), 1 year is ideal

If interested, please send resume and unofficial transcript to Megan Sassin at megan.sassin@nrl.navy.mil

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