



2008 Iota Sigma Pi Centennial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Professor Susan Sonchik Marine, Miami University Middletown

Professor Susan Sonchik Marine is the **2008 recipient of the Iota Sigma Pi Centennial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching**. This award is given for excellence in teaching chemistry, biochemistry, or a chemistry-related field at an undergraduate institution that does not offer a graduate program in that field.

Dr. Marine received a B.S. in chemistry (magna cum laude) from John Carroll University. Her part-time graduate work at Case Western Reserve University earned her a M.S. in analytical chemistry and a Ph.D. in physical chemistry while she worked for The Standard Oil Company (Ohio) Research Center.

Dr. Marine worked in industry for 21 years, working as a chemist-specialist in gas chromatography at Sohio, as an environmental laboratory manager responsible for all organic analytical and research departments at Versar Inc, and as an advisory engineer for IBM developing a new gas chromatograph at IBM Instruments Inc and then working in submicron lithography for DRAM chips. While working for IBM, Dr. Marine taught chemistry classes for employees and chromatography workshops for customers. She was selected to participate in IBM's Faculty Loan Program in 1991-1992 and taught chemistry and pre-calculus at Heritage College on the Yakima Indian Reservation. Her passion for teaching led to a career change from industry to academia in 1995 when she became a Visiting Associate Professor at Centre College in Danville, KY. Her teaching career became permanent when she joined Miami University Middletown to direct their Chemical Technology Program. This program culminates in an Associate of Applied Science degree; the position weds her industrial experience and love of teaching. Dr. Marine's teaching responsibilities include general chemistry, analytical chemistry, three chemical technology courses, and a basic chemistry foundation course. Most recently she designed a new course on chemistry in art for non-science majors. She also oversees industrial internships for the chemical technology students, advises and mentors chemistry students, and helps as part-time summer coordinator for science and math on the Middletown campus. During

spring semester 2008 Dr. Marine taught her new chemistry in art course on Miami University's Luxembourg campus.

Dr. Marine conducts research on a wide range of topics of interest to her undergraduate students and their future careers. These range from combinatorial chemistry to solid phase micro-extraction, from forensic investigations to art applications, and from metal oxides to flavors and fragrances. She involves freshmen and sophomores, as well as an occasional high school student, in her work. Of her 49 publications, several have undergraduate co-authors.

Susan has an extensive track record of outreach activities; her work in Vermont and eastern Kentucky during National Chemistry Week earned Phoenix Awards from the ACS (1994 and 1997, respectively). Dr. Marine has been a very active member of ACS and Iota Sigma Pi for over 30 years and of ASTM for 20 years. She is currently on the ACS Committee for Technician Affairs. Dr. Marine has been listed in Marquis' *Who's Who in the World* annually since 1989.