



# THE IOTAN

IOTA SIGMA PI NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR WOMEN IN CHEMISTRY



## Happy Almost Summer!

The days have been getting longer and the sunshine has put me in a happy mood (not to mention finishing the semester). For those of you in academia it is a time to relax, breathe, and refresh; I hope the rest of you have a chance to do that as well!

This season is also when we announce the winners of the Iota Sigma Pi awards. As you will see, the awardees are a wonderful group of women chemists. These awards are one of the ways in which Iota Sigma Pi recognizes outstanding performances. I hope they also predict future successes. Thank you to all who helped review the nominations. We could not select such wonderful women without your input.

If you are interested in reviewing nominations in the future, please let us know! Most of the awards are made annually (two are made every three years and coincide with the Iota Sigma Pi National Convention, next to be held in 2026), so please nominate students and professionals for these awards! The other goal of Iota Sigma Pi is to provide sisterhood and support to all female and non-binary chemists. For years I've thought that Iota Sigma Pi was one of the best kept secrets. If you were not noticed by a local chapter and nominated for membership there is a good chance that you would have never known about Iota Sigma Pi. I'm hoping to change that!

Although times have changed and there are more female and non-binary chemists, we are still in the minority (as well as in the minority in decision making positions). Please do your part and reach out to local institutions (academic and industrial) to discover the talent there. Then nominate those wonderful people for recognition as having qualified for (and hopefully joined) membership in this honors society. By now you should have received email messages from me announcing several virtual meetings. If you have not, then please let us know your email address so we can include you. You can update your information at the website (<https://www.iotasigmapi.org/> after you login). The website is currently undergoing revision; we hope to have a calendar of events that will let us share events you can attend.

If you have anything that you would like to invite others to, please let me know at [jiselco@cpp.edu](mailto:jiselco@cpp.edu). If you have anything you think Iota Sigma Pi should be doing, please let us know.

Jodye Selco, National President Iota Sigma Pi

2024

# Scholarship Awards

## Professional Awards

### Centennial Award for Excellence in Teaching:



**Dr. Louise K. Charkoudian  
of Haverford College**

[HTTPS://WWW.HAVERFORD.EDU/USERS/LCHARKOU](https://www.haverford.edu/users/lcharkou)

THIS AWARD IS GIVEN FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING CHEMISTRY, BIOCHEMISTRY, OR A CHEMISTRY-RELATED FIELD BY A WOMEN SCIENTIST WHOSE PRIMARY DUTIES ARE TEACHING UNDERGRADUATES.

### Agnes Fay Morgan Research Award:



**Dr. Davita L Watkins of  
The Ohio State University**

[HTTPS://CBE.OSU.EDU/PEOPLE/WATKINS.891](https://cbe.osu.edu/people/watkins.891)

THIS AWARD HONORS AGNES FAY MORGAN AS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF IOTA SIGMA PI, A MEMBER OF THE HYDROGEN CHAPTER, AND THE FIRST NATIONAL PERMANENT HISTORIAN FROM 1927 UNTIL SHE DIED IN 1968. (CONT'D)

## Professional Awards (Cont'd)

(CONT'D) HER TEACHING AND RESEARCH DEALT WITH THE CHEMISTRY OF FOODS AND NUTRITION, PARTICULARLY WITH THE DISTRIBUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF VITAMINS AND THEIR INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH HORMONES. SHE WAS LONG CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPING FOOD AND NUTRITION RESEARCH IN THE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS AND WAS ONE OF THE ORGANIZERS OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS. DR. MORGAN RECEIVED THE GARVIN MEDAL FROM THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY IN 1949, THE BORDEN AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION IN 1954, AND A FELLOWSHIP AT THAT INSTITUTE IN 1959. IN 1954, DR. MORGAN RECEIVED THE ΙΣΠ NATIONAL HONORARY MEMBER AWARD.

SHE WAS ELECTED FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURER ON THE BERKELEY CAMPUS IN 1951 AND RECEIVED THE LL.D. DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA IN 1959. IN 1961 THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA NAMED THE NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES LABORATORY AT BERKELEY THE AGNES FAY MORGAN HALL.



## Undergraduate Awards

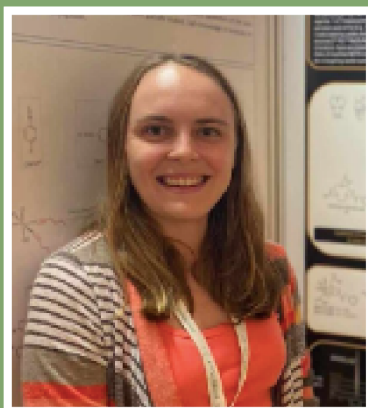
### UNDERGRADUATE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHEMISTRY-



**SALUDA (ABBY) ABIGAIL  
STAPLETON**

THE CANDIDATE SHALL  
BE A SENIOR WOMAN  
CHEMISTRY STUDENT IN  
AN ACCREDITED  
COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY  
THAT GRANTS A FOUR-  
YEAR DEGREE.

### ANNA LOUISE HOFFMAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN GRADUATE RESEARCH



**REBECCA HORRES**

ANNA LOUISE HOFFMAN WAS NATIONAL SECRETARY OF IOTA SIGMA PI FOR TWO TERMS FROM 1948 TO 1954, WAS A MEMBER OF THE RADIUM CHAPTER, AND SERVED FOR MANY YEARS UP TO HER DEATH IN 1974 AS IΣΠ REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR REGION V (EASTERN). SHE WAS HONORED JUST THREE YEARS LATER IN 1977 WHEN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZED THE ANNA LOUISE HOFFMAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN GRADUATE RESEARCH.

## GLADYS ANDERSON EMERSON SCHOLARSHIP



**PRIA PARKER**

GLADYS ANDERSON EMERSON WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS AND NUTRITION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES. SHE WAS THE CO-ISOLATOR OF VITAMIN E IN 1936 AND ENJOYED A LONG AND FRUITFUL CAREER IN NUTRITION RESEARCH. SHE RECEIVED THE GARVIN MEDAL FROM THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY IN 1952 FOR HER RESEARCH ON VITAMIN E, NITROGEN METABOLISM, AND NUTRITION.

DR. EMERSON WAS A MEMBER OF THE CARBON CHAPTER OF IOTA SIGMA PI, LATER OF THE HYDROGEN, AURUM, AND SULFUR CHAPTERS. SHE SERVED TWO TERMS AS NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF  $\Sigma\Pi$  1945-1951, TWO TERMS AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT 1951-1957, TWO TERMS AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT 1957-1963, AND WAS MADE NATIONAL HONORARY MEMBER IN 1963. THIS SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE IN CHEMISTRY OR BIOCHEMISTRY BY A WOMAN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT.

## LOIS JEAN DURHAM SCHOLARSHIP



**TAYLOR PARKER**

LOIS JEAN DURHAM (1931–2022) WAS KNOWN FOR HER LONG-TIME DEDICATED SERVICES AS A MANAGER OF THE NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE LABORATORY, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY. SHE WAS PRAISED AS A SCIENTIST AND A GUARDIAN OF “A LAB THAT PERFORMS ANALYTICAL RESEARCH IN THE ELECTRONIC ENVIRONMENT WITHIN MOLECULES” AND FOR “TRAINING THOUSANDS OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS”. THIS SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNIZES EXCELLENCE IN CHEMISTRY OR BIOCHEMISTRY BY A WOMAN/NON-BINARY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT.

**KATHRYN THOMASSON UNDERGRADUATE AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN CHEMISTRY BY FIRST-GENERATION**



**MAKAYA ROBINSON**

THE STUDENT IS IN THE FIRST GENERATION OF HER FAMILY TO ATTEND COLLEGE. THE NOMINEE SHALL BE A SENIOR FEMALE OR NON-BINARY CHEMISTRY STUDENT IN AN ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY THAT GRANTS A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE.

## Members At Large (MAL) Awards

**IOTA SIGMA PI SPONSORED THE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE  
EDUCATIONAL REENTRY AWARD FOR 2024**



ANNA DUBOFF IS FROM THE GREATER BOSTON AREA OF MA AND ATTENDED BOSTON UNIVERSITY FOR HER UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN CHEMISTRY: BIOCHEMISTRY. AT BU SHE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH DR. BJÖRN REINHARD ON FUNCTIONALIZING LIPID-WRAPPED GOLD NANOPARTICLES FOR TARGETED DRUG DELIVERY. FOLLOWING HER GRADUATION, SHE SERVED IN THE PEACE CORPS AS A TEACHER FOR A UNIVERSITY IN SICHUAN PROVINCE, CHINA, AND THEN WORKED FOR AN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FIRM IN NEW YORK CITY. IN THE PURSUIT OF RESEARCH, SHE MOVED TO CAMBRIDGE, MA TO JOIN CODIAK BIOSCIENCES, A STARTUP ENGINEERING EXTRACELLULAR VESICLES (EVS) FOR CANCER THERAPEUTICS. HER WORK IN DEVELOPING ANALYTICAL METHODS TO CHARACTERIZE EVS LED HER TO THE RILEY RESEARCH GROUP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON. SHE IS CURRENTLY PURSUING HER PH.D. IN CHEMISTRY AT UW AND DEVELOPING MASS SPECTROMETRY METHODS FOR STUDYING GLYCOBIOLOGY IN THE HOPES OF UNDERSTANDING THE GLYCOSYLATION PROFILES OF EVS.

# Outstanding Female High School Chemistry Students

BY TANYA HUNTER

TO PROMOTE INTEREST IN CHEMISTRY AMONG YOUNG WOMEN, IOTA SIGMA PI HAS PRESENTED 88 FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH THE "OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMEN IN CHEMISTRY" AWARD. RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD SHOW HIGH ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN CHEMISTRY. THE AWARD INCLUDES AN OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY IOTA SIGMA PI AND RECOGNITION IN THE IOTAN, THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOCIETY.

| Student Name                   | School Name                             | City             | State |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------|-------|
| Abby E Jurens                  | Crystal Lake South High School          | Crystal Lake     | IL    |
| Abigail Marie Caudill          | Culver Community Middle/High School     | Rochester        | IN    |
| Addison VanDonge               | Dover High School                       | Dover            | OH    |
| Addyson Beaman                 | Danville Community High School          | Danville         | IL    |
| Alexis Laine Starr             | Triway High School                      | Wooster          | OH    |
| Alison Elaine Schmidt          | Conestoga High School                   | Berwyn           | PA    |
| Allison Salinas                | Chicago Hope Academy                    | Chicago          | IL    |
| Amelia Anderson                | Caddo Parish Magnet High School         | Shreveport       | LA    |
| Anastasia Volkova              | Central Magnet School                   | Murfreesboro     | TN    |
| Angela Garcia Guerrero         | Hall High School                        | Spring Valley    | IL    |
| Anna Bradle                    | Stillman Valley High School             | Stillman Valley  | IL    |
| Anna Herman                    | Rivet High School                       | Vincennes        | IN    |
| Anna Ivanov                    | The Bromfield School                    | Harvard          | MA    |
| Audrey Curulewski              | Downers Grove South High School         | Downers Grove    | IL    |
| Audrey Rose Burrell            | Speedway Senior High School             | Speedway         | IN    |
| Ava E. Brock                   | Center Grove High School                | Greenwood        | IN    |
| Aya Belhandouz                 | St. Charles North High School           | St Charles       | IL    |
| Azel Mangoba                   | St. Edward Central Catholic High School | Elgin            | IL    |
| Bela Sameep Sanghavi           | O'Fallon Township High School           | O'Fallon         | IL    |
| Bella Baillargeon              | New Richmond High School                | New Richmond     | WI    |
| Bree Naquin                    | Cabrini High School                     | New Orleans      | LA    |
| Callie Maxine Freeman          | Central Davidson High School            | Lexington        | NC    |
| Caroline Buechlein             | Jasper High School                      | Jasper           | IN    |
| Caroline Jane Crowell          | Peoria Christian High School            | Peoria           | IL    |
| Cassidy Louise Micayla Verburg | Avon High School                        | Avon             | IN    |
| Cassie Miller                  | Parke Heritage High School              | Rockville        | IN    |
| Claire Reed                    | St. Thomas More Catholic High School    | Lafayette        | LA    |
| Elizabeth Peberdy              | Grosse Pointe South High School         | Grosse Pointe    | MI    |
| Emerald Dawn Wallace           | Clinton Prairie Jr.-Sr. High School     | Frankfort        | IN    |
| Erica Woodard                  | Unity High School                       | Tolono           | IL    |
| Felicia Means                  | Walther Christian Academy               | Melrose Park     | IL    |
| Frances Carol Fisher           | North Central High School               | Indianapolis     | IN    |
| Gia Kathleen Albers            | Westville High School                   | Westville        | IN    |
| Hadley Slawson                 | Keith Country Day School                | Rockford         | IL    |
| Haylie Jade Ledet              | Terrebonne High School                  | Houma            | LA    |
| Hui Qiu Cenny                  | Silliman Institute                      | Clinton          | LA    |
| Isabella Nelson                | Stewarts Creek High School              | Smyrna           | TN    |
| Ishita Mannar                  | Cornerstone Christian Academy           | Willoughby Hills | OH    |
| Ivy Joliee Coffman             | Union Junior-Senior High School         | Modoc            | IN    |
| Jasmine Long                   | Ashland High School                     | Ashland          | OR    |

|                          |  |                     |    |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|----|
| Jessica Herrera Silva    | Castle Park Senior High School                       | Chula Vista         | CA |
| Kailyn Anh-Thu Hoang     | Dutchtown High School                                | Geismar             | LA |
| Katelyn Callahan         | Westville High School                                | Westville           | IL |
| Katelyn Nigrelli         | Wheaton Warrenville South High School                | Wheaton             | IL |
| Katherine Kolz           | Maine South High School                              | Park Ridge          | IL |
| Kelly Nguyen             | Sarah T. Reed High School                            | New Orleans         | LA |
| Kendall Ann Montgomery   | Riverton Parke Jr-Sr High School                     | Montezuma           | IN |
| Kirsten Briggs           | Vermilion Catholic                                   | Abbeville           | LA |
| Lily Dawn Farmer         | New Castle High School                               | New Castle          | IN |
| Lucy Naquin              | Archbishop Chapelle High School                      | Metairie            | LA |
| Mackenzie Hespern        | Manteno High School                                  | Manteno             | IL |
| Madeleine Malinka        | Lynbrook High School                                 | Lynbrook            | NY |
| Madelyn Samuels          | Marian High School                                   | Mishawaka           | IN |
| Madison Anh Hong Bui     | Lafayette High School                                | Lafayette           | LA |
| Madison Nicoll           | Loranger High School                                 | Loranger            | LA |
| Madysen Kristine Slover  | Flora High School                                    | Flora               | IL |
| Makenzie Nicole Mankey   | Bellmont High School                                 | Decatur             | IN |
| Marisa DiGiacomo         | Boylan Catholic High School                          | Rockford            | IL |
| Megan Lu                 | New Trier Township High School                       | Winnetka            | IL |
| Melanie Carolyn Benner   | Cleveland High School                                | Portland            | OR |
| Molly Kwok               | Herron High School                                   | Indianapolis        | IN |
| Njomza Asllani           | Dwight Township High School                          | Dwight              | IL |
| Nora Katherine Wood      | Okawvill Jr/Sr High School                           | Okawville           | IL |
| Olivia Wolden            | Mater Dei Catholic High School                       | Breese              | IL |
| Paige Elizabeth Potts    | Harrisburg High School                               | Harrisburg          | IL |
| Poppy Elizabeth Beiser   | University of Chicago Laboratory Schools High School | Chicago             | IL |
| Rachana N. Kanathur      | Metea Valley High School                             | Aurora              | IL |
| Rachel Spicer            | Central DeWitt High School                           | DeWitt              | IA |
| Rae-Anna Weeks           | Auburn High School                                   | Riner               | VA |
| Raisa Clare David        | Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart                | Lake Forest         | IL |
| Reagan Bodden            | Wauconda High School                                 | Wauconda            | IL |
| Rianna Marie Lewis       | West St. John STEM Magnet High School                | Edgard              | LA |
| Richa Shukla             | University High School                               | Normal              | IL |
| Rylee Jae Raines         | Murphysboro High School                              | Murphysboro         | IL |
| Sadie Potts              | East Noble High School                               | Kendallville        | IN |
| Samantha Alderden        | Walter Payton College Preparatory High School        | Chicago             | IL |
| Sarah Land               | Boardman High School                                 | Boardman            | OH |
| Saya Maryn Hauser        | Columbus East High School                            | Columbus            | IN |
| Shilah Adeleine Cummings | Sangamon Valley High School                          | Niantic             | IL |
| Sophie Bredall           | St. Margaret's Episcopal School                      | San Juan Capistrano | CA |
| Sydney McAfee            | Pleasant Plains High School                          | Pleasant Plains     | IL |
| Taijah Mykel Stevenson   | West Math, Science & Arts Academy                    | Plaquemine          | LA |
| Tessa Ternullo           | Mt. Lebanon High School                              | Pittsburgh          | PA |
| Vaishali Jha             | Evergreen Valley High School                         | San Jose            | CA |
| Valerie Antunez          | Arrupe Jesuit High School                            | Denver              | CO |
| Victoria Gatto           | Plainfield East High School                          | Plainfield          | IL |
| Yvonne Gaiden            | Libertyville High School                             | Libertyville        | IL |
| Zoe Joseph               | Bloomington High School South                        | Bloomington         | IN |





# SPRING EVENTS

## FIRESIDE CHAT:

PROFESSOR CAROLYN BERTOZZI RECEIVED THE 2023 PRIESTLY MEDAL AND NOBEL LAUREATE IN CHEMISTRY AND CN&E JOURNALISM. DR. BERTOZZI IS A PROFESSOR AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY WHO FOCUSES ON THE GLYCOBIOLOGY OF INFLAMMATION AND CANCER. SHE WAS AWARDED THE HIGHEST ACS HONOR FOR HER GROUNDBREAKING WORK IN BIOORTHOGONAL REACTIONS FOR THERAPEUTIC APPLICATION. MOST RECENTLY SHE HAS FOCUSED ON THE BIOLOGY OF COVID-19.

DR. BERTOZZI TALKS ABOUT PUSHING PAST THE STEREOTYPES OF BEING A SCIENTIST, AND HER CAREER PATH WITHIN DIFFERENT ACADEMIC INSTITUTES. SHE DELVED INTO HER EXPERIENCE AS A PHD STUDENT, AND HOW HER UNIQUE PATH ALLOWED HER TO BE DETERMINED. THUS, ALLOWING HER TO PURSUE SETTING UP HER LABORATORY LEADING HER TO INVESTIGATE HER QUESTIONS. WITHIN HER LABORATORY, SHE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A DIVERSITY OF PEOPLE WITHIN THE LEARNING CURVE OF A LABORATORY TO BRING A VARIETY OF VIEWPOINTS. WE CAN ALL LEARN FROM HER FOR SHE EXEMPLIFIES THAT LEARNING AND SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION CAN OCCUR NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE ON THE JOURNEY OF SCIENTIFIC LEARNING.



## BIENNIAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

AURUM IODIDE HOSTED OUR BIENNIAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM AT LEWIS UNIVERSITY (ROMEOWILLE, IL) ON FEB 24TH. WE AWARDED THE FRAN SEABRIGHT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH TO 4 STUDENTS, 2 FOR POSTER PRESENTATIONS AND 2 FOR ORAL PRESENTATIONS. THE AWARDEES ARE (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT IN THEIR PICTURE) EMILY LEIBFRITZ (JUNIOR AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY), JORDAN WERNER (JUNIOR AT BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY), MAGDALENA CZYZ (SENIOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO), AND ANNA BUTTELL (JUNIOR AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO). EACH AWARDEE GOT A CERTIFICATE AND \$100. THIS EVENT RANGES IN SIZE; ALTHOUGH THIS WAS ON THE SMALLER SIDE, WE GOT SOME GREAT PRESENTATIONS AND A LOT OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO SUPPORT THEM. IT IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO PRESENT THEIR WORK IN A SAFE AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT AND TO NETWORK WITH THE VARIETY OF PROFESSIONALS IN OUR CHAPTER. SOMEONE EVEN DROVE IN FROM INDIANA FOR IT! THIS EVENT HONORS FRANCES KRAUSEZ SEABRIGHT (MAY 17, 1912 - JANUARY 27, 2005)



## **BIENNIAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: KEYNOTE SPEAKER DR. ELENA SHEVCHENKO**

“SELF-ASSEMBLED STRUCTURES OF NANOPARTICLES” BY DR. ELENA SHEVCHENKO

EXTENSIVE RESEARCH HAS BEEN DEDICATED TO THE SELF-ORGANIZATION OF UNIFORM NANOPARTICLES INTO PERIODIC STRUCTURES. THE SELF-ASSEMBLY OF NANOPARTICLES HOLDS THE POTENTIAL TO OFFER DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES FOR DESIGNING STRUCTURES WITH PRECISE CONTROL OVER ORDER, DENSITY, INTERPARTICLE SPACING, AND COMPOSITION. VARIOUS INSTANCES OF BOTH SINGLE AND MULTICOMPONENT PERIODIC ASSEMBLIES HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY DEMONSTRATED.

SELF-ASSEMBLED STRUCTURES CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH TWO PRIMARY METHODS: DESTABILIZATION OF THE NANOPARTICLE SOLUTION USING NON-SOLVENTS OR BY SOLVENT EVAPORATION. IN BOTH CASES, THREE-DIMENSIONAL SUPERSTRUCTURES REMINISCENT OF THOSE FORMED BY ATOMS ARE CREATED. THIS PRESENTATION AIMS TO EXPLORE HOW NON-SOLVENTS IMPACT THE LIGAND SHELL AND DELVE INTO THE SOLVATION OF NANOPARTICLE LIGAND SHELLS, EXAMINING ITS INFLUENCE ON THE NANOPARTICLES' ASSEMBLY CAPABILITIES. THE COMPLEXITY OF NANOPARTICLE SELF-ASSEMBLY INVOLVES A SPECTRUM OF ATTRACTIVE AND REPULSIVE INTERACTIONS AMONG PARTICLES AND LIGANDS. OUR INVESTIGATION HAS FOCUSED ON THE ROLE OF LIGAND SOLVATION IN NANOPARTICLE SELF-ASSEMBLY, REVEALING ITS SUBSTANTIAL INFLUENCE ON THE RESULTING STRUCTURE TYPES. FURTHERMORE, WE HAVE EXPLORED THE POSSIBILITY OF MODIFYING NANOPARTICLE CHARGES USING INORGANIC PRECURSORS TO MANIPULATE SELF-ASSEMBLY. ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE SOUGHT TO UNDERSTAND THE CONTRIBUTION OF LIGAND SOLVATION TO THE MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF PERIODIC STRUCTURES, EMPLOYING THE DIAMOND ANVIL CELL TECHNIQUE AND OTHER TECHNIQUES IN OUR STUDIES.



# A Celebration of Life

SHARON VERGEZ VERCELLOTTI

1941 - 2023



WRITTEN BY ANNE TAYLOR

DID YOU RECEIVE THE CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF IOTA SIGMA PI WHEN YOU JOINED ISP? IF SO, YOU CAN THANK SHARON VERCELLOTTI FOR IT. SHE SERVED AS NATIONAL EDITOR, AND SHE AND ANNE SHERREM ASSEMBLED AND ORGANIZED THE MATERIAL THAT BECAME HISTORY. SHARON APPLIED TO THE DREYFUS FOUNDATION AND RECEIVED A GRANT TO SUPPORT WRITING AND PUBLISHING THE HISTORY.

A NATIVE OF COVINGTON, LOUISIANA, SHARON EARNED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CHEMISTRY AT LOUISIANA STATE AND A MASTER'S AT OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY. SHE MET HER HUSBAND JOHN AT OHIO STATE, AND SHE WORKED IN RESEARCH AS HE PURSUED A CAREER IN TEACHING – FIRST AT MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY IN MILWAUKEE, WI, THEN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT KNOXVILLE, AND FINALLY AT VIRGINIA TECH IN BLACKSBURG, VA.

EVENTUALLY, SHARON AND JOHN RETURNED TO HER HOMETOWN, COVINGTON, LA, AND SHE OPENED HER OWN BUSINESS, V-LABS, INC. AS A COMPANY AFFORDING CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT TO THE BIOMEDICAL INDUSTRIES OF THE WORLD.

DURING HER PREVIOUS RESEARCH EXPERIENCE, SHE LEARNED ABOUT THE DEVELOPING FIELD OF CARBOHYDRATE CHEMISTRY. SHE SAID, “THE CHEMISTRY OF CARBOHYDRATES IS ONE OF THE CORNERSTONES OF ALL ORGANIC AND BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY.”

BECAUSE OF V-LABS, SHARON BECAME ACTIVE IN BOTH THE CARBOHYDRATE AND SMALL CHEMICAL BUSINESS DIVISIONS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (ACS). A LONG-TIME MEMBER OF ISP, SHE WAS A LEADER IN THE CHLORINE CHAPTER AND SERVED ON THE NATIONAL COUNCIL. SHE WAS ALSO STATE PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION, AAUW.

SHARON WAS THE RECIPIENT OF SEVERAL AWARDS, INCLUDING FELLOW OF THE ACS. SHE RECEIVED THE ISP VIOLET DILLER AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE IN 1999.

COMMENTS FROM PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS:

KATHRYN LOUIE: “SHARON AND I WERE ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE 1999-2002 TRIENNIUM. I HAD A GREAT TIME WORKING WITH SHARON AS EDITOR, AND I WAS TREASURER.”

LILY NG: “I HAD GREAT ADMIRATION FOR HER, ESPECIALLY HER HERCULEAN EFFORTS IN PUBLISHING THE CENTENNIAL HISTORY.”

ANNE TAYLOR: “SHARON WAS MY MENTOR IN BOTH ISP AND ACS. I LEARNED SO MUCH FROM HER AND MET THE MOST INTERESTING PEOPLE.”

2023 - 2026 NATIONAL COUNCIL CONTACT LIST

***President***

**Joyde Selco**

ispncpresident@gmail.com

***Vice President***

**Christine Hermann**

ispncvicepresident@gmail.com

***Secretary***

**Judith A. Schuerman**

ispncsecretary@gmail.com

***Treasurer***

**Margaret Workman**

ispnctreasurer@gmail.com

***Co-Editor***

**Morgan Batiste-Simms**

mbatistesimms@gmail.com

***Co-Editor***

**Olivia Anderson**

ojanderson382@gmail.com

***MAL Coordinator***

**Gina Samuelson**

gjsamuelson@stkate.edu

***Historian***

**Reiko Simmons**

rsimmons@jcu.edu

***Records Chair***

**Sarah Weaver**

sarahweaver9@gmail.com

***Director for Professional Awards***

**Julia Vaynberg**

ispncprofessionalawards@gmail.com

***Coordinator of Initiates & Supplies***

**Tanya Hunter**

ispncinitiatesandsupplies@gmail.com

***Webmaster***

**Julia Wiester**

wiester@sxu.edu

***Immediate Past President***

**Anne K. Taylor**

isppastpres@gmail.com

***Director for Student Awards***

**Sarbjeet Kaur**

ispncstudentawards@gmail.com

