

ACS, NEW YORK SECTION'S 2017 SECTIONWIDE CONFERENCE, QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, BAYSIDE, NY

Members of the New York Section gathered together for the annual Sectionwide Conference on January 18 at Queensborough Community College in Bayside, NY. The conference featured numerous activities such as: a delicious continental breakfast, award presentations for volunteerism and achievement, a keynote address, poster displays of research conducted by SEED students, introduction of the 2017 election candidates, planning sessions for 2017 Section activities and a luncheon social. Prof. Brian R. Gibney of CUNY's Brooklyn College and Graduate Center and New York Section Chair for 2017 welcomed the Section's members and thanked them for their volunteer work in 2016. Dr. Diane Call, President of Queensborough Community College, offered greetings and congratulations to the Section and the Award Recipients.

At the award ceremony, Prof. Alison Hyslop was presented with the ACS past chair pin and plaque for her outstanding work as Chair of the New York Section in 2016. During her tenure as Chair, the Section celebrated the 125th Anniversary of its founding and hosted the 44th Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting. The 2016 Outstanding Service Award went to Dr. Paris Svoronos who is a former Section Chair, Long Island Subsection Chair and host of two Regional Meetings. The Section presented the Nichols Foundation High School Chemistry Outstanding Teacher Award for 2016 to Kristyn Pluchino of Stuyvesant High School. Dr. Brian Gibney described Kristyn's very successful teaching methods and achievements.

Following the awards, 2017 Chair-elect Prof. Joseph Serafin of St. John's University presented the names of the candidates for the upcoming 2017 elections and introduced the candidates who were present.

Professor Rein Ulijn, the Director of the ASRC Nanoscience Initiative, City University of New York, Gave an excellent keynote address titled "*Peptide Nanotechnology: Building On The Building Blocks Of Life.*" It was a topic of high interest and many questions.

The annual planning session for subsections, topical groups, and committees was held during the last hour of the conference, to discuss goals and activities for the upcoming year. Each leader of the group, then, summarized their discussions. Following the conference, section members and family enjoyed lunch together at Marias's Mediterranean Restaurant in Bayside.