



Outstanding Two-Year College Chemistry Teaching Award

Dr. Kevin Kolack, Queensborough Community College – CUNY

Dr. Kevin Kolack earned a BS in chemistry from The University of Virginia under the advisement of the legendary Frank Carey, and a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry at Indiana University in the research group of Distinguished Professor George Christou. He joined the full-time faculty of Queensborough Community College – City University of New York (CUNY) after 13 years as an adjunct professor at The Cooper Union as well as time at St. Joseph's College, Yeshiva University, and Hunter College. The English-language editor of more than 400 peer-reviewed publications, Professor K has more than 30 years of college teaching experience and a highly eclectic background including a reasonably successful acting career, 10 years as a firefighter/EMT, licenses for New York City taxi, ambulance, fire truck and helicopter, professional puppeteer experience, training as a fire eater, he competed at the Olympic level in smallbore rifle, and he really enjoys indoor skydiving in a vertical wind tunnel.



Kevin was the 2015-2019 Chair of the QCC Committee on e-Learning, and was the only person in the QCC chemistry department to teach online prior to March 2020. During the pandemic, he posted pre-recorded lecture and lab videos and other materials for his colleagues' use in two-thirds of the chemistry courses offered by QCC. Dr. Kolack is the lead author of the 3rd-5th editions of "Introductory General Chemistry Experiments" and also wrote and starred in "The Professor K Show," a topical, environmental educational TV program. Dr. Kolack and his wife and son live in Queens, where Kevin was once hit by a crane while driving on Queens Boulevard. Kevin thanks his students, colleagues, and the NYACS for the honor of this award.