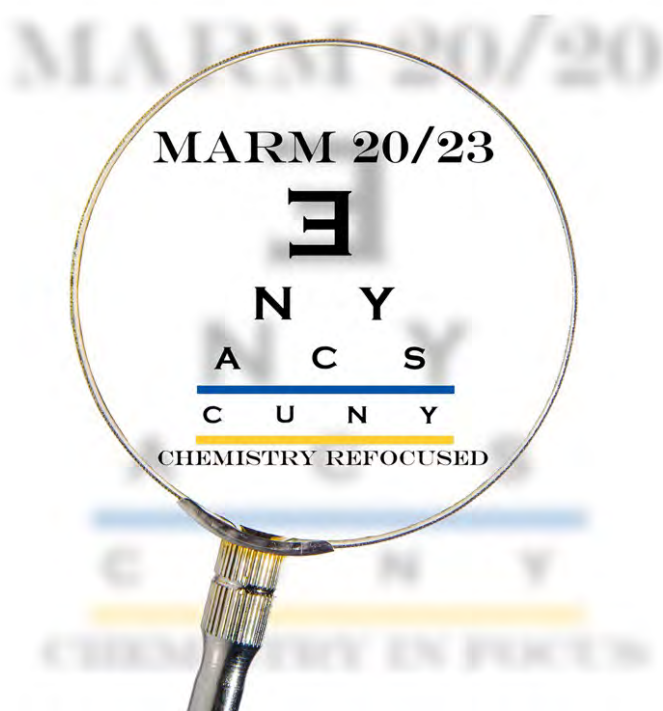

MEETING REPORTS

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023

Contributed by Joseph M. Serafin and Rita Upmacis

The New York ACS along with its partners at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and St. John's University hosted the 2023 Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting on June 9-10, 2023. With 393 attendees, this mini-MARM had the theme of 'Chemistry Refocused' and included technical sessions, poster sessions, an exposition, employment programming including a resume review workshop, a graduate study fair, a social media social, a Women's Chemists Committee workshop on Promotion to Full Professor, a 50/60/70-year member luncheon, and an awards banquet. Both days were great successes for all parties involved.



ST. JOHN'S
UNIVERSITY



ACS Local Section
New York

Leadership Team

General Co-Chairs were Alison Hyslop and Joe Serafin. Brian Gibney was the Program Chair and Webmaster. Jill K. Rehmann was the Treasurer. Ping Furlan was the Exposition Chair. C. Eric Cotton was the Awards Chair. Mary Virginia Orna is the New York Section Chair. Charnita Short was the Coordinator from the ACS Office on Regional Planning. In addition, Judith C. Giordan, the ACS President, and Teri Quinn Gray, the ACS District III Director, attended and met many of the participants and were involved with many of the activities.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

Technical and Poster Sessions

The MARM 2023 Program had the following six main areas of focus :

Chemistry of Life Sciences

This symposium described a dynamic range of recent chemistry-based advances, from fundamental synthetic chemistry studies of chemical reactions to target-oriented synthesis up to chemical biology and translational research. This session was chaired by Stacey Brenner-Moyer and featured the following speakers: Tania Lupoli - New York University, Neel Shah - Columbia University, Enver Izgu - Rutgers University - New Brunswick, Derek Tan - Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Ryan Murelli - Brooklyn College – CUNY, Joseph Badillo - Seton Hall University, and Mary Watson - University of Delaware.



Cosmetic Chemistry Symposium, Giorgio Dell'Acqua

Cosmetic Chemistry

The New York Local Section of the ACS and the New York Society of Cosmetic Chemists (<https://nyscc.org/>) offered a morning symposium focused on cosmetic chemistry coupled with a panel discussion on careers in the cosmetics industry. The speakers in this symposium covered topics ranging from sustainable approaches to sourcing cosmetic ingredients, decoding ingredient labels, hair care chemistry, sunscreen formulations and textile technology in cosmetic formulations. This technical session was capped off with a Q&A about the cosmetics industry. This session was chaired by Giorgio Dell'Acqua (shown above) and featured the speakers: Amber Evans – Moroccanoil, Giorgio Dell'Acqua – Nutrafol, Hani Fares - Ashland Specialty Ingredients, Stacey House – Coty, Sue Feng - E.T. Browne's Global Research and Innovation.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

Environmental Chemistry

This symposium covered a variety of aspects of environmental chemistry including battery technology and the impact of chemicals in the environment on fish and humans. This session was chaired by Yosra Badiei (shown below with her students) and featured the following speakers: Stafford W. Sheehan, Air Company Holdings, Inc., Yuanchunyu Lin, Columbia University, Kenneth J. Takeuchi, Stony Brook University, Sai Puneet Desai, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Jared Paul, Villanova University, Marie F. Thomas, Fordham University, Abd Ur Rehman, Clarkson University, Y.Y. Tong, Georgetown University, Tamasgen Fikadu F. Yadeta, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, and Wanlu Li, St. Peter's University.



Prof. Yosra Badiei with her students

Flavor and Fragrance Chemistry

This symposium covered the full spectrum of the Flavors and Fragrances field. Fundamental research was described, as was product development. The speakers discussed lab work and career development from the wide range of fields in which the Flavors and Fragrances chemist has the privilege in which to work. This session was chaired by Peter de Rege and Cecil Sigamoney and was sponsored by dsm-firmenich and Symrise and featured the following speakers: Prof. Kevin Ryan, City College of New York – CUNY, Mr. Randy Arroyave, dsm-firmenich, Inc., Prof. Pamela Dalton, Monell Chemical Sciences Institute, Dr. Gary Womack, dsm-firmenich, Inc., Mr. John Wright, johnrwright.com, Mr. Jingyu Feng, dsm-firmenich, Inc., Ms. Amanda Delet, Symrise, Inc., Dr. Deirdre Forrester, PepsiCo, and Dr. Tamara Hopkins, International Flavors & Fragrances, Inc.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

Materials Chemistry

This symposium explored the latest research in the design and synthesis of materials with interesting physical properties. Examples include hydrogels, ionic liquid-based biomaterials, superoleophobic materials, and doped-TiO₂ for applications ranging from electrocatalysis to plasmonics to anti-bacterials. This session was chaired by Donna McGregor and featured the following speakers: Dorte Eisele, City College of New York – CUNY, Miguel Modestino, New York University, Devan Solanki, Yale University, Anthony Hall, Johns Hopkins University, Evan Jahrman, National Institutes of Standards and Technology Materials Measurement Laboratory, Jin Monclare, New York University, Naphtali O'Connor, Lehman College – CUNY, Timothy Vudent, Rowan University, Hao Jing, George Mason University, and Arpita Shome, University of Georgia.

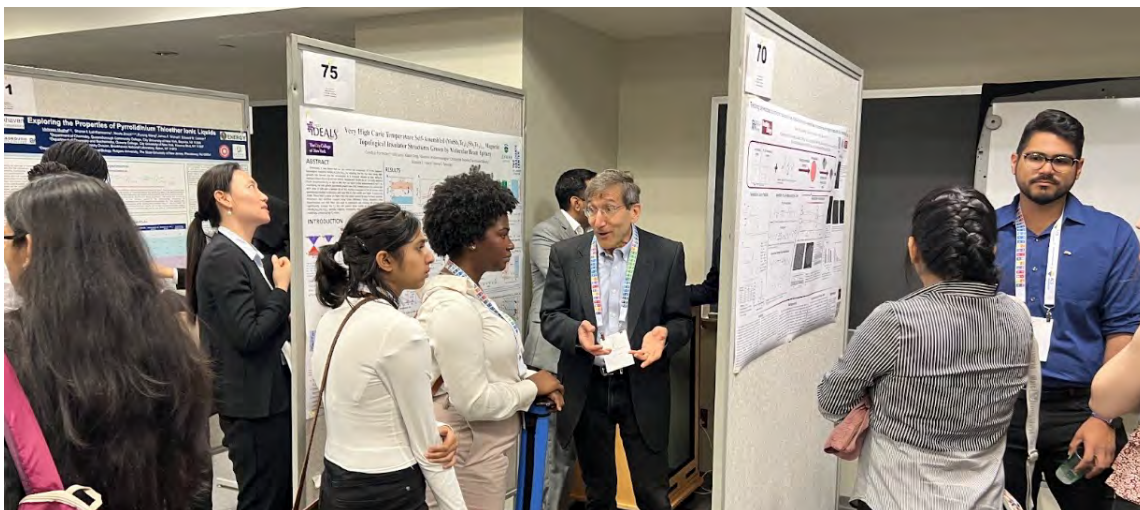


Younger Chemists Committee Symposium Organizers & Speakers

Younger Chemists Symposia

The speakers in the Younger Chemists Symposium were all junior scientists with bright futures ahead. An eclectic range of topics were covered, including analysis of esters in beer, recycling energy-relevant metals, and superhydrophobic surfaces, and oxygen transfer photochemistry. This session was chaired by Mary Okorie (at right in photo) and Tiffany Olivera (at left in photo) and featured the following speakers: Amanda Ooi, Columbia University, Angelle N. Montana, Hartwick College, Scott Ruppel, Stephens Institute of Technology, Hasanuwan Ihalagedara, The College of Staten Island & the PhD Program in Chemistry at the CUNY Graduate Center, Emma Gogarnoiu, New York University, and Suong Tran, Dickinson College.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)



Prof. Alan Lyons (College of Staten Island – CUNY) discussing his poster

Awards

In a year with a number of truly outstanding nominations, the following awardees were recognized at the 2023 MARM Dinner and Awards Presentation ([download program here](#)). Prof. Benny Chan of The College of New Jersey (shown at right) received the Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences for 2023. Roxanne Spencer received the ACS Division of Chemical Education (CHED) Middle Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching. As detailed in the September 20223 issue of The Indicator, Prof. Ipsita Banerjee received the E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at Small Colleges in the ACS Middle Atlantic Region and Prof. Barbara R. Hillery received the E. Ann Nalley Middle Atlantic Region Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society.



Stanley Israel Awardee Dr. Benny Chan

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

Educational Program

The education programming was presented on Saturday, June 10th at St. John's University and included the Middle Atlantic Region High School Chemagination Contest and the Diversifying the Curriculum in High School Chemistry. For the latter event, Dr. Sibrina Collins Professor & Executive Director of STEM Education, Lawrence Technological University, presented on the importance of storytelling in STEM Education. She also presented a practical application which was a biochemistry laboratory experiment which was based on the research of Dr. Marie M. Daly (the first African American Woman to earn a PhD in Chemistry in the USA). There was a vigorous discussion after her presentation which was moderated by Maria Contel and Naphtali O'Connor.



50-, 60-,70-Year ACS Member Awardees at the Luncheon

Special Events

50-, 60-, and 70- Year Member Lunch

Members reaching their milestone in 2023 were invited to attend a complimentary awards luncheon at the CUNY Graduate Center, William Kelly Skylight Ballroom, New York City on Friday, June 9, 2023. Invitations were also extended to members reaching these milestones during the COVID era. The award luncheon was held in conjunction with the 2023 Middle Atlantic Region Meeting at CUNY Graduate Center. The awards were presented by Judy Giordan, President, American Chemical Society, Mary Virginia Orna, Chair, ACS New York Section, and Frank Romano, NYACS Membership Awards Chair. This venue gave a spectacular view of the Empire State Building through the skylight. In addition to the honorees, North Jersey Younger Chemist Committee members Ms. Tiffany Olivera and Dr. Mary Okorie also participated. Attendees really enjoyed this event and were glad they were able to attend. They are looking forward to their next 10-year anniversary milestone. This event was sponsored by the New York Section and a grant from the ACS Senior Chemists Committee to provide this event free of cost and was organized by Frank Romano, Member Awards Chair.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)



North Jersey ACS YCC Members, Tiffany Olivera and Mary Okorie , at the Luncheon
WCC Workshop

A Promotion to Full Professor workshop was held on June 9th at MARM 2023 for those who have been associate professor for at least three years. The workshop was organized and led by Drs. Alison Hyslop, Sharon Lall-Ramnarine and Rita Upmacis. This event was sponsored by the NY ACS MetroWomen Chemists' Committee, which is a local section affiliate of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC).

Women play a key role in academia. In fact, the majority of nontenure-track lecturers and instructors across institutions are women. However, of all women faculty, only 44% are tenure-track and only 36% rise to the rank of full professors.¹ There are many reasons why so few women are full professors including sexism, care-giving duties, lack of finances to hire additional help, and an unbalanced expectation for more committee service.² Recognizing the fact that a disproportionate number of women spend longer at the rank of associate professor, and could benefit from peer mentoring and encouragement, we developed the workshop to provide associate professors guidance on applying for promotion to full professor. The workshop included sharing our own experiences going through the process and providing advice on how to build a compelling package that highlights teaching, research, and service accomplishments.

While the workshop was open to all, a goal was to encourage and support women who, in general, wait longer to go up for promotion. Prior to the event, the organizers actively contacted associate professors in the NYC metro area, advertised the workshop with flyers at the NY ACS Distinguished Nichols Medal symposium and banquet, which took place in April 2023, and promoted it on the MARM 2023 website.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)



WCC Workshop Organizers

WCC Workshop (contributed by Rita Upmacis, Ph.D.)

A Promotion to Full Professor workshop was held on June 9th at MARM 2023 for those who have been associate professor for at least three years. The workshop was organized and led by Drs. Alison Hyslop (St. John's University), Sharon Lall-Ramnarine (Queensborough Community College) and Rita Upmacis (Pace University), shown above. This event was sponsored by the NY ACS MetroWomen Chemists' Committee, which is a local section affiliate of the Women Chemists Committee (WCC).

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When registering for MARM 2023, participants had the opportunity to sign up for the event, which was free to all. Those who had signed up, were contacted by the organizers, and asked to submit materials before the event:

- (1) the written promotion guidelines from their institutions and their idea of the unwritten guidelines,
- (2) their CV, and
- (3) three slides summarizing their accomplishments in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service.

In this way, participants were guided to begin their process of assembling information for promotion.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

WCC Workshop (continued)

During the workshop, participants were able to:

- Review promotion guidelines from individual institutions.
- Design a plan and timeline for their application process.
- Develop narratives for promotions based on their accomplishments.
- Receive feedback on promotion packages with an eye to their specific institution.
- Review examples from successful promotion packages.
- Ask questions and share stories of their challenges.

In this way, participants were able to begin summarizing their own accomplishments, develop their own narrative, ask questions, and receive feedback. Following the event, the organizers thanked the participants and sent, via email, a copy of the workshop materials (a summary of the slides and a handout with the workshop assignments). The organizers also reached out and sent the workshop materials to a few participants who had signed up for the event but could not attend.

References:

1. <https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/fast-facts-academia/>
2. <https://www.chronicle.com/article/why-we-need-more-women-full-professors>



Orugbani Eli and Saleh Aloufi enjoying MARM 2023

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

Graduate School /Medical School Panel

A graduate student and medical student panel was held to encourage students to ask questions and help students plan for their future career. There were 4 graduate students (2MS and 2PhD students) and 2 recently graduated medical students serving on the panel.

Some prepared questions were posed by the session organizers, Phil Lukeman and Patricia Muisener, the floor was opened to questions from the audience which was primarily students.

Employer Round Table Discussion

A panel discussion was held with industry professionals. Initial discussion was based on prepared questions by the session moderators, Aaron Moment and Rich Rosso. After some discussion prompts from the session moderators, questions were invited from the audience. Individual resume review follow immediately after the event.



Employment Panel Presenters



Employment Panel Discussion

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

Resume Review

There was both a group resume discussion hosted by Mukund Chorghade titled “Marketing Your Brand: Writing of winning CVs and Resumes.” In addition a number of individual resume review sessions were held by industry professionals such as Jean Tom, Executive Director at Bristol Myers Squibb, Yueer Shi, Associate Scientific Director at Bristol Myers Squibb, Laura Musumeci, R&D Senior Manager PepsiCo, Joseph Wiener, R&D Senior Manager Latin America, Global Away From Home, and Sodastream at Pepsi Lipton, Amber Evans, Senior Manager of Product Development at Moroccanoil, Giorgio Dell’Acqua, Chief Science Officer at Nutrafol, Sue Feng, CSO at ET Browne, and Mikki Wossencroft, Director of HR and DEI lead at COTY.

Graduate School Fair

A graduate school fair offered the opportunity for undergraduates and interested chemists to meet with representatives of chemistry graduate programs. Schools represented were the University of Pennsylvania, St. John’s University, CUNY Graduate Center, Rowan University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Columbia University - Chemical Engineering, and the University of Delaware. The event was well attended and was adjacent to the Student/Early Career Programming (Employment Programming, Graduate School Panel, Medical School Panel) for convenience.



CUNY representatives at the Graduate School Fair, Prof. Yolanda Small ([Chemistry PhD Program](#)), Sebastien Poget ([Biochemistry PhD Program](#)), Ruth Stark ([City College of New York Biochemistry, Biophysics, Biodesign Program](#))

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)



CHEMISTRY PH.D. PROGRAM
VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION

A Zoom recruitment event for those interested in applying to the Ph.D. Program in Chemistry at CUNY.



FRIDAY, Sept. 1ST , Oct. 6th, Nov. 3rd & Dec 1st
10 am – 11am
Presented via zoom



[CLICK HERE](#) or scan the QR code to register in advance!

You can choose to attend one or more of the sessions.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – MARM 2023 (continued)

Thank You MARM 2023 Sponsors and Exhibitors

51st Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (<https://www.marm2023.org/>)

Sponsored by the New York Local Section of the American Chemical Society

The Graduate Center of the City University of New York | June 9, 2023



Dear Sponsors and Exhibitors:

Thank you for your valuable support at the 51st ACS Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting. Your participation and sponsorship greatly contributed to the event's success, fostering discussions, networking, and knowledge exchange. Your dedication in showcasing products, programs, and services enriched attendee experiences, and we look forward to future collaborations.

MARM 2023 Executive Committee

