American Chemical Society

Middle Atlantic Region

2022 Awards Presentation

Sponsored by Crystal Pharmatech

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Hosted by Trenton Section ACS

Friday, June 3, 2022

1:00-2:20 pm

Kendall Lecture Hall

The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ

AWARDEES

- **Ms. Nadia Makar, Jose Marti STEM Academy, Union City, NJ**
  Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences
- **Ms. Siobhan Margaret McVay, Delran High School, Delran, NJ**
  The ACS Division of Chemical Education (CHED) Middle Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching
- **Dr. Abby R. O'Connor, The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ**
  The E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at Small Colleges in the ACS Middle Atlantic Region
- **Mr. Frank Romano, Agilent Technologies, Wantagh, NY**
  The E. Ann Nalley Middle Atlantic Region Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society

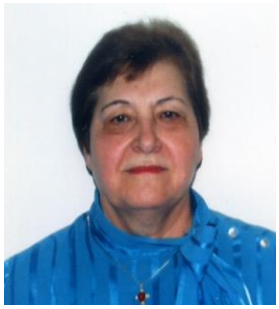
Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences

To recognize individuals and/or institutions who have advanced diversity in the chemical sciences and significantly stimulated or fostered activities that promote inclusiveness within the region.

Sponsored by the Committee on Minority Affairs of the American Chemical Society.

Stanley C. Israel

Ms. Nadia Makar, Jose Marti STEM Academy, Union City, NJ



After graduating Summa Cum laude from St Peter's University with certification in chemistry, physics and mathematics, Nadia Makar taught Chemistry at Hudson Catholic Regional High School. Two years later, she received the award for Best Science Teacher in North America and was named Science Department Chair. In 1975, she received the award for best Chemistry Teacher from the American Chemical Society and from the Manufacturing Chemists Association. In 1981, she received the MA from St Peter's University and her certification for Administration and Supervision.

Nadia Makar joined the Union City Board of Education in 1979. For the first two years, she directed the US Department of Education grant for Gifted & Talented Students in the state of New Jersey. For ten years, she taught mathematics and physics at Union Hill High School and was named College/Industry Liaison for Union City for two years. She was then selected as Science Department Chair and Coordinator for the Summer Scholars Program in Union City where she has placed thousands of students to do research during the summer at numerous colleges, universities, hospitals and companies. She has been the Coordinator for the American Chemical Society New York Section Project SEED (Summer Experience for Economically Disadvantaged Students) for over 30 years. She also served on the National Project SEED Committee for the American Chemical Society and on numerous National, State and Local advisory committees and on the executive boards of several organizations including the National and NJ Science Supervisors, National and NJ Science Teachers Associations, the Business and professional Women Organization, the St Peter's University Alumni Executive Board where she served as Vice president. She is presently a member of Saint Peter's University Board of Regents. In 1975, she was selected the Jersey Journal Woman of Achievement and received the Woman of the year Award from the National Business and Professional Women Organization. She has received numerous awards, citations and recognitions including the Hudson County Science Fair Coordinator of the Year, the Yale Educator Award from Yale University, and many citations from Congress and the Senate, the NJ Governors, the NJ Assembly and Senate, the Hudson County Freeholders, the Union City Board of Education and local and national organizations and companies. In 1988, she was selected Hudson County Teacher of the Year. In 1989, she was selected to receive the presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching. So far, she is the only teacher from Hudson County to receive this award. She was invited to the White House and was honored by President George Bush, Sr. Upon her return from Washington, she was honored by Senator Menendez who named the Day Nadia Makar's Day.

The ACS Division of Chemical Education (CHED) Middle Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching

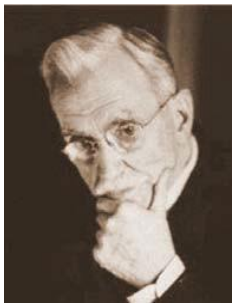
To recognize, encourage, and stimulate outstanding teachers of high school chemistry in the Middle Atlantic Region.

Ms. Siobhan Margaret McVay, Delran High School, Delran, NJ

Siobhan McVay is a science educator of 21 years, spending the past nine years teaching 10-12th-grade Chemistry and Physical Sciences at Delran High School. She has also taught physical and biological sciences at Rahway High School and Sterling High School in NJ and middle school science in Chicago, IL. Siobhan holds high expectations for students as they engage in units centered on solutions to real-world problems. In her classroom, she encourages learners to do the intellectual lifting while working collaboratively with peers. Siobhan developed writing and standards-based assessment tools that are used school-wide. She has presented project-based learning units and learning scaffolds at the New Jersey Science Convention, New Jersey Writing Alliance Conference and the National ChemEd Conference. Siobhan worked with the Merck Institute for Science Education as a content area specialist providing workshops for Pennsylvania and New Jersey science educators. Working with fellow science teachers has allowed her to share and model inquiry and constructivist teaching methods, encouraging students to dig deep into science content. Siobhan serves as subject area leader at Delran as well as the advisor for the chemical engineering & manufacturing, and diversity clubs. Siobhan earned her B.S., with honors, in animal science and her secondary teaching certification from Michigan State University and a M.S.Ed. from the University of Pennsylvania. Siobhan is certified to teach physical and biological sciences. Siobhan was the 2017 NJ recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

The E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at Small Colleges in the ACS Middle Atlantic Region

To recognize, encourage and stimulate high quality teaching and research at small colleges. Administered by the Organizing Committee of MARM.



E. Emmet Reid

Dr. Abby R. O'Connor, The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ

Dr. Abby R. O'Connor holds a B.S in Chemistry from Lafayette College and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Following graduate school, Abby conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Washington-Seattle, where she was a member of The Center for Enabling New Technologies Through Catalysis (CENTC). In 2010, Abby became a member of the faculty at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), where she is currently Professor of Chemistry. Her teaching and research interests are in inclusive teaching pedagogies and organometallic and sustainable chemistry. At TCNJ, Abby teaches courses in general, organic, and inorganic chemistry and developed a course and green chemistry and sustainability. Abby's goal as an educator is to provide an inclusive, safe place for students to learn and grow. This has been achieved by breaking down barriers in the classroom to allow students to feel comfortable to participate, ask questions, and want to come to class and this also involves mentoring students and meeting them where they are. Abby's classroom is designed to excite students about chemistry and involves interactive lectures and videos, group work in class, practice homework problems, real-life applications using literature assignments, and case studies. Many of these activities are published via https://www.ionicviper.org/. Abby has also published several publications and book chapters highlighting these teaching strategies.

Abby's scholarly work focuses on green, sustainable methods to produce fuels and chemicals using catalysis. Abby is an active teacher-scholar at TCNJ, receiving 3 grants since her arrival. Since 2010, she has mentored over 40 undergraduates in research which has resulted in several publications with undergraduate co-authors. Student accolades include over 31% of O'Connor lab graduates have gone on to conduct postgraduate studies in a related field, six students were nominated by TCNJ for the Barry Goldwater scholarship one student was an undergraduate recipient of an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, and five students participated in external REUs. Abby was recognized by the Women's Chemist Committee as a Rising Star for 2021.

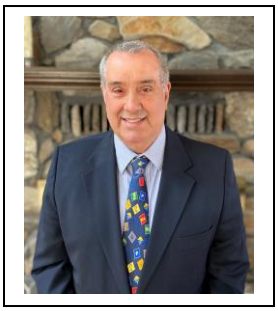
Abby is dedicated to service at TCNJ where she currently is serving as vice president of the Faculty Senate and as a member of the Liberal Learning Council. Abby also served on the Committee on Academic Programs (vice chair), Committee on Faculty affairs (chair), and other councils. Abby is an active member of the American Chemical Society (ACS). She has chaired sessions at National ACS meetings, organized symposia, and served as chair, alternate councilor, and now councilor of the Trenton local ACS section. She is also the chair for student programming for the 2022 MARM. Abby also serves as a reviewer for manuscripts, grants, and student ACS chapter reports.

The E. Ann Nalley Middle Atlantic Region Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society

To recognize the volunteer efforts of individuals who have served the American Chemical Society, contributing significantly to the goals and objectives of the Society through their Regional Activities.

E. Ann Nalley

Mr. Frank Romano, Agilent Technologies, Wantagh, NY



Frank Romano is currently employed as a Field Systems Engineer for Agilent Technologies. Agilent Technologies supports, promotes, and encourages its employees to give back to the community through volunteering. Frank is also encouraged and supported by his wife, Cathryn and three children. His son Jonathan has also volunteered his time to assist with several ACS activities over the years. Frank has focused on volunteering his time to the American Chemical Society in a variety of roles. He is currently a Councilor for the American Chemical Society's New York Section (NYACS). He has served as the NYACS Chair in 2010 and has served as Treasurer for three terms from 2000-2006 and an additional three terms from 2016-2021. He has proudly represented the New York Section membership as Councilor for four terms from 2005-2019 and continues to represent the members in his current fifth term as Councilor which runs from 2021 to 2023. During his tenure as Councilor Frank served on the Committee on Meetings and Expositions (CM&E) from 2008-2013 and the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) from 2014-2019 and served as the CEPA Chair in 2019. He has also supported other NYACS activities, and events including serving as the LIACS Chair in 1996 and the NYACS MARM Treasurer in 2008 & 2016. Frank also volunteers as Chair of NYACS Long Island Subsection High School Awards Program from 2009 to present. This program was initiated by Dr. Neil Jespersen in the early 1990's and it recognizes local outstanding chemistry/science students who are nominated by their High School Teachers from Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Each student receives a prestigious award plaque that is presented at an Awards Program (even during Covid the program continued to be administered remotely via Zoom in 2020-2022). Frank has also supported the Middle Atlantic Region Board (MARM) as Treasurer from 2018-present and Secretary from 2012-2018. He was the recipient of several NYACS recognition awards for his service and was selected as ACS Fellow in 2019.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MARM 2022 has been organized by the Trenton Section of the American Chemical Society. MARM 2022 organizing committee is honored to recognize the contributions of the individuals listed in this program.

The MARM 2022 Awards Committee is indebted to the efforts of the nominators from the local sections. We also acknowledge support from the ACS Middle Atlantic Region Board, the ACS Office of Regional Meetings and Expositions, ACS Committee on Minority Affairs, and the Division of Chemical Education (CHED).

This awards presentation is generously supported by Crystal Pharmatech, a technology-driven contract research organization (CRO) that focuses on materials science and engineering for drug development. They partner with clients to ensure comprehensive solutions for their needs in solid-state research, crystallization process development, and preformulation studies. They guide clients in the discovery and selection of the optimal solid phase for drug development using all aspects of pre-formulation studies, including API process and formulation development, regulatory support and intellectual property protection.

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