



THE IOTAN

Iota Sigma Pi National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry

Spring 2016 No. 111



2017 Iota Sigma Pi 32nd Triennial Convention

Date: 6-9 July 2017

Host: Plutonium chapter

Location: Embassy Suites North, Indianapolis, IN

Theme: “The Journey Starts Here: Science Guided by Women”

Attendees: Each active chapter can send 1 delegate to the convention. Chapters that have more than 75 members can send two delegates. National Council will cover the cost of airfare (up to ~\$450), lodging, and food. So delegates have nothing to lose and everything to gain by attending the 2017 Triennial Convention! We would like to see a representative from **EVERY** chapter at the Convention. The delegate can be any member of Iota Sigma Pi from that chapter- student, postdoctoral fellow, professor, industrial chemist, or retired chemist. This is a fantastic convention, you will meet great women, form networks, and leave inspired! Watch for further information in future editions of the Iotan and on ΙΣΠ website at www.iotasigmapi.info.

Input Needed: Vice President Megan Sassin is working on planning an optional professional development activity for the 2017 Convention and **NEEDS** your input. If you have suggestions, e.g. life coaches with whom you have worked, motivational speakers, conflict resolution methods, networking methods, work/life balance methods, *(Continued on page 3)*

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Highlights of Chapter Activities

Hydrogen Chapter's Dog Days



Hydrogen Chapter has added a new outreach event to its repertoire called “Dog Days of Midterms.” Graduate student volunteers brought their furry friends to campus during midterm exams to provide a one-of-a-kind study break. Research has shown that contact with animals reduces stress and improves cardiovascular health – Dog Days will certainly be back by popular demand next semester!

~Alexis Shusterman Hydrogen Chapter, Berkeley, CA

Lanthanum Chapter's Brownie Science Day

The Lanthanum Chapter of Iota Sigma Pi hosted a Brownie Science Day at Sweet Briar College (VA) on January 30, 2016. We had 49 girls participating, representing 11 different troops from the surrounding areas. One of the participants came from northern Virginia and another came from northwestern Virginia.

The girls completed activities to earn three different patches. These were the Senses, Hiker and Household Elf patches. They also enjoyed eating lunch in the college's dining hall.

Sweet Briar College and the Lanthanum Chapter have been hosting this event for the last 16 years.



Students waiting to register the Brownie Troops



One of the Senses tables



One of the Household Elf tables



Enjoying lunch in Prothro dining hall

News from Vice President, Megan Sassin

New Iota Sigma Pi Chapters

New York City, NY

The Vanadium Chapter (NYC) is active again! A group of women, led by Dr. Wynne Kandur and Dr. Danielle Vellucci (founding Ca member) teamed up to re-establish the Vanadium Chapter. They have recruited a group of new members and received 10 letters of support from academic and industrial leaders. They have designed a t-shirt for sale to support their chapter activities. Please join me in congratulating these women on reactivating Vanadium Chapter. I know they will do great things. If you are working in the NYC area, or relocating there, then Vanadium is your chapter!

Atlanta, GA

Three Iotans, Professors Leyte Winfield, Rhecia Goodley, and Felicia Fullilove, have teamed up to establish a chapter based in Atlanta, GA. This will be the first chapter in GA, and I have no doubt that it will be a very successful metropolitan chapter. If you are in the Atlanta area or will be in the future, you will have a chapter to call home.

Do you want to start a new chapter?

Are you interested in starting a new chapter? It is a very rewarding endeavor- I am so glad that I started the Ca chapter. The process is not difficult and I am here to help you. Feel free to contact me at meganbourg@gmail.com with any questions you may have about starting or re-activating a chapter.

Adding Value to your Membership Initiatives

Increasing the visibility of Iota Sigma Pi through Social Media

We are using the Iota Sigma Pi Facebook page to communicate with you and the world about Iota Sigma Pi's initiatives, society and chapter activities, job and internship postings, and other topics of interest to people following STEM. By doing this, we hope to increase the visibility of Iota Sigma Pi, which will help with recruitment. We have started to notice more traffic on the Facebook page, with some posts being seen by over 5,000 people! I would love to see "Iota Sigma Pi" trending one day in the near future, but for that to happen, I need your help. Please visit the Iota Sigma Pi Facebook

page and "like" and "follow" the page. If everyone interacts with the posts, then more people will see the posts and the visibility of Iota Sigma Pi will increase drastically. If you have something you would like posted to the Iota Sigma Pi Facebook page, please email me at meganbourg@gmail.com and I will work with you to get it posted. In the near future, I will be posting a short description of each chapter to highlight its history and current activities. This will increase the visibility of your chapter and will help your chapter reach potential members that you might not have otherwise been able to recruit.

Member Recognition Program

First, I want to thank each of you for supporting my initiatives this past year, the main one being *Increasing Member Recognition*. Some of the Iotans who were recognized appear on page 5.

~Megan Sassin, Ph.D.

2017 Convention *(continued from page 1)*

gender issue speakers, or even great books that have helped you in your career, please email them to her at meganbourg@gmail.com. Also, if there is a particular topic that you think should be covered in terms of professional development, please let her know and she will work on it.

From the Host Chapter Contacts: Eileen Judkins and Heather Schoonover:

The Thursday evening mixer and reception during Convention brings everyone together and gives members a chance to showcase their science, chapter, and/or company/institution they work for. In addition, this year we would like to start a new tradition in which we recognize women who have made an impact on your scientific career and/or a contribution to the advancement of science. If you would like her to be recognized, please email Eileen or Heather (ejudkins@purdue.edu or hschoono@purdue.edu) and include a photo and brief description of her accomplishments and/or impact on your career for display during our Thursday evening reception/mixer.

Fluorine Chapter Awards BP Scholarships

The Fluorine Chapter is very pleased to continue the awarding of the annual BP Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to an Ohio woman, who is graduating high school and plans to pursue a career in scientific research. This year's winner is attending the University of Cincinnati and is majoring in chemical engineering. An important criterion for this award is that the recipient will attend college in Ohio. The scholarship consists of a \$2000 non-renewable award. The Fluorine Chapter has administered this scholarship since it was established in 1999, including the setting of criteria and evaluation of applicants. We are proud that sixteen young women have received this scholarship since it was established, and that the original endowment fund remains intact! A brief history of how the BP Scholarship came to be follows.

In the early 1900's the Standard Oil Company of Ohio (SOHIO) established their headquarters in Cleveland and through the years the Research and Development effort grew in size and success. In 1988, the BP Oil Company purchased SOHIO, but the company remained an active presence in the Cleveland area.

Throughout all the years of research at SOHIO/BP, women chemists were always a significant and well respected portion of the research and development staff. The company always sought out talented women scientists from the level of intern, up through BS, MS, and PhD women chemists and scientists. Women were encouraged to enter all areas of research and engineering and were also active in management.

In 1999, the BP Corporation made the decision to move its US corporate headquarters from Ohio to Illinois. All BP research and development effort in Ohio ceased. The Director of Research at the Warrensville Research Center, Dr. Fred Pesa, chose to honor the history of SOHIO/BP research in Ohio and in particular, its dedication to advancing the careers of women scientists. In 1999, Dr. Pesa established the BP Scholarship endowment fund with a \$40,000 grant from BP Chemical Company. The Fluorine Chapter of Iota Sigma Pi was asked to establish the criteria for awarding this scholarship,

and Fluorine Chapter has administered the scholarship since its inception. By 2015, \$29,000 had been awarded in scholarships to young women in Ohio, women who are studying for careers in chemistry.

~Pat Blum, Fluorine Chapter, Cleveland

Ninth Congress of the International Society for Theoretical Chemical Physics.

July 17-22, 2016

University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

Held every three years, ISTCP Congresses continue the tradition of showcasing the achievement and advances of all areas of theoretical chemical physics, with special emphasis on the interaction between experimental and theoretical physical chemistry, chemical physics, materials and life sciences. The scope of ISTCP-IX will cover a broad range of topics, organized into symposia by leading researchers. For more information, see <http://www.istcp-2016.org/>.

[Our Director of Student Awards, Kathryn Thomasson, is on the organizing committee for ISTCP-IX.]

SHOP AND SUPPORT Iota Sigma Pi!

Iota Sigma Pi is now a participant in the Amazon Smile program. You can shop and support women in chemistry at the same time. To join Amazon Smile, go to: <https://smile.amazon.com/> and login using your regular Amazon password. Choose your charity as "Iota Sigma Pi National Council". For current subscribers to Amazon Smile, use the direct link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-6093887> to change charity to Iota Sigma Pi.

Then keep shopping, and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to us at NO cost to you. **Try it out today!**

A Message from our Treasurer

AmazonSmile Foundation Gives Iota Sigma Pi our First Donation

Thanks to the AmazonSmile Foundation, qualified purchases made by Iota Sigma Pi members have generated our first donation of \$8.47. When shopping on Amazon, please designate Iota Sigma Pi (National Council) as your charity of choice, and a portion will be donated to our organization. *Shop for a good cause!*

Thank you to our Generous Members!!

I would like to thank our generous members who have donated to Iota Sigma Pi this fiscal year. A total of \$10,836 has been given by many of our members. This money goes to support student scholarships, professional awards and our triennial convention. A gift in any amount will be used to continue our goals of promoting women in chemistry. A special thank you goes out to Patricia Fish, a former National Council member for her generosity in supporting the student scholarship program.

Annual Dues

It is almost that time of year again. The notices for the 2016-2017 membership year will be going out later this spring. Dues renewal remains at \$55.00 for professional membership, and \$20.00 for student members. Chapter Officers, please remind your members that when they renew, they help their chapter financially through the chapter rebate from National Council.

Please help us save money on multiple mailings by responding promptly to the notice. You can send either a check or use our link to PayPal, found on the Iota Sigma Pi website. If you have moved or changed your email address, please notify me at iannottid@easternflorida.edu and the Records Chair, Janet Marshall, marshaj@miamioh.edu.

Chapter Rebates

Chapter Rebates for 2015-2016 will be sent out this spring to the Chapter Treasurer of record. Please include this in your financial report for the 2015-2016 year. If you have changed Treasurers, please let me or our Vice President Megan Sassan know.

~Donna Iannotti, National Treasurer

Meet Our Members!

Colby M. Adolph, Plutonium

Iota Sigma Pi would like to congratulate Colby M. Adolph on the successful completion of her candidacy exam. She is now a PhD candidate!



To become a PhD candidate, Ms. Adolph presented an original proposal entitled "Catalytic Hydrogenation of Carboxylic Acids using a Ruthenium (II) Pincer Complex Encapsulated in a Gallium Supramolecular Cage." Currently, Ms. Adolph is focusing on finishing her PhD and is researching anaerobic photooxidation of methanol on a platinumized TiO₂ surface for pincer-cyclization. After graduation, she plans to find a position in industry that allows her to use her organometallic training. *(For full bio, see Facebook post dated February 8, 2016.)*

Dr. Janet Marshall (Radium)

Iota Sigma Pi would like to congratulate Dr. Janet Marshall for winning the 2014-2015 Ohio State Teaching Award.



Dr. Marshall has been on the faculty at Miami University Middletown since 2007. She teaches general/organic/ biochemistry courses for pre-nursing students, as well as courses on the chemistry of food and cooking, in which students have the opportunity to travel to Italy for the winter term. Her commitment to her students' understanding of complex topics is evident as her top organic chemistry students often score in the 90th percentile or above on the American Chemical Society's national exam.

For reference, see

<http://miamioh.edu/regionals/news/2015/10/janet-marshall-state-teaching-award.html>.

(For full bio, see Facebook post dated February 15, 2016.)

Iota Sigma Pi Coffee Break at the 251st Meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Diego, CA.

We tried something new this year. Several Iotans gathered on Monday, March 14, 2016, in the Convention Center Lobby. We will continue hosting coffee breaks like this at future ACS meetings and will advertise it on the Iota Sigma Pi Facebook page. If you have suggestions or would like to have an Iota Sigma Pi Coffee Break or Happy Hour at other scientific meetings, please let the VP know by emailing her at meganbourg@gmail.com.



Iotans at the Coffee Break, from the left: Edlyn Simmons, Elaine Yamaguchi, Sharon Hamilton, Kierstin Page, Angela Hoffman, Kathryn Louie, and Crystal Benner

2016 Iota Sigma Pi Outstanding Young Women in Chemistry Award Winners

The following students from all over the U.S.A. were nominated and awarded the coveted Young Women in Chemistry Award for the school year 2016.

Student Name	High School	Nominator
Aslanyan, Angelina	Morristown Central School (NY)	Melinda Conger
Battas, Lauren	DeAnza High School (CA)	Fema L. Bernido
Buirge, Emily Renae	Harry D. Jacobs High School (IL)	Wade Scharlau
Camerlo, Summer Louise	Air Academy High School (CO)	Derek Stach
Casello, Sanne M.	Empire High School (AZ)	Hillary Ward
Chappell, Laurel Ann	Montezuma Cortez High School(CO)	Eric Chandler
Chen, Emmy	Conestoga High School (PA)	Jennifer Kratsa
Chengrian, Elizabeth Rose	Mountain Vista High School (CO)	Justin M. Villard
Christian, Emma L.	Life Christian School (OR)	Holly Neill
Colliton, Julia	William H. Hall High School (CT)	Johanna M. Foley
Conner, Erin Ashley	Columbine High School (CO)	Daniel Price
Curran, Anna	W C Mephram High School (NY)	Josephine Parlagreco
Dickinson, Molly Jane	Animas High School (CO)	Steve Smith
Durante, Destiny	S. S. Seward Institute (NY)	Katherine Hannon
English, Megan Murphy	Sacred Heart Academy (MI)	Marie Richards
Garvey, Raaha	Arlington High School (NY)	Cindy Binnie
Folger, Shaely Mae	Platte Canyon High School (CO)	Debbi Marks
Gibney, Sarah Ann	Vineland High School (NJ)	Vicki C. Yeager
Gonzalez, Cesia	Patterson High School (CA)	Rody Escobar
Hack, Yasmeen	Vista Ridge High School (CO)	Jennifer Maze
Hamilton, McKinley	St. Mary's Academy High School (CO)	Greta Sharp
Harrison, Payton	Billings Senior High School (MT)	Craig Beals
Hellner, Skylar Soleil	Castle View High School (CO)	Roger N. Felch
Jacobsen, Nicole Kay	Centaurus High School (CO)	Emily L. Haynes
Kohls, Isa Mary	Fruita Mounument High School (CO)	Terri Timmer

Continued on next page

Outstanding Young Women in Chemistry Award Winners (continued)

Student Name	High School	Nominator
Lagunas, Stephanie Hernandez	Enterprise High School (CA)	Susan Hanifl
Larkin, Kerry Anna	Westborough High School (MA)	Teresa C. Varco-Shea
Liu, Joanna	Niwot High School (CO)	Diana Broestl
Lynch, Julia	Maple Newtown High School (PA)	Dennis Andrews
Madonna, Elise	D'Evelyn Jr/Sr High School (CO)	Eleanor Mcbee
Malbouf, Brianna B.	Lowville Academy (NY)	William D. Marks
Maloney, Megan Elise	Cumberland Regional High School (NJ)	Lisa J. Saul
Martindale, Cecilia	Cheyenne Mountain High School (CO)	Janie Mueller
McQuary, Naomi L.	Gonzaga Preparatory School (WA)	Thomas V. Flanagan
Miles, Rachel	Brunswick High School (OH)	Joseph Maichrye
Mosteller, Sage Marie	Rock Canyon High School CO)	David Ferguson
Motta, Monica Maria	Liberty High School (CA)	Julie Hubbard
Newman, Lexi P.	Vanguard College Prep School (TX)	Zach Seifert
Noakes, Olivia Shawn	Thornton High School (CO)	Kelsey Barnes
Pearson, Allison Noelle	Foothill High School (CA)	Matt Fowler
Pineda, Alexandra	Piner High School (CA)	Kristi Erickson
Prest, Rebecca Jane	South Harrison R II High School (MD)	Denise Wagner
Punn, Isha	Staten Island Technical High School (NY)	Jodi A Fertoli
Righetti-Marweg, Caitlin C.	Petaluma High School (CA)	Rody Escobar
Roosenberg, Josselyn	Loudonville Christian High School (NY)	Nancy Sutphen
Sagehorn, Mariah	Rio Lindo Adventist Academy (CA)	Denise Tonn
Slack, Sarah Danielle	Arapahoe High School (CO)	Brian Hatak
Spina, Alice	Worcester, Central School (NY)	Jillian Hahn
Stafford, Veronica	Grosse Point South High School (MI)	John Theisen
Stampfl, Alexandra	King's Ridge Christian School (GA)	Kirsten McFadin
Taylor, Mallory	Olmstead Falls High School (OH)	Lisa Cumming
Trujillo, Jordan Lee	Hoehne High School (CO)	Kristen Trujillo
Tututi, Alexia Murillo	Castle Park High School (CA)	Darci Kimball
Umanskiy, Leah Jessica	The U. of Chicago Laboratory School (IL)	Zachary Hund
Vasquez, Ileana	Ramona Convent Secondary School (CA)	Angelica Seager
Velasco, Isabella	Our Lady of Lourdes Academy (FL)	Helene Nameth
Wallace, Mary Margaret	Orestimba High School (CA)	Christine Van Rys
Xiong, Ruoqian Amy	Princeton International School of Math and Science, (NJ)	Roxanne Spencer
Zhao, Anna	Foothill High School (CA)	Rochelle Morris

Students were nominated by high school chemistry/science teachers, guidance counselors, or principals. They are all graduating senior young women with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.8/4.0 or higher, with high academic achievement in chemistry. Only one award is given to each school each year. The award includes an official certificate issued by Iota Sigma Pi, and the awardee recognized in the IOTAN, this publication of the Society! We are absolutely jubilant with the number of nominees (59) from all over the U.S.

~Reiko Simmons, Coordinator of Initiates & Supplies

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