



**Iota Sigma Pi**

National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Iota Sigma Pi Gives 2022 Agnes Fay Morgan Research Award to Dr. Ellen Sletten of University of California, Los Angeles**

*Iota Sigma Pi, the National Organization for Women in Chemistry, has selected Dr. Ellen Sletten, Associate Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, to receive the 2022 Agnes Fay Morgan Research Award.*

Dr. Sletten obtained her B.S. in Chemistry from Stonehill College and PhD in Chemistry from University of California, Berkeley. She is currently an Associate Professor at the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at University of California, Los Angeles. She has been invited to participate in the organization's Triennial Convention in 2023.



Dr. Sletten has already established herself as one of the worldwide recognized leaders in chemical biology. She has advanced the field of *in vivo* fluorescent imaging by successfully designing a panel of fluorophores for the shortwave infrared (SWIR, 1000-2000 nm) region of electromagnetic spectrum that allows enhanced light penetration through tissues and reduction of background signal compared to visible and near-infrared regions. Together with collaborators, she demonstrated for the first time real-time, non-invasive, high resolution multicolor imaging in animals. This opened a possibility of contactless observation of biological processes in animals in their natural state, without the effects of anesthesia, which will impact areas of biology, medicine, and psychology.

Dr. Sletten's lab is also making significant advances in fields of fluororous nanotherapeutics and biorthogonal host-guest chemistry. As one of her nominators stated: "I expect that in the next five years these two research areas will enable selective drug delivery and metabolic targeting of disease."

To date, Dr. Sletten is an author of 59 publications, 16 patents and close to 70 presentations and a recipient of multiple prestigious awards. She serves on the editorial advisory board of numerous high impact publications such as *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, *Chem.*

*Commun., ChemPhotoChem, Macromolecules, and Polymer Chemistry.*

Her nominators have also commented on her excellence as a mentor and a teacher. In her short career as an independent researcher, she has already mentored 21 graduate students, 4 postdoctoral researchers, and 22 undergraduate researchers many of which are women and from disadvantaged backgrounds.

*The Agnes Fay Morgan Research Award is given for research achievement to a woman chemist or biochemist not over forty years of age.*

**IOTA SIGMA PI** is the National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry. Its major objectives are to promote interest in chemistry among women students, to foster mutual advancement in academic, business, and social life; and to stimulate personal accomplishment in chemical fields. IOTA SIGMA PI serves to promote the advancement of women in chemistry by granting recognition to women who have demonstrated superior scholastic achievement and high professional competence by election into IOTA SIGMA PI. [www.iotasigmapi.info](http://www.iotasigmapi.info)

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