



Iota Sigma Pi

National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Iota Sigma Pi Gives 2024 Centennial Award to Dr. Louise K. Charkoudian of

Haverford College

Iota Sigma Pi, the National Organization for Women in Chemistry, has selected Dr. Louise K. Charkoudian, Professor of Haverford College (Haverford, PA), to receive the 2024 Centennial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

Dr. Charkoudian obtained her B.S. in Chemistry from Haverford College (Haverford, PA) and PhD in bioinorganic chemistry from Duke University (Durham, NC). She went to Stanford University (Stanford, CA) for postdoctoral fellowship and then returned to Haverford College where she is currently a Professor of Chemistry.



Dr. Charkoudian is a nationally recognized, highly accomplished innovative, passionate educator devoted to effective teaching of science on an undergraduate level. Her approach to pedagogy is evidence-based, and she continues to explore the methodology of college STEM teaching. She has also established a productive, well-funded research laboratory where she studies bacterial polyketide biosynthesis pathways, which is quite impressive for a college that has no graduate-level research in Chemistry.

CURE (course-based undergraduate research experience), a nationally recognized and widely implemented initiative where students are actively involved in real life scientific research, is one of the cornerstones of her work. She incorporates research opportunities into her lectures, laboratory courses, and her own laboratory, mentoring students through all the aspects of a project from its inception to publishing.

She is also a cofounder of NSF funded FLAMENet (the **F**actors affecting **L**earning, **A**ttitudes, and **M**indsets in **E**ducation **n**etwork) that brings together higher education STEM faculty, education researchers and psychologists to design, deploy, and assess educational activities that focus broadly on students' abilities to navigate scientific challenges and failures in undergraduate STEM learning contexts.

More than 100 of Dr. Charkoudian's undergraduate students co-authored publications, some of which were published in top, high impact journals such as *Proceedings of National Academy of*

Sciences, Journal of the American Chemical Society, Nature Communications. She has mentored over 110 student presentations at research meetings from regional to national and international levels, many of which received various awards. An impressive number of alums from her lab have gone on to continue their career in life science fields and receive prestigious science fellowships such as NIH F30 and T32 and NSF GRFP.

In their letters of support Dr. Charkoudian's former students noted her love for teaching, "contagious passion for science", "mentorship that extends beyond graduation", "interest in their personal success" and underscored the importance of stimulating and nurturing environment she created that allowed them to thrive.

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

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