



Report from Saratoga

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The Eastern New York Section of the ACS hosted the 42nd Northeast Regional Meeting (Chemistry – the Central Science of the Northeast) at the Saratoga Hilton and City Center in Saratoga Springs, NY, on June 23-26, 2019. The full program of the meeting is available online at <https://www.acsnerm.org/>.



2017 Nobel Laureate Joachim Frank of Columbia University was the keynote speaker in Saratoga.

The General Co-Chairs for the meeting were Lisa Coutts (SI Group Inc.) and Craig Westphal (SABIC); the Program Co-Chairs were Jan Halamek and Maksim Royzen, both from SUNY Albany. More than 600 participants registered for the three-day event, and contributed to the various scientific and professional development symposia.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the plenary speaker, 2017 Chemistry Nobel Laureate Joachim Frank (Columbia University), who provided an historical perspective on single-particle cryo-electron microscopy and its application to the visualization of biological molecules in their native states. Prof. Frank began his career at the Wadsworth Center in Albany before joining the faculty of SUNY Albany, where much of his pioneering work was carried out.



Reginald E. Rogers, Jr. of Rochester Institute of Technology was the recipient of a Stanley C. Israel Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences at NERM. 2018 NESACS Chair, Mindy Levine, was a 2016 recipient of this award.

In addition, Benjamin Wiley (Duke University) was this year's recipient of the Buck-Whitney Award and the keynote speaker at the symposium in his honor. Reginald Rogers (Rochester Institute of Technology) was the winner of the Stanley C. Israel Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences, Amy Matts (Spackenkill High School, Poughkeepsie, NY) received this year's ACS Division of Chemical Education Northeast Region Award For Excellence in High School Teaching, and Jefferson Chin (Pfizer) was presented with the E. Ann Nalley Northeast Region Award for Volunteer Service to the ACS.

Several professional development events for undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows were held during the conference. Notably, the leaders of the Younger

Chemists Committee hosted a luncheon to discuss their mission and objectives, and the Undergraduate Program featured a session on Professional Development for Undergraduates with Yogi Surendranath (M.I.T.) as the keynote speaker on “Using Renewable Electricity to Rearrange Chemical Bonds.” Finally, a Senior/Younger Chemists Committees joint Mentoring-Networking Breakfast was also held to promote cross-generational collaboration.

Debra Rolison (U.S. Naval Research Laboratory) was the featured speaker at the Women Chemists Committee Luncheon on Monday; the title of her talk was, “Removing the Fake Mustache: Strategies for Success as a Women Chemist.” Dr. Rolison is the author of over 225 articles and holds 38 patents.

Overall, the technical program had a strong focus towards bio/analytical chemistry, materials chemistry, and nanomaterials. This author was a keynote speaker in the applied nanomaterials symposium track.

The Exhibition included over 30 booths, representing universities and non-profit organizations, local companies, instrumentation companies, and chemical/service companies.