



ACS Local Section Maryland

Beatrice Salazar, Chair ACS Maryland Local Section

Celebrating Women Chemists Making Women's History Month Relevant

March 2025. The Maryland local section of the American Chemical Society joins Women Chemists Committee, WCC in recognizing the work of ACS Maryland section members that make a difference in the initiatives and projects of WCC.

The March 10, 2025 C&EN article (p.41) from Lorena Tribe, Chair ACS Women Chemists Committee, brought to our attention the importance of being "... *aware of our role for future generations: our choices today will be the history of tomorrow*". The article reminded us of the great choices we had over the years selecting the local section leaders, seeking excellent speakers for the WCC annual lectures and creating a venue for younger women in the chemistry field.

The ACS Maryland Section chair and the awards committee chair, has prepared a recognition dinner of Dean Sarah L.J. Michel from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy to celebrate her contribution to science research, DEIR and encouragement of younger girls from high school to post-doc levels. Dean Michel will receive the award of Maryland Chemist of the Year. The WCC Merck Research lead by Rebecca Ruck that recognizes exceptional individuals in their last years of their graduate school, presented a great lecture for WCC Maryland in 2023, we became aware of WCC Rising Star Awards and WCC Merck Awards symposium thru her. This year, WCC speaker [Dr. Rajalakshmi Heyrovskva](#)'s lecture was an attention call to younger girls with mathematical minds. The section's Vice chair, Johns Hopkins University and Chair Elect from the Community College of Baltimore County, CCBC, attended the ACS Leadership Institute in January; they have organized fairs for younger chemistry students, always looking to lead the way for women in chemistry. Louise Hellwig the section's secretary is an avid Project SEED recruiter for young women interested in chemistry. For more information on WCC and other local section events see the local section's website: acsmaryland.org.

MEET some of the WOMEN that makes a difference at ACS Maryland Local Section.

Officers:

[Beatrice Salazar](#)
Chair 2025, ACS
Maryland Section



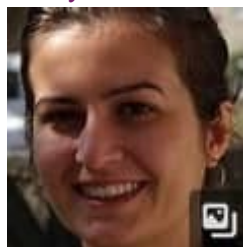
Chair, [Maryland Chemist of the Year Award Committee](#)

[Sunita Thyagarajan](#)
Vice-chair, ACS
Maryland Section



JHU, Associate Teaching
Professor of Chemistry

[Ayse Gul Yavuz](#)
Chair Elect, ACS
Maryland Section



Professor of Chemistry at
Community College of
Baltimore County, CCBC

[Louise Hellwig](#)
Secretary, ACS
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Organic Chemistry
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WCC COMMITTEE

Kelly Elkin

Professor | Chemistry | Co-Director, TU Human Remains DNA | Identification Laboratory (THRIL)
Co-Chair of WCC, Councilor, ACS Maryland Local Section



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www.towson.edu/fcsm/departments/chemistry/facultystaff/kelkins.html | <http://wp.towson.edu/kmelkins/>

[Saraswathi Narayan](#)



Chair of the ACS Maryland Student Awards program and Co-Chair of WCC.
Chair of the Nominations Committee, ACS Maryland Local Section

WCC SPEAKERS & Distinguish Guests:

2025 Speaker:

Dr. Rajalakshmi Heyrovska

March 12, 2025

The simple Nature of the Chemical Bond uncovered by a change of sign in Bohr's Energy of an atom



The golden ratio...

WCC Merck

Rebecca Ruck

Associate Vice President,
Process R&D Enabling
Technologies, Merck& Co.



**WCC- ACS Maryland local
Section Lecture, 2023**

Distinguish attendee to
2025 WCC Lecture

Mary Singleton, Chemist,
Berkeley

“Through Mary’s leadership countless women chemists have seen their career advance...” c&en
Feb. 16, 2009 Vol.87, Issue 7



A distinguished scientist who worked at Lawrence Livermore Labs as Nuclear Facilities Manager and Research Chemist. She is now retired. She is extremely active in issues related to science and to women.