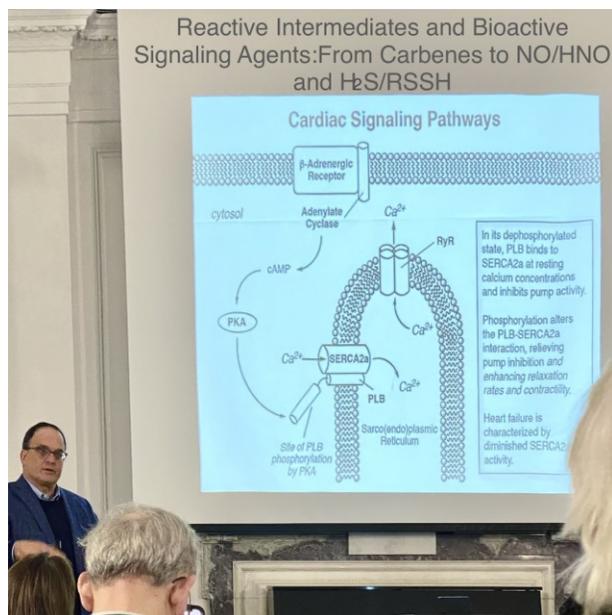




2025 MARYLAND CHEMIST OF THE YEAR AWARD CEREMONY

Dr. John P. Toscano, Professor of Chemistry and former Chair of the Chemistry Department at Johns Hopkins University (JHU), was the winner of the 2025 Maryland Chemist of the Year Award.

The Maryland Local Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS), in collaboration with the JHU Chemistry Department, hosted a ceremony to honor Dr. Toscano's achievements. Beatrice Salazar, Chair of the Maryland Chemist of the Year award, made the first introduction. In addition to congratulating Toscano, she gave a short history of the collaboration between the ACS, the Maryland Local Section and JHU over the last 100 plus years.



Dr. Tim Warren, current Chair of the JHU Chemistry Department, and Professor David Goldberg, the 2023 award recipient, gave additional introductions. They highlighted Dr. Toscano's distinguished career and contributions. Great introductions in his honor!

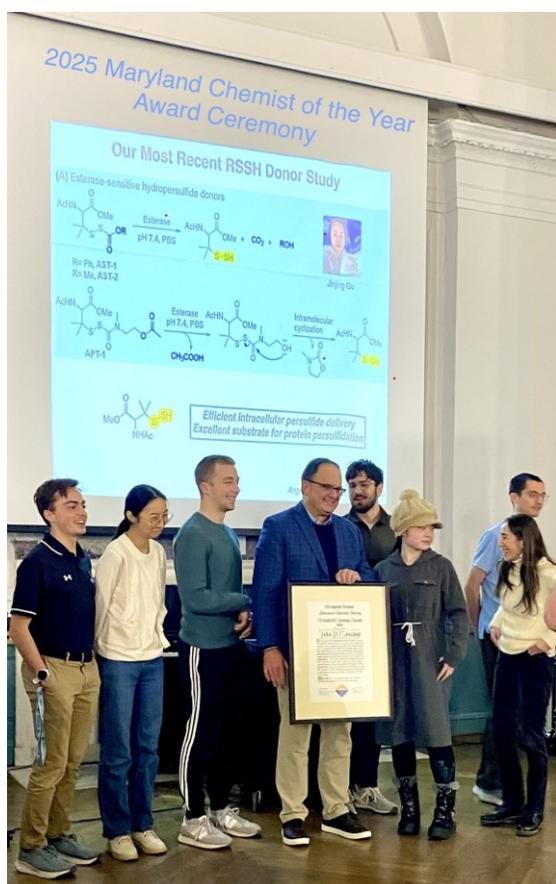
Professor Toscano's award lecture provided a fascinating look at his

career. He provided the relevance of mentors, collaborators, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students as he gave a scholarly presentation of his research work through the years. He showed highlights of early work on organic reactive intermediates using time-resolved infrared studies, photo precursors to nitric oxide (NO), precursors to nitroxyl



(HNO) and corresponding studies of biologically relevant chemistry and applications. He ended up with an update on the latest work on precursors of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), hydropersulfides (RSSH) and their potential applications in medicine. Following the lecture, he was presented with our traditional calligraphic award, a distinguished tradition since 1962 and a Governor's citation from the State of Maryland, recognizing him as an exemplary citizen. Noteworthy was a toast tribute from a colleague who noted that, despite their own expertise in the field, Professor Toscano's presentation offered significant new insights.

These award celebrations continue to provide vital opportunities for expanding our knowledge of chemistry. This aligns with the vision established in 1962 by Dr. Ira Remsen: to honor chemists performing innovative research in Maryland and to inspire the next generation of young chemists.



Professor Toscano and his students-- Photos by B. Salazar 2/4/26

In 2026, JHU and the ACS are celebrating their 150th anniversaries. To mark this milestone, the ACS Maryland Local Section is collaborating with both institutions to honor the founder of the JHU Chemistry Department, Dr. Ira Remsen, with the Remsen plaque.

The celebration was attended by more than 40 guests, including 6 from the Maryland local section, and the 2026 President of the American Chemical Society, Dr. Rigoberto Hernandez.

For more information, please see Professor Toscano's biography and his award lecture abstract at the links below:

Biography: https://acsmaryland.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Website-Ad-Prof-John-P-Toscano_jpt-edits-Final.pdf

Award Lecture Abstract: <https://acsmaryland.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/John-P-Toscano-Chemist-of-the-Year-Award-Lecture-1-2.pdf>



David Goldberg, Tim Warren, Beatrice Salazar, and John Toscano
Photo, courtesy of Will Kirk, JHU