

The American Institute of Chemists, Inc.

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President's 2016 Overview and Welcome

The American Institute of Chemists (AIC) was founded in 1923 to improve the public perception of our profession. In 1926, the Institute was incorporated in the State of New York. The current AIC National Office is now located at the Chemical Heritage Foundation (315 Chestnut Street in Philadelphia, PA).

The Institute is a national, non-profit organization that continues to pursue its original purpose of emphasizing and promoting the relevance of the chemical profession and its practitioners to society at large. It engages in professional development through its Fellow membership category, awards, meetings, and publications. It has also provided a major service to the profession by establishing the credentialing system administered by the National Certification Commission in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering (NCCCCCE).

The objectives of The AIC, per its bylaws, are to advance the chemical professions in the United States, to promote and protect the public welfare by establishing/enforcing high professional standards of practice for these professions, and to promote the professional, social, and economic interests of its members for the benefit of society at large.

The AIC offers the following services to its members. Many of these services are free of charge. These include:

- The AIC website (**regularly updated with current information**)
- *The Chemist* – a peer-reviewed online publication (**abstracted by the Chemical Abstracts Service**)
- A reduced rate for members applying for National Certification in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
- Book review program (**these are published in *The Chemist***)
- The annual selection of Gold Medal and Chemical Pioneer awardees.

The AIC website platform is continuously updated and is compliant with current technology. Articles on pending/enacted legislation, technical information, links to resources of interest to the profession and organizations worldwide, etc. are found on the website. *The Chemist*, as a peer-reviewed online journal, is an integral part of <http://www.TheAIC.org/>

The AIC Gold Medal is now fully endowed within the tax deductible AIC Gold Medal Endowment at the Chemical Heritage Foundation, ensuring that the AIC Gold Medal will be granted in perpetuity. The 2016 AIC Gold Medal recipient is Dr. Chad Mirkin. The 2016 AIC Chemical Pioneers are Dr. Rebecca L. Cann, Prof. Donna Blackmond, and Prof. Michael Wasielewski. All four of these colleagues will give superb presentations on Chemical Heritage Day and at our Annual Meeting, respectively.

The AIC always seeks new Members and Fellows who bring with them fresh ideas (plus volunteer effort, leadership, and time) upon which the chemistry profession has long relied. In short, *the AIC would not exist today without the true commitment of its membership.* The AIC at 93 years young remains relevant and provides programs found nowhere else. New Members and Fellows can have an immediate impact on the AIC.

The AIC urges all Members and Fellows to ask themselves, "What can I do for the AIC, today?" Please be as generous as you can with your commitment of resources and time in supporting the AIC's important mission.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Manuta, Ph.D., FAIC
President, American Institute of Chemists