

David Pratt Award – Call for Nominations

The Department of Chemistry at University of Pittsburgh established the David Pratt award in 2022 through a generous donation by Dr. Dancy Targett. The Award honors the long contributions of Professor David Pratt. *It recognizes research excellence of undergraduate-graduate teams in which one or more graduate students mentor one or more undergraduate students.* This year, up to two teams will share the \$4000 award prize, which will be divided equally among the awardees.

Award Eligibility:

The award is open to undergraduate-graduate teams who have one peer reviewed paper accepted or published within the 13 months prior to the application deadline (March 31st, 2022). At least one team member must be a registered student at Pitt. There is no restriction on the number of undergraduate/graduate members in the team. We expect teams to nominate themselves as a group. The awardees will be selected based on: (1) the quality of the research accomplishments of both the undergraduate and graduate student(s); and (2) the training and mentoring activity by the graduate student mentor(s).

Required Application Materials:

- 1) **A reprint** of the submitted paper;
- 2) **A short statement** co-authored by the team. This should describe the mentoring activity by the graduate student, and specific contribution of each team member to the published work;
- 3) **CVs** of all team members.
- 4) **A recommendation letter** from the advisor (optional, sent separately by the advisor).

Deadline for submitting application: March 31st, 2022. Submit the application materials (in pdf format) by email to: Prof. Haitao Liu, Director of Graduate Studies, email: hliu@pitt.edu.

Awardees will be announced before April 22nd.

Dr. Nancy Targett received a BS in Chemistry from Pitt, an M.S. in Marine Science from the University of Miami, and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Maine. A renowned Ocean Scientist, she also served as a Dean of the College of Earth, Ocean and Environment, Director of the Delaware Sea Grant College Program, and President of the University of Delaware (UD). Most recently, she served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of New Hampshire (UNH). Nancy was a Distinguished Alumni Awardee of chemistry department in 2014.

Dr. David Pratt was born in Providence, RI in 1937. He received his A.B. from Princeton University in 1959, served three years in the U.S. Navy in 1959-62, received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1967, working with Rollie Myers in the Department of Chemistry, and did postdoctoral work at UC, Santa Barbara in 1967-8, working with Herb Broida in the Department of Physics. He joined the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh in 1968 and was promoted to Professor of Chemistry in 1978. His research program at Pitt focused on the electronic spectroscopy of large molecules in both the condensed and the gas phase, the latter with unparalleled resolution. He received the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award (1994), the Earle K. Plyler Award of the American Physical Society (1999), the Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award (2001), and the Pittsburgh Award of the American Chemical Society (2005). (David was the first Pitt faculty member to receive both the Chancellor's teaching and research awards.) Currently, he resides in the Champlain Valley with his wife Kathleen, and occasionally teaches chemistry at Middlebury College and the University of Vermont.