Ashley White to receive the MRS Woody White Service Award

Ashley White, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab), has received the Materials Research Society (MRS) Woody White Service Award “for her work in cultivating sustainable development as a core MRS activity embodied by the Focus on Sustainability (FoS) Subcommittee, and tireless advocacy through the Government Affairs Committee and the MRS Congressional Fellowship. White has written numerous articles for MRS Bulletin and Meeting Scene, and she continues to promote MRS values, namely egalitarian interdisciplinary community advancing materials science and technology to improve the quality of life. It may be given in recognition of long-term, impactful service to the Society, as well as for special projects/programs that significantly impacted the Society.

White is the director of communications for Berkeley Lab’s Advanced Light Source (ALS), a US Department of Energy user facility. In this role, she develops and implements a comprehensive strategy to convey the ALS’s key accomplishments to current and potential users, federal funders and policymakers, and the public. Prior to joining the ALS, she served in the US Senate as a MRS/OSA Congressional Science and Engineering Fellow and at the National Science Foundation Division of Materials Research as a AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow. She previously managed the Materials Science Research Program at the US Green Building Council.

White received her PhD degree in materials science from the University of Cambridge and undergraduate degrees in materials science and engineering and music from Virginia Tech. She has served as co-chair or organizer for multiple sustainability events at MRS meetings, and continues to do so through her role as chair of the FoS Subcommittee. She has led or participated in 14 Congressional Fellowship information sessions at MRS meetings and continues her service to the Government Affairs Committee, currently chairing the Congressional Fellowship program as a member of the Advocacy, Education, and Outreach Subcommittee.

Paula T. Hammond to present The Fred Kavli Distinguished Lectureship in Materials Science

Paula T. Hammond, the David H. Koch Chair Professor of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, will give the talk, “Charge is on Our Side: Using Electrostatic Interplay with Cells and Tissues to Deliver Drugs” at the 2018 Materials Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting in Boston.

Hammond is a member of MIT’s Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, the MIT Energy Initiative, and a founding member of the MIT Institute for Soldier Nanotechnology. She recently served as the executive officer (and associate chair) of the Chemical Engineering Department. The core of her work is the use of electrostatics and other complementary interactions to generate functional materials with highly controlled architectures. Her research in nanomedicine encompasses the development of new biomaterials to enable drug delivery from surfaces with spatiotemporal control. She also investigates novel responsive polymer architectures for targeted nanoparticle drug and gene delivery, and has developed self-assembled materials systems for electrochemical energy devices.

Hammond was elected into the National Academy of Engineering in 2017. She was elected into the National Academy of Medicine in 2016, and into the 2013 Class of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. She is the recipient of the 2013 AIChE Charles M.A. Stine Award, which is bestowed annually to a leading researcher in recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of materials science and engineering, and the 2014 AIChE Alpha Chi Sigma Award for Chemical Engineering Research. Hammond was selected to receive the Department of Defense Ovarian Cancer Teal Innovator Award in 2013, which supports a single visionary individual from any field principally outside of ovarian cancer to focus his or her creativity, innovation, and leadership on ovarian cancer research.