

Stanley C. Israel Award Nomination Abstract for Professor Annemarie Ross

Annemarie Ross, an Assistant Professor at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), is a champion of diversifying the chemical sciences and a valuable leader to NTID, the ACS, and the scientific community. As a deaf professional, skilled scientist, and caring educator, Professor Ross is an ideal role-model to the hundreds of students with disabilities that she has directly helped to find successful careers in chemistry. She was chosen by the NTID student body to receive the prestigious 2012 Faculty Humanitarian Award. In addition to being deaf and hard-of-hearing, her students are largely from traditionally underrepresented groups and a majority are female students. She was a successful employee at IBM, but decided to return to NTID to “give back to the Deaf community” and leads by example when she shows students how to be successful **because** of their disability, and not ‘despite’ it. She is a member of several ACS committees, including the national Committee on Chemists with Disabilities- a committee of the Minority Affairs group- and is often looked to for her expertise in the area of diversifying the chemical enterprise. Professor Ross and others were recently featured in an award-winning video for the Campaign for Disability Employment’s “What can YOU do?” contest- which has been shown, with tremendous impact, by the upper administration of the United States Department of Labor at a recent summit. She is also active in outreach to children with disabilities- encouraging them to pursue education/careers in the sciences. Professor Ross is not only changing peoples’ minds/attitudes about diversity, she is actively working (with profound results) to diversify the field.