



The MRS Awards Program strives to acknowledge outstanding contributors to the progress of materials research and to recognize their exciting and profound accomplishments. We seek to honor those whose work has already had a major impact in the field, who have defined the frontiers of the field, who are outstanding exponents of their science, and early-career researchers whose work already leads to great expectations for future leadership.



Foskey to receive MRS Impact Award

Takiya J. Ahmed Foskey, DuPont, will receive the Materials Research Society (MRS) Impact Award “for leadership, mentoring and substantive contributions toward creating and organizing educational opportunities to prepare the next generation, in particular underrepresented and economically disadvantaged youth, to strive for STEM education and careers and to be role models in the future.” Foskey joined DuPont’s Transportation and Industrial

Adhesives business in 2018, after spending eight years as a research scientist with The Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Mich. Prior to joining DuPont, she was a National Science Foundation (NSF) American Competitiveness in Chemistry Postdoctoral Fellow with the Center for Enabling New Technologies Through Catalysis at the University of Washington, researching biomass conversion with professors Karen Goldberg and D. Michael Heinekey.

Foskey is passionate about creating and implementing opportunities to educate and empower youth, and her leadership in STEM-related community outreach spans more than 15 years. Most

recently, she served as the president of the Midland Chapter of the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE), engaging families, teachers, community leaders, company executives, and colleagues in supporting and executing STEM programs in the Great Lakes Bay Region in Michigan, including science bowls, afterschool programs, summer camps, and STEM festivals. Foskey assists more than 150 local middle- and high-school students annually.

The MRS Impact Award honors outstanding individuals who have displayed excellence in areas of science communication, education, advancing diversity, mentoring, or community engagement, which reflect the Society’s pursuit to advance materials science and technology to improve the quality of life.



Rivnay to receive Outstanding Early-Career Investigator Award

Jonathan Rivnay, Northwestern University, has received the Outstanding Early-Career Investigator Award “for innovative research on organic semiconductor microstructure and charge transport for electronics and bioelectronics.” This award recognizes outstanding, interdisciplinary scientific work in materials research by an early-career scientist or engineer. The recipient must also show exceptional promise

as a developing leader in the materials area.

Rivnay’s research group designs and develops new materials and devices to facilitate the seamless integration of sensing/actuation technologies with biological cells and tissue to enable improvements in diagnosis and therapy. The group’s research focuses on active materials such as conducting polymers because of their synthetic tunability, soft mechanical properties, demonstrated stability and compatibility with biological tissue, and their ability to take on a broad range of form factors, from ultra-thin and flexible to fibrous and scaffold-like.

Rivnay is an assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at

Northwestern University. He earned his BS degree in materials science and engineering in 2006 from Cornell University. He then moved to Stanford University, where he earned MSc and PhD degrees in materials science and engineering. In 2012, he joined the Department of Bioelectronics at the École des Mines de Saint-Étienne in France as a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow, working on conducting polymer-based devices for bioelectronics. Rivnay spent 2015–2016 as a member of the research staff in the Printed Electronics Group at the Palo Alto Research Center (PARC, a Xerox Co.) before joining the faculty at Northwestern in 2017. He is the recipient of a Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award from the National Science Foundation (2018) and an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Research Fellowship (2019).