

News Release

For Immediate Release

Future Leaders Award Presented to Heather Shields at International Conference

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C., USA, April 23, 2019—The AATCC Future Leaders Award was presented to **Heather Shields** on April 11, 2019 at the International Conference held in Fort Worth, TX, USA. The Future Leaders Award recognizes promising young professionals in the fields of textiles, apparel, and related material sciences. These young professionals are the future of our industry and the future leaders of AATCC. Award recipients are determined by each AATCC Interest Group.

Shields currently is Manager of Materials Concepts Testing at adidas. Prior to adidas, Shields worked as a testing and standards engineer at Patagonia Inc., and a materials lab specialist at Pearl Izumi. Shields earned a BS in Early Childhood Education from Georgia State University in 2007 and a BA in Apparel and Textile Technology from Southern Polytechnic State University in 2012. She is currently attending Arizona State University, pursuing an MS in Biomimicry.

Shields joined AATCC in 2012. She currently serves as regional board member of the Northwest Region, and in this capacity, serves on the AATCC Board of Directors. She is also on the Committee on Conferences, Technical Committee on Research, and Membership Committee. She chairs the Global Sustainability Technology Research Committee and is secretary of the Evaluation of Materials and Products for End Use Performance Research Committee. She also serves on the following test method committees: International Test Methods; Interaction of Dyes and Finishes; Colorfastness to Water; Dimensional Change; Lightfastness and Weathering; Colorfastness to Washing; Water Resistance, Absorbency & Wetting Agent Evaluation; Printing Technology; Home Laundering Technology; and Garment Wet Processing Technology.

The Future Leaders Award

Nominees for the AATCC Future Leaders Award must be AATCC members who are 39 years old or younger and actively engaged in the greater textile or related industries. They must display leadership skills and have a history of service to AATCC or the greater textile and related industries. A key quality of successful candidates is a desire to become more involved with the objectives of AATCC: to increase expertise, encourage research, and establish channels for the interchange of professional knowledge. Nominees must agree to join the AATCC Young Professionals Committee and must participate, as their professional commitments allow, in the work of the committee. The award includes a framed certificate signed by the AATCC president and the Interest Group (IG) chairs and a special pin.

About AATCC: AATCC is the world's leading not-for-profit association serving textile professionals since 1921. AATCC, headquartered in Research Triangle Park, N.C.,

USA, provides test method development, quality control materials, and professional networking for members in about 50 countries throughout the world.

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For a photo of Heather Shields, please visit <https://www.aatcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Heather-Shields.jpg>

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