

AATCC Future Leaders Award

The AATCC Future Leaders Award recognizes promising young professionals in the fields of textiles, apparel, and related material sciences, provides acknowledgement and recognition to enhance their careers, engages these young professionals in the work of the Association, and brings their insights and needs to the forefront. These young professionals are the future of our industry and the future leaders of AATCC.

Award recipients are determined by the AATCC Interest Groups. Each Interest Group may choose a maximum of two individuals to receive this award.

AATCC is proud to introduce you to the first recipients of the AATCC Future Leaders Award:

Concept 2 Consumer[®] Interest Group



Meredith L. McQuerry is a tenure-track assistant professor in the Retail Entrepreneurship Department at Florida State University. McQuerry joined AATCC in 2012, the same year she graduated with a BS from the University of Kentucky, where she double-majored in Merchandising, Apparel, and Textiles, and Career and Technical Education (Family and Consumer Sciences). In 2013, she received an MS from the University of Kentucky, majoring in Merchandising, Apparel, and Textiles (Textile Science), and in 2016, earned a PhD in Textile Technology Management from North Carolina State University. McQuerry has over \$380,000 in research grants. She has 12 journal articles published, and seven manuscripts in preparation for submission. One of the journal articles, published with Emiel DenHartog and Roger Barker in 2016, received the AATCC J.W. Weaver Paper of the Year Award. She also is a graduate advisor, and undergraduate mentor for students with research scholarships and grants. Among her many skills, she is certified in Six Sigma Green Belt. She was also a winner of the 2013 AATCC Herman and Myrtle Goldstein Student Paper Competition. She currently is an invited member on the AATCC Strategic Planning Committee and is a faculty advisor for the Florida State University AATCC Student Chapter.

Ryan Stanley has been a member of AATCC since 2011. He is senior director of color at PVH Corp. Prior to this, he worked at Under Armour from 2014-2017 and Archroma/Clariant from 2004-2014. Stanley graduated from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. He has been a voting member on the AATCC Color Measurement Test Method Committee since 2011. He currently serves as a member of the Fashion Institute of Technology Advisory Board.



Chemical Applications Interest Group

Apurba Banerjee is chief scientist at brrr[®] Inc. In 2011, she received a Bachelor of Technology in Fiber and Textile Processing from the Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. In 2013, she received an MS in Design and Merchandising from Colorado State University, and in 2017 graduated from the University of Georgia with a PhD in Polymer, Fiber, and Textile Sciences. She joined AATCC in 2012, while a student and, since joining, has been a very active AATCC member. While a student, she presented papers each year from 2013 through 2017 for the Herman and Myrtle Goldstein Student Paper Competitions at the AATCC International Conference. She also received two AATCC Foundation Student Research Support Grants in 2014 and 2017. She served as president of the University of Georgia AATCC Student Chapter from 2014 to 2015, and treasurer from 2015 to 2016. She has co-authored four publications and holds two patents. Banerjee currently is co-chair of the Young Professionals committee, and serves on the AATCC Executive Committee on Research and is the vice chair on AATCC Technical Committee of Research.



Kiarash Arangdad is a research and development chemist at ITG/Burlington. In 2007 and 2009, respectively, Arangdad earned a BSc and an MSc in Chemical Textile Engineering at Tehran Azad University in Tehran, Iran. In 2015, he earned a PhD in Fiber and Polymer Science from the



Wilson College of Textiles at North Carolina State University. Arangdad joined AATCC in 2016. He is a member of AATCC Stain Resistance, Antimicrobial Activity, and Insect Resistance Test Method Committees, as well as Water Resistance, Absorbency and Wetting Agent Evaluation Test Method Committee and Global Sustainability Technology Test Method Committee.



Materials Interest Group

Krystle Moody Wood is founder of materEVOLVE LLC, a woman-led consulting firm. Wood received a BS in Textiles and Clothing Sciences from the University of California, Davis in 2007. After graduating, Wood worked as a materials coordinator for Vans before moving to The

Northface in 2010, where she advanced from Materials Coordinator-Performance and Baselayer to Advanced Materials Research. In 2014, she moved to VF Corp., where she was a Materials Researcher. In November 2015, she began working as an independent consultant, and during this time, also joined Fibershed as a Materials Manager. She continued to work as an independent consultant in sustainable textiles before starting materEVOLVE in 2018.

Wood joined AATCC in 2017 and is very active in the AATCC California Section. She is one of a group of AATCC members who resurrected the California Section in 2016. She serves as the Chapter Sustainability Pillar Chair, organizing efforts to engage members in sustainable textiles. She has facilitated chapter tours and field trips and is currently working with members of the AATCC California Section, organizing a two-day sustainable textiles conference in October of this year. She is also a co-chair of the AATCC Young Professionals Committee.

Heather 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, is vice-chair of the Young Professionals 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. It is presented during the Awards Luncheon at AATCC's International Conference.

For additional information about the AFLA, visit www.aatcc.org/abt/awards/future-leaders.