



MichiganWomenForward



Angela K. Wilson

(1967-)

Inducted: **2018** *Locale:* **East Lansing** *Era:* **Contemporary**

Area(s) of Achievement: **Chemistry**

Angela K. Wilson is the John A. Hannah Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Michigan State University. She recently served a rotation as the Division Director (Head) of the Division of Chemistry at the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), a role which few women have held. As the NSF is one of the primary sources of chemistry research funding in the U.S., Angela was responsible for determining the direction of NSF sponsored chemistry research within the United States. After receiving her Ph.D. in chemical physics from the University of Minnesota, Angela began her career as a postdoctoral fellow at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. From there, she has worked at a number of universities, including the University of North Texas, and most recently, Michigan State University.

Angela is prominent scholar in the fields of theoretical and computational chemistry and has been recognized numerous times for her quantum mechanical methods, which are used by colleagues around the world. Some of her other work is contributing towards the development of new drugs for anti-inflammatory diseases and cancer. She is a fellow of the American Chemical Society, the American Physical Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She has been awarded the Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin Medal, the highest award dedicated to women chemists in the U.S., as well as the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) Distinguished Woman in Chemistry, and the Wilfred T. Doherty Award.

Even with all of this success, Angela makes it a priority to advocate for women. She encourages women to identify their strengths, overcome any weaknesses, and advance their careers. She has co-developed and co-led IUPAC and International Council for Science funded initiatives on women in chemistry to recognize the status and accomplishments of women chemists internationally.