2017 Young Industrial Polymer Scientist Award

Dr. Jeannette (Jamie) M. Garcia of the IBM Almaden Research Center is one of the brightest rising stars in the field of industrial polymer research. Within a short span of less than five years of her independent industrial research career, she has made groundbreaking and impactful contributions to polymer chemistry, polymeric materials and a range of applications, from sustainability to healthcare, and shown remarkable potential to become one of the world's top researchers in polymer science.

Dr. Garcia completed her graduate studies at Boston College under the guidance of Prof. Amir H. Hoveyda. At IBM Research, Dr. Garcia, along with colleagues, has made a seminal discovery of a new class of revertible thermosetting industrial polymers, which can potentially be used as printable materials, structural composites, cargo carriers, adhesives and sealants.

In a letter nominating Dr. Garcia, Dr. Qinghuang Lin (IBM) states that "a hallmark of Jamie's scientific creativity and impact is using an innovative and elegant blend of polymer synthesis with computer simulation to tackle some of the most pressing and important technological and societal problems such as sustainability and healthcare." She has received such accolades as MIT Tech Review's 35 Innovators under 35, Business Insider's 17 IBM Research Rock Stars, the Foreign Policy Global Thinkers 2016 Award, and the recipient of the Individual World Technology Award in Materials. Her work has been featured in The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, CNN, HBO's documentary series VICE and Scientific American. Because of her exceptional accomplishments and her growing impact on the scientific community, it is fitting that Dr. Garcia is the inaugural 2017 Young Industrial Polymer Scientist Awardee.

A symposium in her honor was held at the 2017 Fall ACS Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Marc Hillmyer (POLY Chair), Jamie Garcia (IBM), Mike Hunt (IAB Vice-Chair)