



## Lynmarie K. Thompson

Professor

Department of Chemistry

University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA

**Research Interests:** Mechanistic roles of protein dynamics and disorder; Structure/function analysis of membrane proteins involved in signal transduction and transport; Signaling mechanisms in bacterial chemotaxis protein complexes and arrays; NMR and hydrogen exchange mass spectrometry approaches for complex systems

**Education:** BS Chemistry, California Institute of Technology (1983); PhD Chemistry, Yale University (1989)

**Professional Experience:** Postdoctoral Fellow, Biophysics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1989-1990); Professor of Chemistry, University of Massachusetts Amherst (1991-Present); Director of UMass Chemistry-Biology Interface Training Program (2000-Present); Visiting Associate, California Institute of Technology (2005 and 2013); Visiting Associate, Utrecht University (2020).

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** American Association of University Women (AAUW) Dissertation Fellowship (1988); Jane Coffin Childs Postdoctoral Fellowship (1989-1990); NSF Young Investigator (1992); Cottrell Scholar (1994); NIH Biophysical Chemistry Study Section (1998-2002); Editorial Board, *Journal of Magnetic Resonance* (1999-2010); Editorial Board, *Concepts in Magnetic Resonance* (2002-2004); Editorial Advisory Board, *Chemical Biology and Drug Design* (2005-2010); Editorial Board, *Proteopedia* (2014-present); Co-Chair (2016) and Chair (2018), FASEB conference "Molecular Biophysics of Membranes"; PI (2000-2021) and co-PI (2021-present), NIH Chemistry-Biology Interface Training Grant; co-PI (2009-present), NIH Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP); American Chemical Society National Award Selection Committee (2019-2021); AAAS Fellow (2021); UMass College of Natural Sciences Outstanding Service and Engagement Award (2022).

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society member since 1991; BPS Council (2004-2007); BPS Membership Committee (2005-2008); BPS Meeting Platform or Symposium Co-Chair (1998, 2015, 2018); BPS Meeting Symposium Speaker (2002, 2018); BPS Meeting Workshop Speaker (2022); Tahoe BPS Meeting Poster Award Judge (2022); BPS Meeting Undergraduate Poster Award Competition (UPAC) Judge (2023).

**Candidate Statement:** It would be an honor to serve the Biophysical Society and help to sustain and expand its valuable programs. For me, the BPS Annual Meeting is the centerpiece of the Society, which has had an enormous positive impact on my professional life. I see the goals of the meeting, and of the Society more broadly, as (1) to promote and disseminate excellent research at the interface of the physical and life sciences, and (2) to build scientific careers and communities.

It has always been exciting for me to work at this interface, to see a broad range of tools applied synergistically to address fundamental and important questions across the diverse fields that our Society spans. I am deeply committed to this, having been an early hire in the successful effort to expand my Chemistry department into Biological Sciences, and having spent many years directing a Chemistry-Biology Interface (CBI) T32 program that was built on a solid biophysical foundation.

Our BPS Annual Meeting, with its ever-changing mix of symposia and workshop topics, plus symposia that showcase excellence across a range of fields (New and Notable, Future of Biophysics, Best of *Biophysical Journal*) provides a fabulous opportunity to both learn within our own subfields and to learn about new areas, approaches, and perspectives that enrich our science.

If elected President, I would support this core mission of BPS to promote excellence in biophysics through both traditional and innovative aspects of the large annual meeting. Beginning in 2010, BPS expanded its efforts into organizing small Thematic Meetings on a range of topics, and more recently began organizing small BPS Conferences. I had the pleasure of attending the first BPS conference in 2022, and I am excited to support this new venture.

Building scientific careers and communities go hand in hand. The value of the annual BPS meeting goes beyond simply providing opportunities to showcase our research, as it also serves to build an interactive community, which in turn advances both our science and our careers. I have thoroughly enjoyed fostering such communities in several aspects of my career. I helped to create the NIH-funded CBI Training program at UMass Amherst and have served as its Director for 23 years. The most rewarding piece of this work has been to implement training activities that connect graduate students working in labs from the chemical and biological sides of the life science disciplines, and watch these connections enhance their training, research, and careers. With over 170 alumni, this program has recently started having Alumni Reunions to foster connections between our alums and our current students. Since 2009, I have also been a co-PI of an NIH-funded PREP program, which provides a one-year postbaccalaureate experience for students from under-represented groups, aiming to prepare and inspire them to pursue PhD programs in biomedical sciences. Again, a critical piece of this program has been the communities we create for our PREP scholars, connecting them with graduate student and faculty mentors to enhance their research training and professional development. Finally, in 2009 a UMass colleague and I co-founded two mutual mentoring groups that connected interested women faculty who were engaged in life science research. The goal was to connect women faculty across departments, some of which had 3 or fewer women at the time, to create critical mass. These small communities have been extremely valuable to us, as these groups continue to meet regularly today, and the model has expanded to create new groups connecting women or under-represented faculty or graduate students across multiple colleges at UMass. I would be interested in developing such a mutual mentoring model within BPS for connecting members from under-represented groups to create critical mass and community that would foster careers and diversity in BPS.

I am very happy that BPS is working to promote diversity and the careers of scientists from under-represented groups with events at recent Annual Meetings such as the 2023 Black in Biophysics symposium and the annual JUST-B poster session that began in 2022. It would be important to me to continue such events and seek other creative means of removing barriers to success and raising visibility for these groups.

Organizing excellent meetings is only one of the many things the Society does to promote the science and scientists at the interface of physical and life sciences. I would seek to enhance the two-way communication between BPS and its members, so that all of us can fully benefit from BPS, and so that the Society can learn how to serve us even better.

In closing, I hope to advance the role of the Society and its members in promoting understanding of science. We are witnessing amazing, accelerating advances in science, and these advances are so clearly critical for saving lives and saving our planet. We can increase the odds of our best future by educating both the general public and government officials so that they will make science-informed decisions.



## Gregory A. Voth

Distinguished Service Professor  
Institute for Biophysical Dynamics and James Franck Institute  
Department of Chemistry  
The University of Chicago, USA

**Research Interests:** Protein dynamics and function; membranes and membrane proteins; multi-protein complexes; proton and charge transport by proteins, channels and transporters; membrane remodeling by proteins; virus assembly, function, and replication; multiscale theory and simulation in biophysics; computational biophysics

**Education:** B.S. in Chemistry with Highest Distinction, University of Kansas (1981); PhD in Theoretical Chemistry, California Institute of Technology (1987)

**Professional Experience:** Haig P. Papazian Distinguished Service Professor of Chemistry, The James Franck Institute, and The Institute for Biophysical Dynamics, University of Chicago (2010-Present); Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Director of the Center for Biophysical Modeling and Simulation, University of Utah (1997-2010); Associate Professor with Tenure, University of Pennsylvania, (1994-1996); Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania, (1989-1994); IBM Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of California, Berkeley (1987-89)

**Awards, Honors, Activities:** Carolyn Cohen Innovation Award, The Biophysical Society (2021); S.F. Boys-A. Rahman Award, Royal Society (2019); Elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (2019); Joel Henry Hildebrand Award, American Chemical Society (2019); Stanislaw M. Ulam Distinguished Scholar, Los Alamos National Laboratory (2014); American Chemical Society Division of Physical Chemistry Award in Theoretical Chemistry (2013); Elected to the International Academy of Quantum Molecular Science (2013); Elected Fellow of the Biophysical Society (2012); Elected Fellow of the American Chemical Society (2009); University of Utah Distinguished Scholarly and Creative Research Award (2008); John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship (2004); Miller Visiting Professorship, University of California, Berkeley (2003); National Science Foundation Creativity Award (1998 – 2002); Elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1999); Elected Fellow of the American Physical Society (1997); IBM Corporation Faculty Research Award (1997-99, 2003-05); Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award (1994); Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Research Fellow (1992); National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award (1991); David and Lucile Packard Foundation Fellowship in Science and Engineering (1990); Camille and Henry Dreyfus Distinguished New Faculty Award (1989); The Francis and Milton Clauser Doctoral Prize, California Institute of Technology (1987); The Herbert Newby McCoy Award, California Institute of Technology (1986); The Procter and Gamble Award for Outstanding Research, American Chemical Society (1985); Charter Member and Chair, NIH MSFD (Computational Biophysics) Study Section (2013-18); Charter Member, NIH MSFB (Molecular Structure and Function) Study Section, (2005-07); Charter Member, NIH BBICA (Biophysics and Biochemistry) Study Section (2003-04); Organizer or Co-organizer of 50+ conferences, meetings, workshops, and symposia, including the recent BPS Thematic Meeting in Hamburg: Biophysics at the Dawn of Exascale Computers (2022); As of June 1, 2023, 500+ invited lectures and seminars, including plenary and named lectures; 600+ publications; Mentorship of ~200 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society Member since 1996; Elected Fellow of the BPS (2012); Founder and Inaugural Chair of the BPS Theory and Computation Subgroup (2021-2023) (nearly 1000 current members); Biophysical Society Fellow Selection Committee (2012-2018); Editorial Board, *Biophysical Journal* (2005-2011); Member of the Theory and Computation, Channels Receptors & Transporters, Macromolecular Machines & Assemblies, Membrane Structure & Function, Membrane Transport, and Motility & Cytoskeleton Subgroups;

Established (and providing ongoing funding for) two Theory and Computation Subgroup annual awards, one for early-career scientists and one for mid-career scientists.

**Candidate Statement:** The Biophysical Society is a remarkable society, largely run by its members and for its members. It is a home for diverse, creative, and multidisciplinary thought and activities. I feel very privileged to be running for its President-elect. My long-term relationship with the field of biophysics, and the BPS in particular, has been incredibly important to me as a scientist. I started my career as a theoretical chemist by studying everything I could learn about quantum mechanics and statistical mechanics. About 30 years ago, however, I became fascinated with the “physical workings” of biomolecular systems and I started to explore those possibilities. It was really a daunting task at first, since I did not have much background in molecular biology or biochemistry. But I knew that I had a grasp of certain knowledge in fundamental theory that might allow me to bring some new ideas, methods, and problem-solving capability to the field. I decided to learn small, but with increasingly larger parts, of certain problems one step at a time. Importantly, I also reached out to key experimental collaborators who, through their kindness and their interests, seemed to recognize that I might bring new things into play for the problems of interest to them. I learned to respect these scientists who had different knowledge than my own and/or different ways of thinking about such complex problems. I tried to treat them with respect and to be humble in terms of recognizing that which I did not know. In return, I think I forged lasting and strong relationships with a number of leading experimentalists.

You may ask, “why is he writing about this?”. The answer is that my experience can be a good model for others, I think, and for the BPS Membership, as a whole. Try to have an open mind and respect others who may know different things than you do, or who may know what you know differently. Biophysics and our Society will benefit from having open doors and a big tent when defining what “biophysics” is in our minds. This does not mean that we must lower our standards or completely lose our identity, but rather it's for us to be open to what others can teach us and what they may bring to our collective enterprise. For me, such things revolutionized my approach to science, while still allowing me to add new ideas, methods, and results to the field that I think have been rather beneficial. And, at the beginning of this scientific journey of mine in biophysics, the BPS was there 27 years ago, with open arms for me to join. It has provided a professional umbrella for me ever since. I would not be the same scientist if it were not for the BPS and its members. For the future, I would like to give something back as its President-elect first and then as its President, before my career winds down.

In addition, in the spirit of giving something back to the BPS, if elected I want to encourage all of you to think what you can give back to our exceptional society of scientists (think JFK here...). What can you add? Who can you mentor? How can you expand our reach? What ideas do you have to make us better and stronger, while being inclusive and reducing bias in all dimensions? Along those lines, three years ago I decided to start the new BPS Theory and Computation Subgroup, which has been a wonderful success (it has almost 1000 members now). Within the Subgroup, I also decided to fund two new awards, one for an early-career and one for a mid-career scientist each year. Honestly, it does not take much money to do this, but it sure has a big impact on the trajectory (and happiness) of our younger members. I encourage all of you to add what you can to our collective good.



The BPS Council has adopted a new Strategic Plan. As President-elect and then President it will be my role in part to help put it into action. The pillars of the plan are (1) Foster a diverse and inclusive global community; (2) Enhance the sharing of knowledge; (3) Invest in the future of biophysics; and (4) Advocate for biophysics. There is not enough room here to go into these goals in great detail but let me discuss two of them a bit and then add a few of my own. The first is advocacy. It is no secret that much of our collective welfare as biophysicists rests on adequate Federal research funding. Yet, as I write this essay, the House of Representatives seems to have passed a “debt limit extension” bill that includes draconian cuts to the discretionary budget and does so by threatening an unprecedented default on our national debt. At times like these, it’s hard to feel optimistic about the future (and don’t forget the anti-science/vaccine movement, as well as the climate-deniers...). BUT we should all never forget that scientific research is one of the FEW things that seems to have bipartisan support anymore and this - plus the increasing international competition in technology - should actually give us cause for some optimism. So, if elected I will encourage you to speak out, write your Congress Member, take action, and don’t despair. We can collectively make a difference as a Society, as well as individually.

If elected, I also have some goals that add to those of the BPS Strategic Plan. One is to help better connect the Subgroups – their members and their science – to help them continue to thrive (which they are!). Next, I would like to try to have an “open door” policy during my time in the BPS Leadership in order to hear your ideas (and complaints, if need be). This can be set up electronically in an appropriate forum. Third, I want to initiate an effort to expand, enhance, connect, and

identify additional mentorship for the BPS Student Chapters in the United States and around the world. Our students are the future and the lifeblood of the field so we should nurture and empower them.

I will finish my statement with a focus on the “invest in the future” part of the Strategic Plan, i.e., mentorship. In my career so far, I’ve been privileged to have mentored more than 200 graduate students and postdocs. It has been a wonderful experience, as each one is different both as a person and as a young scientist. They also all have different talents and goals. If through nothing else than leading by example, I hope to help reinforce and highlight to the BPS members the importance of mentoring, not just when someone is your student but also for the rest of their lives (and yours). When I was a young man, I used to fret to my father that he would not always be there for me. In response he would often say “Don’t worry Greg, I will always be a part of you.” Those words have been with me ever since. It is important to remember that when you mentor someone you will always be a part of them! Your values, your formulation of ideas, your treatment of others, your skills - all of these are carried on by those you mentor. In science, I tend to think that this is the most important thing that we do, so I compliment the BPS Council for having that as a part of our Strategic Plan.

In closing, I hope that you will choose me to be your next President-elect. Through my service, I hope to give back what I can to our wonderful Society, advance the superb BPS Strategic Plan, and contribute what skills and values I may have to our collective good.





## COUNCIL NOMINEES

## VOTE FOR ONE INDUSTRY CANDIDATE



### Clemens Anklin

Vice President for NMR Applications  
Bruker Biospin Corporation, USA

**Research Interests:** NMR spectroscopy, Protein dynamics, protein structure determination, nucleic acid structure determination, NMR method development, protein and nucleic acid ligand binding screening methods

**Education:** Dipl. Chem. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH-Z), Ph. D. (Dr. sc. nat.) Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH-Z)

**Summary of Professional Experience:** 1984-1988 NMR applications scientist Bruker-Spectrospin Switzerland, 1988 – present Head of NMR applications laboratory and Vice President for NMR Applications Bruker Biospin Corp, Billerica MA

**Activities:** Member Swiss Chemical Society, Member American Chemical Society, Member Ampere Society. Advisory board NMR-Box

**Biophysical Society activities:** Society and IDP Subgroup member 2018-present, Membership Committee 2022-present. Exhibitor at Annual Meetings

**Candidate Statement:** I am very honored to be considered for election to the Council of the Biophysical Society. Having worked in industry all my professional life I want to be a voice in the Society for all my member colleagues who work in industry and for all the students and post-docs who are considering a career in industry. I want to represent this community in the leadership of the Biophysical Society. I consider it very important that the Society hears from their members in industry. The Biophysical Society can also play a role in preparing and informing their members about careers and life in industry and assist the academic institutions in preparing the students, post-docs and faculty for a potential transition to a position in industry. It is also in the interest of BPS to increase the number of members from industry by making membership more attractive beyond participation at Annual Meetings.

Although I am not a biophysicist by education, I have gotten strongly involved with the biophysical community through my work with the applications of NMR spectroscopy in biophysics, structural biology, molecular biology and biochemistry. I do believe that I can bring new ideas into BPS leadership with my experience in other fields, my international background and membership in other societies. Should I be elected, I will try to promote the Society as a home for biophysicists and other scientists working in related fields from all areas of occupation, from diverse backgrounds including gender, origin and other traditionally-underserved groups. I do believe that biophysicists, as any other scientists, have the duty to be advocates for science through outreach beyond the limits of their own community to inform the general public of the importance of science.



### Anita Niedziela-Majka

Principal Scientist I  
Department of Discovery Sciences  
and Technology  
Gilead Sciences Inc., USA

**Research Interests:** Harnessing biophysical approaches to bolster validation of targets for pharmacological intervention and for studies of the mode of action of therapeutics; nucleic acid molecular motor proteins; protein-nucleic acids interactions; protein-protein interactions; protein-small molecule interactions; assembly of viral capsids and viral antigen proteins; pharmacological targeting of proteins within virology, inflammation, and immuno-oncology therapeutic areas; development of novel assays for high-throughput screening and hits triaging; mathematical modeling of biological processes

**Education:** MSc, Biotechnology; Wroclaw University of Technology, Department of Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Wroclaw, Poland, 1993; PhD, Chemical Sciences, Wroclaw University of Technology, Department of Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Wroclaw, Poland, 1999

**Summary of Professional Experiences:** Research Assistant, Department of Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry and Biotechnology Wroclaw University of Technology, Wroclaw, Poland, 1993-1999; Postdoctoral Fellow, E. A. Doisy Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Saint Louis University, School of Medicine, 1999-2002; Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Washington University, School of Medicine, 2002-2007; Research Scientist II, Gilead Sciences Inc., 2007-2010; Senior Research Scientist I, Gilead Sciences Inc., 2011-2017; Senior Research Scientist II, Gilead Sciences Inc., 2017-2018; Principal Scientist I, Gilead Sciences Inc., 2019 – present

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** Key Contributor Award to Gilead Research, Gilead Sciences, Inc. 2009, 2014, 2016, 2021; Mentor postdoctoral program with focus on employing biophysical principles to the drug discovery; Mentor undergraduate summer internship program with focus on translation of biochemistry/enzymology and biophysics concepts to the development of in vitro activity assays and mode of action studies; Coordinator and participant Gilead Science Day; Member Advisory Board, Professional Science Master's Program in Biotechnology, Saint Mary's College of California; Academic teacher, Wroclaw University of Technology (1993-1999), responsibility included: Course Master and Teaching: Molecular Biology Laboratory; Teaching: Biochemistry Laboratory Basic Methods, Biochemistry Laboratory Advanced Methods, Biochemistry Seminars; Invited Lectures: Advanced Topics in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society Member, 2001, 2007-present; Biophysical Society Membership Committee Member, 2014-2018; co-organizer and co-host of Industry Panel at Biophysical Society Annual Meeting, 2014-2018, and 2023; Undergraduate Poster Award Competition judge, 2023

**Candidate Statement:** I am honored to be nominated for the Biophysical Society Council. The Biophysical Society meetings have been - and remain - the key components of my scientific and professional growth and provide inspiration for an enhancement of the technology platforms and first principle-based approaches that my group can apply in the research on potential targets for therapeutic intervention and in a drug discovery process. I first attended the Biophysical Society meeting in 2001 when I was a postdoctoral researcher at Saint Louis University and was fortunate to have a poster abstract selected for an oral presentation. It was an unforgettable experience for me and participation in the meeting fostered connection with researchers within my immediate area of interest and beyond. Biophysical Society meetings showcasing the cutting-edge research continue to be an important part of my scientific development. If I am fortunate to be selected as a Council Member, I will work towards strengthening the Biophysical Society role in promoting scientific excellence, innovative and quantitative approaches to the biological questions and education of the future generation of biophysicists. Since the beginning of my professional career, I have been involved in teaching and hands-on training of undergraduate and graduate students and educational programs directed towards early-career scientists. Working with aspiring scientists was - and remains - very rewarding and inspiring to me. As a Council Member, I will work with the Biophysical Society Council to support growth of the organization welcoming both seasoned and aspiring biophysicists exploring quantitative approaches to scientific questions across diverse institutional backgrounds. I will strive to maintain and expand Society support for the early-career researchers and promotion of biophysical education, especially among historically-underrepresented groups. Welcoming young researchers to the Biophysical Society community and engaging with educational institutions to promote the importance of the quantitative methods to study biological and technical questions should be a part of the Society mission. With the background of a biophysicist in academia and over fifteen years of experience working as a biophysicist in a pharmaceutical company setting, I will be committed to fortifying the links between the biophysicists in industry and the Biophysical Society community and to promoting the importance of biophysical approaches in drug discovery.



## Taviare L. Hawkins

Professor  
Physics Department  
Saint Catherine University, USA

**Research Interests:** experimental biological physics, microtubule mechanics and dynamics

**Education:** B.S., Physics, University of Iowa, 1992; M.S., Computer Science, 2000; M.S., Physics, 2001; Ph.D., Physics, 2009, Syracuse University.

**Summary of Professional Experience:** Graduate Research Assistant, Physics Department, Syracuse University 1999–2002; Instructor, Department of Physics and Dual-Degree Engineering, Xavier University of Louisiana 2002–2005; Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Physics, Syracuse University 2006–2008; Mount Holyoke Fellow and Visiting Professor of Physics, Physics Department, Mount Holyoke College 2008–2012; Postdoctoral Research Associate, Physics Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst 2009–2012; Assistant Professor 2012–2016; Associate Professor 2016–2019; Professor, 2019–2021; Chair, Physics Department University of Wisconsin La Crosse 2019–2021; Math & Sciences Division Chair and Professor of Physics, St. Catherine University, 2021–Present

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** Outstanding Teaching Assistant, 1998; University Graduate Fellow, Graduate School, 2001; Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics Fellow, 2007; Women in Science & Engineering Future Professoriate Fellow, Graduate School, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 2008; American Society for Cell Biology Minorities Affairs Committee Travel Award, 50th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology, Philadelphia, PA 2010; Phenomenal Womyn Award, Asian Latina African Native American Womyn, University of Wisconsin La Crosse, La Crosse, WI 2018; Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award, University of Wisconsin System, Madison, WI 2019; Counselor, Council of Undergraduate Research: Physics and Astronomy, 2017–Present; Vice-Chair, Member-at-Large, Division of Biology, 2019–2022; Forum on Outreach and Engaging the Public, American Physical Society, College Park, MD 2022–Present; Aspire Leadership Academy, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2022–Present

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society Member, 2008 - Present; Organizer, Midwest Regional Biophysical Society Networking Meeting 2014 and 2015; Member, Membership Committee, 2014–2020; Member, Nomination Committee, 2021

**Candidate Statement:** I would be honored to serve on the Biophysical Society Council. In 2008, I attended my first Biophysical Society meeting and quickly found my scientific home. The Society has allowed me to connect with other researchers in my field and identify future collaborators. These opportunities are invaluable since I teach at an undergraduate institution. My students and I have always felt comfortable at the Society's events. In 2013, I co-sponsored the first of two Midwestern Networking meetings. In 2014, I served on the Membership Committee. I represented active researchers at teaching institutions and scientists of color for two terms. I have enjoyed watching the Society grow in its diversity and its willingness to be more inclusive in the discipline. I look forward to working on Council to expand the footprint of biophysicists and welcoming the next generation to the field.



## Anne K. Kenworthy

Professor, Department of Molecular  
Physiology and Biological Physics,  
University of Virginia, USA  
Associate Director, Center for Membrane and  
Cell Physiology, University of Virginia, USA

**Research interests:** Cell biophysics; architecture and function of membrane nano-domains; quantitative fluorescence microscopy

**Education:** B.A. with honors in Biology, Kenyon College, 1989; PhD in Cell Biology and Certificate in Molecular Biophysics, Duke University Medical Center, 1994

**Summary of professional experience:** Postdoctoral fellow, Johns Hopkins University, 1994–1999; National Research Council Fellow, NIH, 1999–2001; Assistant Professor (2001–2010), Associate Professor (2010–2015), Professor (2015–2018), and Interim Vice Chair (2016–2018), Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, Vanderbilt School of Medicine; Professor of Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics, University of Virginia School of Medicine, 2018–present; Associate Director, Center for Membrane and Cell Physiology, University of Virginia, 2018–present

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** Faculty, FLIM & FRET Workshop, Keck Center for Cellular Imaging, UVA, 2002–present; Faculty, Quantitative Fluorescence Microscopy Course, MDIBL, 2008–2015; Co-Chair, FASEB Conference on Protein Lipidation, Signaling and Membrane Domains, 2009; Editorial Board, *Traffic*, 2014–2020; Standing member, Biochemistry and Biophysics of Membranes (BBM) Study Section, NIH, 2011–2015; Chair, BBM Study Section, NIH, 2015–2017; Stanley Cohen Award, Vanderbilt University, 2016; Editorial Board, *Journal of Membrane Biology*, 2018–present; Co-Organizer, EMBO Workshop on Caveolae and Nanodomains, 2019; Keynote Speaker, BPS conference on Molecular Biophysics of Membranes, 2022; Mildred Cohn Award in Biological Chemistry, ASBMB, 2023

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society Member since 1990; Editorial Board Member, *Biophysical Journal*, 2010–2016; Program Co-Chair of 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Biophysical Society Meeting, 2018; Associate Editor, Cell Biophysics Section, *Biophysical Journal*, 2018–2023; Longtime member of Membrane Structure and Function Subgroup; Subgroup Chair, 2016; Subgroup Secretary-Treasurer, 2018–2020; Chair, Annual Meeting Subcommittee, 2018–2019; Biophysical Society Conferences Committee member, 2019–2023

**Candidate Statement:** The Biophysical Society has been my scientific home since the earliest stages of my career. I remember thumbing through the hard copies of *Biophysical Journal* that appeared monthly in my thesis advisor's mailbox and being both intrigued by the science and humbled by how much I had yet to learn. As a long-time Society member, looking back I can now recognize and appreciate the crucial roles the Society has played at each step of my career. My first paper was published in the Society's flagship journal, *Biophysical Journal*; the first conference I ever attended was the Annual Meeting; I learned the ins and outs of the peer review process first as a reviewer and later as an editorial board member for *Biophysical Journal*; and so on. I have been fortunate to be able to give back to the Society in a number of ways, most recently by serving as an Associate Editor for *Biophysical Journal*. Once my term is complete at the end of 2023, I would be thrilled to continue to serve the Biophysics community as a member of Council. If elected, I would view my role as helping the Society to achieve balance: between maintaining and building on the rich traditions of the Society and taking advantage of emerging opportunities; between serving the needs of the existing membership and reaching out and embracing new communities and areas of Biophysics; and between supporting and encouraging the next generations of Biophysicists while also recognizing and celebrating the many contributions of those that have come before. I would also strongly support ongoing efforts to make the Society a place where all feel welcome, safe, and valued. I look forward to serving the Biophysics community in this important role and working together with other members of the Council to ensure the continued vibrancy and impact of the Society for many years to come.





## Ilya Levental

Associate Professor  
Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics  
University of Virginia, USA

**Research Interests:** membrane structure, dynamics, and function; advanced microscopy; cellular biophysics; phase separation. The goal of our research is to reveal the mechanistic connections between the composition, organization, and physiology of living membranes and how their disruption leads to disease

**Education:** BS Chemical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2003; PhD Bioengineering, University of Pennsylvania, 2008

**Education:** Postdoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics (MPI-CBG), Dresden, Germany (2008-2012); Assistant Professor (2012-2018) and Associate Professor (2018-2020), Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology, University of Texas Health Science Center (UTHealth); Associate Professor, Department of Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics, University of Virginia (2020-present); Director of Graduate Studies, Molecular Biophysics Graduate Program, University of Virginia (2021-present)

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** Cardiovascular Bioengineering Training Grant (2004-2006), Humboldt Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship (2008-2010), Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) New Scholar Recruitment Award (2012-2016), UTHealth Dean's Excellence in Teaching Award (2016 & 2020), T.C. Hsu Endowed Faculty Research Award (2017), Biochemistry and Cell Biology Distinguished Faculty Award (2019), Advisory Board for NCI-DOE project ADMIRAL (2022-present), Co-organizer of GCC Symposium on Membrane Biophysics (2016), Editorial Board, *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta* (BBA) – Biomembranes (2018-present), Editorial Board, *Chemistry and Physics of Lipids* (2019-present), NIH study section Biochemistry and Biophysics of Membranes (2019-present), *ad hoc* reviewer for UK-BBSRC (2022), ERC (2021-2023), Dutch Science Foundation (2022), Helmholtz Young Investigator Program (2022), HFSP (2020-2022), DFG (2021), USA NSF (2017, 2019-2021), Wellcome Trust (2020 & 2022), USA NIH (2015 & 2018), Swiss NSF (2014), Israeli Science Foundation (2013), National Science Centre Poland (2016)

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society Member, 2012-present; Subgroup Presenter 2020 Annual Meeting; Invited Symposium Presenter 2016 Annual Meeting; Organized and chaired mini-symposium at 2015 Annual Meeting; Chair of Biophysical Society Subgroup on Membrane Structure and Function (2018); Publications Committee (2019-present); Editorial Board Member, *Biophysical Journal* (2018-present); Associate Editor for *Biophysical Journal* Special Issue (2022); Organizer of 2025 BPS Thematic Meeting on *Complex Membranes*; Organizer and Chair of "Future of Scientific Publishing" discussion at 2020 Annual Meeting; Organizer and Chair of Biophysics Week webinar on "Getting Your Paper Published" (2023)

**Candidate Statement:** I am thrilled and humbled to be considered for the Council of BPS. The BPS has been my scientific home from my first publication in *Biophysical Journal* as a graduate student in 2007 (cited >1700 times) to my lab's most recent publication there in 2023. I attended my first Annual Meeting in 2007 and found a vigorous, thriving community of people that shared my passion for quantitative, mechanistic, rigorous biology. Equally important, I found a warm, welcoming, egalitarian, collegial group, eager to teach, to learn, and to push science forward. While my research has taken me towards the messy but endlessly interesting world of cell biology, I have never lost the drive for rigor and precision instilled during my biophysical training and experiences with the BPS. Just as membranes serve as cellular interfaces, so has my research and career gravitated towards the interfaces of different worlds. Scientifically, our work spans between synthetic and living systems, aiming to use biophysical principles to study complex mammalian cells. Professionally, I have worked in engineering departments, medical schools, and biomedical research institutes, both in the USA and in Europe. Through those experiences, I have developed a geographically and scientifically diverse network of friends and collaborators and experienced first-hand how important the BPS is to many colleagues worldwide. I am interested in serving on Council because I want to give back to the Society that has shaped me as a scientist and pave the way for young people newly entering our field. Simultaneously, I believe my experiences make me well placed to help navigate the challenges facing our Society, including open access publishing, diversity and equity, and growing the acceptance of biophysics as a central component of both fundamental and applied biomedical training and research. I am a consensus-builder and aim to represent our broad, diverse community to ensure that the BPS remains a vibrant and growing institution. Further, I intend to make sure that the Society not only welcomes scientists of every background, but also actively promotes those whose paths have been hindered by circumstances beyond their control.



## Filippo Mancia

Professor  
Department of Physiology and  
Cellular Biophysics  
Columbia University, USA

**Research Interests:** membrane protein biochemistry, biophysics and structural biology; molecular level understanding of membrane protein-lipid biology and processes of drug resistance

**Education:** Msc, Chemistry, University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy 1992; PhD in Biology, Clare College, University of Cambridge and MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, UK, 1996

**Summary of Professional Experience:** Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Columbia University, 1997-1999; Research Associate, Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Columbia University, 2000-2003; Associate Research Scientist, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Columbia University, 2004-2009; Assistant Professor, 2009-2017, Associate Professor, 2017-2021, Professor, 2021-present, Associate Vice Chair, 2022-present, Co-Director of Education, 2018-present, Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics, Columbia University

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** Max Perutz graduate student prize, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, UK, 1995; European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) and Human Science Frontiers Program (HSFP) Postdoctoral Fellow, Columbia University, 1997 (EMBO), 1998-1999 (HSFP); Schaefer Research Scholar, Columbia University, 2016; Clyde and Helen Wu Assistant Professor of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics, Columbia University, 2016; Burroughs Wellcome Fund Collaborative Research Travel Award, 2016; Visiting Professor in Biochemistry, Department of Biochemistry, University of Rome La Sapienza, Rome, Italy, 2016; Visiting Professor, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Dipartimento di Scienze della Vita, Ancona, Italy; Warwick University, Structural Biology Lecturer, 2018; Visiting Professor in Biochemistry, Department of Biochemistry, University of Rome La Sapienza, Rome, Italy, 2018; Co-Director Protein Production, New York Consortium of Membrane Protein Structure, NY Structural Biology Center, 2005-2015; Operational Committee, NY-Marche Structural Biology Centre, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy, 2015-present; Executive Committee of the Center on Membrane Protein Production and Analysis (COMPPA), 2015-present; Scientific Advisory Board, Department of Biosciences, University of Milano, Milano, Italy, 2018-present; Adjunct Faculty Member, Graduate School in Life and Environmental Sciences Curriculum in Biomolecular Sciences, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy, 2015-present; Affiliated Faculty, UCI – Center for Translational Vision Research, University of California Irvine, 2021-present; British Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, Grant Reviewer, 2005; NIH, Biochemistry and Biophysics of Membranes (BBM) Study Section, Member, 2019-2023; NIH, Biochemistry and Biophysics of Membranes (BBM) Study Section, Chair, 2021-2023; Swiss National Science Foundation, German Research Foundation, Dutch Research Council, and Italian Ministry of Health, Grant Reviewer, 2022; COMPPA First and Second Symposium on Membrane Protein Production and Analysis, Columbia University, Organizer, 2018 and 2022

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society member since 2015; Channels, Receptors and Transporters, and Cryo-EM Subgroup member; BPS New and Notable symposium speaker, 2016; BPS Membrane Transport Subgroup symposium speaker, 2022

**Candidate Statement:** I am truly honored to be nominated for the Biophysical Society Council. I consider the Biophysical Society my professional home. Ever since I became a member of the Society, I have been an active participant and an enthusiastic advocate for it. At the Biophysical Society Annual Meeting, which I attend regularly, I meet colleagues, reunite with friends and make new ones, establish collaborations, and learn about superb, cutting-edge molecular-level science, which is where my interests reside. I consider going to the Biophysical Society Annual Meeting my scientific vacation, or treat. Furthermore, I always encourage my trainees to attend and present their most novel and exciting findings at the Annual Meeting. In essence, I feel privileged to be part of a community which comprises so many intelligent, talented individuals, and superb human beings. I value my nomination to Council as a way for me to give back – at least something, and the minimum I can do – for the Biophysical Society and for this so special community of colleagues and friends. If elected, I will contribute my energy, enthusiasm, strategic vision, experience, scientific insight and rigor to the mission of the Biophysical Society. I will participate in all Council activities doing my best to ensure scientific excellence and exposure to cutting-edge research, in an inclusive, welcoming environment for the current and future generation of biophysicists.



### Samrat Mukhopadhyay

Professor  
Dept of Biological Sciences and  
Dept of Chemical Sciences  
Indian Institute of Science Education and  
Research (IISER) Mohali, India

**Research Interests:** Intrinsically Disordered Proteins; Prions, Amyloids, and Biomolecular Condensates; Biological Phase Separation; Protein Aggregation; Fluorescence and Raman Spectroscopy and Microscopy; Nanoscale Biophysics; Single-Molecule FRET

**Education:** BSc with honors in Chemistry, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India (1997); MS in Chemical Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India (2000); PhD in Organic Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India (2004)

**Summary of Professional Experience:** Visiting Fellow, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, India (2004-2005); Postdoctoral Research Associate, Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, California, USA (2005-2008); Assistant Professor (2008-2013), Associate Professor (2013-2020), and Professor (2020-present), Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Mohali, India; Head, Department of Biological Sciences, IISER Mohali (2021-present)

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** Young Associate of the Indian Academy of Sciences (2009-2012); Editorial Advisory Board, *Journal of Physical Chemistry* (2019-present); Ambassador, Biophysical Society (2020-2022); Editorial Board Member, *Biophysical Journal* (2020-present); Visiting Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Mumbai, India (2022-present); Fellow, Indian Academy of Sciences (Year of Election: 2023)

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society member since 2006; Intrinsically Disordered Proteins Subgroup member since 2012, BPS Ambassador (2020-2022); Editorial Board Member, *Biophysical Journal* (2020-present); Chair-Elect (2024) and Chair (2025), Intrinsically Disordered Proteins Subgroup of the Biophysical Society

**Candidate Statement:** I am truly honored to be nominated for this election as a Biophysical Society Council member. This Society has been my scientific home for over 17 years and has provided unique opportunities for my career development. During this time, I rose through the academic ranks from a postdoctoral research associate to a full professor. My involvement with this Society has had a profound impact on my scientific career. I am involved in a wide range of activities in the Biophysical Society. As a BPS Ambassador (2020-2022), I was engaged in establishing a close network with early-career scientists having a wide geographic representation. I have recently been elected Chair of the Intrinsically Disordered Proteins Subgroup of the Biophysical Society. Additionally, I am very fortunate to be associated with *Biophysical Journal* in my capacity as an Editorial Board Member. Considering my experience as an independent faculty for over 14 years, editorial positions at various journals including *Biophysical Journal*, and my mentoring and networking experience as the BPS Ambassador, I would be very excited to take up a new leadership role by serving on the Biophysical Society Council. If I am elected as a member of the Council, I would work with the members of the Council to foster scientific exchange between Society members across the globe and to promote excellence, diversity, and inclusivity.



### Tamar Schlick

Professor of Chemistry, Mathematics, and  
Computer Science  
New York University, USA

**Research Interests:** computational biophysics, specifically developing modeling and simulation approaches to connect disparate scales of nucleic-acid systems, with applications to mechanisms of genome organization, viral RNA propagation, and DNA polymerase repair

**Education:** BS with Honors in Mathematics, Wayne State University, 1982; MS (1985) and PhD (1987) in Applied Mathematics from the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, NYU

**Summary of Professional Experience:** NSF Math. Sci. and Weizmann Postdoc Fellow (1987-1989); Asst. (1989-1992) and Assoc. (1992-1996) Prof. of Chemistry and Mathematics, NYU (1989-1996); Prof. of Chemistry, Mathematics, and Computer Science, NYU (1996-Present); Assoc. Investigator, HHMI (1994-2003); Director of Graduate Studies (1999-2003) and Program Development (2003-2006), Dept. of Chemistry; Director of Comp. Biology Doctoral Program (2003-2006); Assoc. Director, Simons Center for Computational Physical Chemistry, NYU (2021-Present)

**Awards, Honors, and Activities (selected):** Wayne State University Merit Scholar (1978-1982); Phi Beta Kappa, National Honor Society, Outstanding Leadership Award in University Programs, WSU (1982); Dean's Dissertation Fellow, NYU (1986-1987); Jay Krakauer Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in the Sciences (1988); Kurt O. Friedrichs Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in Mathematics (1988); Marie Curie American Fellow, AAUW (1990-1991); Whitehead Presidential Fellow, NYU (1991); Searle Scholar (1991-1994); Whitaker Fellow (1991-1994); NSF Presidential Young Investigator (1991-1996); NYU Distinguished Recent Alumna (1993); Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow (1993-1995); John Simon Guggenheim Fellow (2000-2001); Burroughs Wellcome Visiting Professor (2000-2001); AWIS Outstanding Woman in Science (2000); Agnes Fay Morgan Research Award in Chemistry, I Σ Π (2002), National Honor Society for Women in Chemistry (2003); AAAS Fellow (2004); APS Fellow (2005); BPS Fellow (2012), SIAM Fellow (2012), AMS Keynote Lecture (2014); Murray and Adlynn Rosenblatt Endowed Lecture in Applied Mathematics, UCSD (2017); Keynote Lectures: Covid-19 Symposium, BPS (2020), 7th Int. Conference Algorithms for Computational Biology (2021), Advances and Challenges in Biomolecular Simulations, EMBO and BioExcel (2021), German Conference on Cheminformatics (2022); Pitzer Lecture for Outstanding Research in Theoretical and Computational Chemistry (2022); Mentor to dozens, author of textbook *Molecular Modeling: An Interdisciplinary Guide* (2010, Springer-Verlag) and other general science articles (e.g., art and science and science history).

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Society Member since 1987 and BPS Fellow since 2012. *Biophysical Journal* (BJ) Assoc. Editor (2016-2021) and Editor (2022-2024); Founding Co-Chair of MGO Subgroup (2020-2022); Co-Organizer of BPS Thematic Meeting on "Multiscale Modeling of Chromatin", France (2019) and "Biophysicists Address Covid-19" Symposium (2020); Editor or Co-Editor of 7 BJ special volumes on RNA, genome organization, Covid-19, and others. Keynote Speaker in BPS meetings: "Genome Biophysics" (2018), "Biophysicists Address Covid-19" (2020), "Organization of the Nucleus" symposium (2021), "Biophysics at the Dawn of Exascale Computing" (2022), and others. Author of many research and editorial articles in BJ, *The Biophysicist*, and *Biophysical Reports*.

**Candidate Statement:** Biophysics is a wonderful interdisciplinary field that not only involves huge temporal and spatial scales of biological phenomena, but also applies both experimental and computational methods in new and inventive ways. With today's technological advances, opportunities are endless for exciting applications to studies of biological systems that affect the basic processes of life. I am excited about contributing to the growth and enhanced education in our field that has been increasing in importance to society. Trained as an applied mathematician, my appreciation for biophysics has grown through my work in computational biophysics, with focus on nucleic-acid structure, specifically genome organization and RNA structure and design, and their applications to human disease. I have enjoyed serving as editor and associate editor in BJ; editing many special volumes on genome and RNA structure, Covid-19, and memorial issues for J. Langowski and N. Seeman; organizing and participating in BPS Thematic Meetings; and co-founding the multiscale genome organization subgroup with Tom Bishop. I am committed to continuing to promote and enhance research and educational activities in biophysics for our next generation, already stronger, more sophisticated and innovative than we were. I am particularly excited about increased interdisciplinary educational and mentoring activities for women and minorities, enhancing diversity in the sciences, making stronger connections between basic and applied research, and communicating science to the general public at all ages. As I appreciate well from my running group, "If you want to go fast, run alone, but if you want to go far, run together" (African proverb). The pandemic has taught us how far collaborations among industry, academia and government can reach, and we must carry that spirit toward the future, where new challenges and opportunities await us.





### Jamie I. Vandenberg

Co-Deputy Director,  
Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute  
Sydney, Australia

**Research Interests:** Ion channel structure and function, cardiac arrhythmias, computational cardiology

**Education:** Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, University of Sydney (1988); PhD, University of Cambridge (1994)

**Summary of Professional Experience:** Zeneca Junior Medical Research Fellow, Pembroke College and Physiological Laboratory, University of Oxford (1993-1995); British Heart Foundation Basis Sciences Lecturer, University of Cambridge (1996-2001); Conjoint Associate Professor, UNSW Sydney (2007-2011). Current appointments: Group Leader (2002-present), Head, Mark Cowley Lidwill Research Program in Cardiac Electrophysiology (2007-present), Co-Deputy Director (2011-present), Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute; Conjoint Professor (2011-present), UNSW Sydney

**Awards, Honours, and Activities:** Gedge Prize, University of Cambridge (1994); Sir Bob Robertson Award, Australian Society for Biophysics (2015); Fellow, Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (2015); Fellow, Heart Rhythm Society (2015); Gage Lecturer, Gage Conference on Ion Channels (2017); Fellow, International Society of Heart Research (2019); NSW Ministerial Award for Cardiovascular Research (2022). Australian Society for Biophysics, Vice President (2010-2012), President (2012-2014), Past-President (2014-2016); Science and Technology Australia, Board Member (2015-2017), Member of Executive (2017-2018); Australian Cardiovascular Alliance, Secretary (2020-2023), Vice President (2021-present). NSW Cardiovascular Research Network, Member of Executive (2021-present), Chair, Early-Mid Career Researchers committee (2021-present)

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Member since 1994. Member of the Ion Channels and Transporter Subgroup. Co-Chaired, Scientific Program Committee for the International Union of Pure and Applied Biophysics Congress, Brisbane (2014)

**Candidate Statement:** I have extensive experience working with the Australian Biophysics community, including organising both the National and International Biophysics meetings in Australia. I also have extensive collaborative networks (both academic and industry) in the USA, UK and Europe.

The Annual Meeting is the scientific highlight of the year for biophysicists all around the world.

I am passionate about mentoring and the provision of research training for the next generation of biomedical researchers. Since 2008, I have been convenor of post-graduate training at the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute. I am also a mentor for the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences and Australian Cardiovascular Alliance mentoring programs. As a member of the Board of Science Technology Australia, I initiated the STEM Ambassadors program, which links Members of Parliament to the superstar scientists in their electorates. I have supervised 18 PhD students and 26 honours students.

As a member of Council my focus will be on ensuring that international scientists (and especially early- and mid-career researchers) are well represented at the Annual Meeting and are given the same opportunities that I was so fortunate to benefit from in attending Biophysics Meetings over the last 30 years.



### Lynn Zechiedrich

Professor  
Department of Molecular Virology  
and Microbiology  
Baylor College of Medicine, USA

**Research Interests:** DNA supercoiling, DNA structure and function, Supercoiled DNA nanoparticles, DNA topoisomerases, and the drugs that target DNA topoisomerases

**Education:** BS, Zoology (minors: mathematics and music) (1985), University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR; PhD Biochemistry (1990), Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN

**Summary of Professional Experience:** Postdoctoral Fellow (1990-1997), Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, University of California, Berkeley, CA; Assistant Professor (1997-2006), Associate Professor (2006-2012), Kyle and Josephine Morrow Chair and Professor (2012-present), Departments of Molecular Virology & Microbiology, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, and Pharmacology & Chemical Biology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

**Awards, Honors, and Activities:** National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Fellowship (1991-1994); Leukemia Society of America (now Leukemia & Lymphoma Society) Special Postdoctoral Fellowship (1994-1997); Curtis Hankamer New Faculty Research Award, Baylor College of Medicine (1998); Burroughs Wellcome Fund New Investigator Award (1998-2002); Human Frontier Science Program Research Grant (2011-2013); John S. Dunn Foundation Collaborative Research Grant (2011-2013); Co-director, Inter-institutional Graduate Program in Quantitative and Computational Biosciences (2012-present); Baylor College of Medicine Research Advocates for Student Scientists' (BRASS) Mentor of the Year award (2013); Elected, Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors (2017); Founding Ambassador for the Promotion of Inclusion and Diversity, Baylor College of Medicine (2016-2021); Woman of Excellence Award, Baylor College of Medicine (2018); Barbara and Corbin J. Robertson, Jr. Presidential Award for Excellence in Education, Baylor College of Medicine (2020); Co-chair, Gordon Research Conference on DNA Topoisomerases in Biology and Medicine (2022); Elected, Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2022)

**Biophysical Society Activities:** Member since 2017. Speaker and Session Chair, BPS Thematic Meeting "Significance of Knotted Structures for Function of Proteins and Nucleic Acids" (2014); BPS annual symposium speaker (2019); BPS annual symposium blogger (2019); Committee on Professional Opportunities for Women member (2020-2026); Organizer, BPS Virtual Networking Event "Shape, function, dynamics, and application of supercoiled nanocircle DNA" (2021); BPS Awards Committee (2021-2024); BPS annual symposium panelist for workshop "Building lab spirit during the COVID era" (2022); BPS co-organizer of workshop "Achieving work-life balance across different biophysics job sectors" (2023)

**Candidate Statement:** The Biophysical Society provides an outstanding source of support for its members. It has provided me with access to first-rate science, cutting-edge technology, and a sense of community that have propelled my professional growth. If elected to serve on Council, it would be my honor to ensure that the Society remains strong and adapts successfully to the changing needs of our membership. Specifically, I would advocate for stronger trainee engagement, more support for members to achieve and maintain vibrant research projects, and to diversify opportunities for professional development. While working for those goals, I would continue to support maintaining the Society's current focus on scientific excellence, broad range of research areas, and inclusivity.