

Speaker Biosketches
National Diversity Equity Workshop (NDEW) 2013

Shannon Watt

*OXIDE Research & Program Manager and Research Scientist, School of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Georgia Institute of Technology*

Dr. Shannon Watt combines her training in chemistry (specifically conjugated polymer synthesis and characterization) and experience in academic diversity administration in her position as OXIDE Research & Program Manager. She holds B.S./M.S. degrees and the Ph.D. in chemistry from Carnegie Mellon University and the Georgia Institute of Technology, respectively. She founded the Georgia Tech Women in Chemistry Committee to provide support for, raise awareness of, and propose/implement solutions to the challenges faced by female chemistry trainees. The Committee earned the American Chemical Society's Stanley C. Israel Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences (2006) and ChemLuminary Award for Outstanding Single Event Promoting Women (2007).

She continued her conjugated polymer characterization research as a National Science Foundation Discovery Corps Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Michigan, where she served on the University-wide President's Advisory Commission on Women's Issues. As part of her Fellowship, she collaborated with the University of Michigan ADVANCE program to assess the needs of Chemistry-related graduate students and postdoctoral associates from diverse backgrounds and to address those needs by establishing the University of Michigan Chemistry Professional Development Organization. After serving on the chemistry faculty at Xavier University of Louisiana, she joined OXIDE in August 2012.