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Past and Present Research Systems of Green Chemistry

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Green Chemistry in higher education

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Green chemistry by definition involves the intentional design of safer products and processes that reduce or eliminate hazardous substances. In order to ensure the adoption of green chemistry practices on industrial scales, green chemistry must be wholly adopted into educational systems and research initiatives. Molecular designers, chemists and engineers must all come to the research bench or factory setting with the knowledge and tools that will enable the reduction of hazard within the processes or products they design. This presentation will discuss hazard reduction as a design criterion and novel approaches for teaching the design of safer, greener technologies in higher education. This presentation will also highlight the Green Chemistry Commitment program, an initiative lead by Beyond Benign, a non-profit organization dedicated to green chemistry education. The Green Chemistry Commitment aims to transform chemistry education in higher education to enable students to enter industrial positions with the skills and knowledge to design safer, more sustainable products and processes.

Biography

Amy S Cannon holds the world's first PhD in Green Chemistry from the University of Massachusetts Boston. She is the co-founder and Executive Director of Beyond Benign, a non-profit organization dedicated to green chemistry education. She worked as an Assistant Professor and Director of Outreach and Community Education at the Center for Green Chemistry at UMass Lowell until 2007 when she started Beyond Benign. She has industrial experience as an analytical chemist for the Gillette Company and as a scientist for Rohm and Haas. Through Beyond Benign, she leads many initiatives aimed at transforming chemistry education in K-12 and higher education.

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