



Keynote Speaker: Chanté Summers, M.S.

Chanté Summers is a Scientist at Pfizer Inc. in the Bioprocess Research and Development division of Pharmaceutical Sciences. She works with a multidisciplinary team of biologists, engineers, and statisticians to develop innovative technologies for the development of mid- to late-stage therapeutics including modalities for gene therapy, infectious disease, and cancer. Leveraging her technical background in organic chemistry, Chanté designs small-scale laboratory experiments for process characterization and optimization for large-scale manufacturing production of clinical trial material.

Passionate about social justice and equity, Chanté engages her community through volunteer work to promote diversity in the sciences and inspire local youth to explore STEM. She sits on the committee board for the local Pod of 500 Women Scientist and the Committee of Minority Affairs for her ACS section. Chanté was awarded in 2019 the role as an IF/THEN Ambassador with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the Salute to Excellence Award from St. Louis-ACS, and was featured on an episode of the podcast The Story Collider.

Chanté completed her Master's of Science in Chemistry from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville where her thesis focused on the synthesis of potential biologically active compounds. As an outdoor enthusiast, she enjoys running, hiking, and kayaking. Chanté pursues continuous learning from reading, listening to podcasts, and connecting with her community.