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## **Simons Foundation's Marilyn and Jim Simons to Receive Leadership Award from NY American Chemical Society CME Group**

***The business, investments and technology group of the American Chemical Society New York Section recognizes leaders for STEM Philanthropy.***

New York City, June 11, 2018 – The Chemical Marketing and Economics (CME) group of the American Chemical Society's New York Section, and the Simons Foundation, announced that Marilyn and Jim Simons, co-Founders of the Simons Foundation, will receive the Leadership Award for STEM Philanthropy on December 4, 2018.

The Simons Foundation's mission is to advance the frontiers of research in mathematics and the basic sciences. Under the Simons' leadership, the foundation has grown rapidly since its inception in 1994 to become one of the country's leading private funders of discovery-driven research.

The foundation's work is varied and ambitious. Its Mathematics and Physical Sciences division supports researchers in math, theoretical physics and theoretical computer science. Its Life Sciences division seeks to advance basic research on fundamental questions in biology, with a focus on origins of life, microbial oceanography and microbial ecology and evolution. The Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative seeks to support research that will shed light on the causes of autism.

Under Marilyn Simons' leadership, the foundation's Outreach and Education division extends the foundation's core mission by engaging people with science, promoting opportunities for learning science concepts and encouraging others to engage in basic science philanthropy. This division hosts public lecture series, an online scientific magazine called *Quanta* and an initiative called Science Sandbox supports other non-profits who seek to engage the less-initiated with the scientific process.

Recently, in 2017, the Simons Foundation launched the Flatiron Institute, its internal research division, under Jim Simons' direction. There, in-house data scientists in areas as diverse as biology, quantum physics and astrophysics, work to advance scientific research through computational methods, including data analysis, modeling and simulation.

Jim Simons was also a founder of Math for America, an organization that identifies the best math and science teachers in New York City and provides a professional community for them to collaborate and learn from each other. They are inspired to remain in the classroom and amplify their impact across the city and beyond.

"The Simons' unwavering commitment to scientific progress, education and outreach has been a pacesetter," Mr. George Rodriguez, Leadership Awards founder and CME Past Chair noted. "Marilyn and

Jim Simons have propelled a culture of science that reflects our society's principle of improving people's lives through the transformative power of discovery, the precursor to invention."

"It is an honor to be recognized by the world's largest scientific society for our efforts to support basic science research," said Marilyn Simons. "We are also delighted to participate in the celebration of CME's 64 years of service focusing on enabling the scientific leaders of tomorrow," added Jim Simons.

Marilyn Simons is President of the Simons Foundation and an advocate for increased involvement of philanthropy in funding basic science. Simons is also vice president of the board of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, an outstanding U.S. research facility specializing in molecular biology and genetics, and a board member of the Turkana Basin Institute, a research institution that supports archaeological and paleontological projects in the Turkana Basin, Kenya. In addition to her work to advance basic science research, Simons has been involved in K-12 education for underserved communities. She is a member of the board of the LearningSpring School, a New York City school for children aged 5-14 with diagnoses on the autism spectrum, and a board member of the East Harlem Scholars Academy in New York City. She received a B.A. and Ph.D. in economics from The State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Jim Simons is chairman of the Simons Foundation and board chair and founder of Renaissance Technologies. Prior to his financial career, Simons was chairman of the mathematics department at Stony Brook University, taught mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University, and was a cryptanalyst at the Institute for Defense Analyses in Princeton, New Jersey. Simons holds a B.S. from MIT and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. In 1976, he won the Veblen Prize of the American Mathematics Society for his work in geometry. He is a trustee of the Stony Brook Foundation, Rockefeller University, MIT, Brookhaven National Laboratory, the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, New York Genome Center and the Institute for Advanced Study, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

The CME Leadership Awards™ honors leaders with distinction in harnessing the transformative power of chemistry to advance humanity. Past honorees include Roy Vagelos (Regeneron, Merck), Jon M. Huntsman (Huntsman), Charles Bolden (NASA), David Cote (Honeywell), Jean-Pierre Clamadieu (Solvay), Andrew Liveris (Dow), Chris Pappas (Trinseo), Craig Venter (Longevity) and David Skorton (Smithsonian).

Dr. Thomas Connelly, ACS CEO and Executive Director, will participate in the 2018 CME Leadership Awards™. Funds raised for the CME ACS event will help advance exciting STEM programs including ACS Scholars and the ACS-NASA Space Exploration Symposium to be held on August 21, 2018 as part of ACS 256<sup>th</sup> National Meeting in Boston, MA.

#### About the Simons Foundation

The Simons Foundation's mission is to advance the frontiers of research in mathematics and the basic sciences. Co-founded in New York City by Jim and Marilyn Simons, the foundation exists to support basic — or discovery-driven — scientific research undertaken in the pursuit of understanding the phenomena of our world. The Simons Foundation's support of science takes two forms: It supports research by making grants to individual investigators and their projects through academic institutions, and, with the launch of the Flatiron Institute in 2017, it now conducts scientific research in-house, supporting teams of top computational scientists. For more information visit [www.simonsfoundation.org](http://www.simonsfoundation.org).

#### About CME

Established in 1954, the Chemical Marketing and Economics (CME) group of the American Chemical Society's New York Section, Inc. (ACS NY), organizes monthly luncheons in New York City where business and investment leaders share their insights on energy, materials and life science. A nonprofit organization established in 1876 and chartered by the U. S. Congress, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is the world's largest scientific society with over 150,000 members. [www.cmeacs.org](http://www.cmeacs.org)