



2006 IOTA SIGMA PI CENTENNIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Professor Kalyani Banerjee, Oakton Community College

Professor Kalyani Banerjee is the **2006 recipient of the Iota Sigma Pi Centennial Award for Excellence in Teaching**. This award is given for excellence in teaching chemistry, biochemistry, or a chemistry-related field at an undergraduate institution that does not offer a graduate program in that field.

Dr. Banerjee received her M.S. in biochemistry from the University of Calcutta, Calcutta, India and her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Pittsburgh. Her post-doctoral training was at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. In 1994, she obtained her certification to teach high school in Illinois. Dr. Banerjee had received the Student Award of the American Institute of Chemist, Chicago Chromatography Discussion Group Award, the Iota Sigma Pi Educational Reentry Award, the Chemical Industry Council of Illinois Award and the Baxter Laboratory Award in Chemistry. Dr. Banerjee is currently instructor of chemistry in the Division of Science and Health Careers at Oakton Community College and also teaches general chemistry at the City Colleges of Chicago (Wilber Wright College and Truman College).

She also finds time to volunteer with several groups including mentoring students of the STEPS program and conducting the "Futures Unlimited" workshop at Oakton College, tutor at the Youth Organizational Umbrella (YOU) in Evanston, work at the Evanston Public Library and the local soup kitchen and helping the elderly and sick people in the community during inclement weather.

Dr. Banerjee is a member of the American Chemical Society, Iota Sigma Pi, IEA-NEA, the Illinois Science Teacher Association and the Bengal Association of Greater Chicago.