

Biographical note of Prof. Giannis Mpourmpakis

Dr. Giannis Mpourmpakis is Full Professor in the School of Chemical Engineering at the National Technical University of Athens (Greece). He received his PhD from the Chemistry Department, at the University of Crete (Greece) and he was a Marie-Curie fellow and Senior Researcher in the Chemical Engineering Department, at the University of Delaware (USA). He joined the University of Pittsburgh (Pitt) as an Assistant Professor in 2013, and he was promoted to Associate (2019) and Full Professor (2024). As an Assistant Professor at Pitt he was named the Bicentennial Alumni Faculty Fellow of Engineering (endowed position). In 2021 he was on sabbatical as a Guest Professor in the Department of Physics, at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden. His research focuses on the first-principles-based multiscale modeling of catalysts for energy and environmental applications. He has authored ~140 peer-reviewed articles in high-impact scientific journals including Nature, Nature Communications, ACS Catalysis, JACS, etc., that have been highlighted in covers of the journals (24 covers) and in multiple news releases around the world. He has received several prestigious awards, such as the NSF CAREER award (2017), the 2019 Bodossaki Foundation Distinguished Young Scientist Prize (biannual prize awarded to the best Greek scientist around the world below the age of 40), and the 2024 University of Pittsburgh Provost's Award for Excellence in Doctoral Mentoring. He has been highlighted as an emerging scholar by the ACS Journal of Chemical & Engineering Data (2018), by the AIChE journal (2020) and in "Spotlights in Thermodynamics and Computational Molecular Science" for emerging leadership at the 2022 AIChE meeting. He has delivered ~50 invited talks to leading academic departments, industry and highly prestigious meetings and contributed ~170 presentations in national and regional meetings. He has trained more than 50 researchers in his group and established multidisciplinary collaborations across the world. He has served as the President of the Pittsburgh-Cleveland Catalysis Society and he has organized several scientific sessions in the field of computational catalysis at national and international meetings (AIChE, ACS etc.), including being in the organizing committee of NAM24. He has served as a reviewer for leading funding agencies across the world, including the NSF, DOE, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (UK), the Research Foundation–Flanders (Belgium), etc., and in 41 scientific journals. He serves on the advisory board of the RSC journal Environmental Science: Nano. For his contributions to education, Prof. Mpourmpakis was awarded the 2016 James Pommersheim Award for Excellence in Teaching in Chemical Engineering from Pitt (first faculty to ever receive this award as an Assistant Professor).

