

2020 REINHOLD NIEBUHR AWARD

The Reinhold Niebuhr Award honors a faculty member or administrator whose body of academic work and life promote and exemplify social justice. This year's winner put it best when she noted her goal is to get "chemistry out of the lab and into the world." Her decade-long project developing low-cost, high-quality, easy-use Paper Analytical Devices (PADs) for detecting falsified pharmaceuticals is groundbreaking. Her innovation has been used worldwide, and she generously shares the associated technology with researchers around the globe. Locally, PADs are being adapted to curtail opioid drug overdoses and assist law enforcement and drug abuse harm-reduction groups. She is also part of the Notre Dame Lead Innovations Team working on low-cost, high-fidelity testing kits to combat lead poisoning in homes. Possessing a keen interest in cultivating a new generation of women in science, she serves as a mentor to countless student researchers at both Notre Dame and Adams High School.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the 2020 Reinhold Niebuhr Award to

Marya Lieberman
Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry