

Cristina Dubceac is one of 10 recipients nationally of the Eli Lilly/WCC Travel Award. This is a highly-competitive award that provides funding for achieving female undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral fellows to travel to a national meeting and present their research. At the ACS National Meeting in Boston Cristina Dubceac has given a talk in the Division of Organic Chemistry symposium “Chemistry of fullerenes, carbon nanotubes, and graphene” and also presented her work at an awardee poster session. She was recognized at the WCC (Women Chemists Committee) Luncheon and had breakfast with Thomas Connelly, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the ACS, as well as members of the WCC committee.

Cristina Dubceac is from Leova (Republic of Moldova). She received her Bachelor of Science (*summa cum laude*) degree in Chemistry from the University at Albany in 2011. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University at Albany under the supervision of Prof. Marina A. Petrukhina and is engaged in research aimed at the controlled functionalization of curved π -bowls such as corannulene (C₂₀H₁₀). The solid state structural characterization of the resulting derivatives makes possible the correlation of their solid state aggregation patterns to their properties. Functionalized corannulenes have been shown to exhibit unique chemical and physical properties, making them promising candidates for a variety of emerging materials chemistry applications. These studies should facilitate the design of functionalized nonplanar polyarenes with structures and properties tailored for further development of novel carbonaceous materials. With Prof. Petrukhina she has co-authored 11 peer-reviewed publications.