Due to the continuing health concerns and developments regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, including the continuing state of emergency in New Jersey and the closure of the Institute site, Kean University, the NJSTA Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award Committee determined that the Institute planned for July 13-17, 2020 would not take place. The health and safety of our Scholar attendees, Presenters, and Committee members remained our top priority.

Those Scholars selected for participation in the 2020 Summer Institute were offered Scholarship in the form of a 1 year dual NJSTA/NSTA membership, including access to member websites providing Distance Learning and many other curricular resources including the NSTA Learning Center. Scholars were also offered a one-day admission plus Annual Banquet ticket to the 2020 New Jersey Science Convention (NJSC) scheduled for October 20 and 21 at the Princeton Marriott at Forrestal. When NJSC elected to go virtual, the Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award Committee decided to offer every MPS Memorial Award Scholar in its history a paid admission to the NJSC Virtual 2020 convention program. Scholars selected to the 2020 MPS Memorial Award Institute were offered priority admission to the next Institute if they wished to enroll.