

December 2023 Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight



Dr. Songon An

Biochemistry and Cell Biology

Research Interests:

Decoding Multienzyme Metabolic Assemblies: Including the Glucosome and the Purinosome

Personal Factoid:

I love photography and 19th century European paintings

[myUMBC Bio LabWebsite](#)

Student Tip of the Month – “Make sure to look up and apply for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) programs and summer internships during winter break or sooner”

Did you know? – “J” is the only letter not represented on the periodic table of elements

Department News

- Baltimore SCIART summer program theory team (led by Dr. Bennett) to be featured on cover of *Surface Science* (Feb 2024)
- Congratulations Dr. Curtis Jones (Chen Lab) the Department’s most recent PhD graduate
- Drs. Tara Carpenter, Sarah Bass and Diana Hamilton Receive Faculty Trailblazers in Accessibility Awards
- Undergraduate Aria Tauraso (Bennett Lab) featured in Special Issue of *Surface Science* on Young Investigators
- Prof. Songon An promoted to Associate Editor of Cellular Biochemistry in *Frontiers in Molecular Biosciences*, *Frontiers in Chemistry* and *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*
- Prof. Kathie Seley-Radtke named Associate Editor of *Science Advances* (3-year term)

Upcoming Events

Dec. 11th (12 pm – 1pm; MEYR 256) – Chemistry and Biochemistry Council of Majors Meeting

Dec. 13th (9:00 am – 5pm; Sondheim 101) – McNair Applicant Resource Block

Dec. 21st (10 am; Events Center) – Undergraduate Commencement

Jan. 13th (8 am – 6 pm; Across Campus) – UMBC Science Olympiad Invitational Competition

Departmental Seminars

Seminars are held on Fridays at 12:00 in MEYR 120

Dec. 1: Dr. Inhee Chung (George Washington U.) – Decoding the Biomechanics of the Invasive Progression of Ductal Carcinoma In-Situ

Dec. 8: Dr. Nicole Benedek (Cornell) – Advancing Materials Designs: Uniting Physics-based Models with Crystal Chemistry

Important Dates and Deadlines

Dec. 12th – Last Day of Classes

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Dec. 13th – Study Day

Dec. 14th – 20th – Final Exams Week

* - Time to start applications for graduate school, professional schools and Internships

Follow the Department on X (formerly Twitter; @UMBCChemistry) or at <https://chemistry.umbc.edu>

Follow ACS on Instagram (@umbcacs)

New Jobs, Internships and REU Listings

For an extended listing of recent job postings and internships; [click here](#)

- [USDA Research Chemist; Bio-Oils Research Position](#)
- [U.S. Army MRICD Inhalation Toxicology Researcher](#)
- [Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education Internships](#)
- [Undergraduate and Graduate Programs at the FDA](#)
- [Searchable database of 650+ Summer Research Programs](#)

Join the Chem/BioChem Jobs group – email bmoravec@umbc.edu to receive regular job/internship updates & postings

Resources

- Need Help with Chemistry Courses? – In addition to reaching out to your instructor, did you know about:
 - Chemistry Tutorial Center (Sign up to meet w/ a tutor; MEYR 145)
 - UMBC Tutoring Center (Walk-ins welcome; Library 1st Floor)
 - Peer assisted study sessions w/ SI Pass (Academic Success Center)
- Interested in Undergraduate Research?
 - Visit the department’s website to see faculty’s research programs
 - Email/Call faculty with appealing research – can be taken for credit or just experience
- Interested in Pre-Professional Programs (pre-med, pre-dental, etc.) – Don’t miss out on advising
- Need help with your resume or interviewing advice? – Reach out to the UMBC Career Center