

December 2024 Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight



myUMBC Bio
Webpage

Dr. Marie van Staveren

Associate Teaching Professor
– Physical Chemistry Labs &
Nursing Chemistry Lab

Teaching Interests:

Programming, critical
pedagogy, transfer students
and creating a community

Personal Factoid:

Inspired by my kid, I've
recently learned rock
climbing

Student Tip of the Month – “Don’t get overwhelmed when studying for finals, just take it one section at a time and try to make it make sense and then move on to the next. Also don’t be afraid to ask your instructor or TA for advice on studying for it”

Did you know? – 25% of the United States gross domestic product (U.S. GDP) is supported by the chemical industry, generating \$633 billion annually (www.americanchemistry.com)

Department News

- ThorLabs Mobile Optics Exhibit and Workshops hosted by the SPIE Student Chapter was a big hit, with 100+ visitors
- Congratulations Dr. Tohid Baradaran Kayyal (Daniel lab) the newest PhD graduate from the Department
- Congratulations Trisha DeJesus (Ph.D. Candidate in Seley-Radtke lab) on being selected as a 2025 Meyerhoff-Genentech Fellow
- Congratulations to Kushani Mendez, Peng Yang, Aminah Amjad, Alex Reardon, Hasan Al Banna, and Manju Ojha on successfully advancing to PhD Candidates
- Bennett Lab publishes latest results on Designing Ferromagnetic Insulators in *Physical Review Materials*

Upcoming Events

Dec. 2 (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – ACS Chemistry/Biochemistry Club Meeting – Hot Chocolate and Chili

Dec. 11 (all day; Chemistry Tutorial Center) – Chemistry/Biochemistry Study Day; come join your chemistry and biochemistry classmates to study together for your finals with snacks

Dec. 19 (10:00 am; Events Center) – Fall 2024 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony; [watch virtually](#)

Jan. 18 (7:30 am – 6:30 pm; UMBC Campus) – UMBC Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament

Departmental Seminars

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

Dec. 6: Dr. Anna Pyle (Yale School of Medicine) – Panning for Gold: Discovering and Modulation Riboregulatory Motifs in the Expanse of RNA Sequence

Important Dates and Deadlines

Dec. 10 – Last Day of Classes

Dec. 10 – Last Day to Withdraw from the Semester

Dec. 11 – Study Day

Dec. 12-18 – Finals Week

Dec. 18 – Graduate Commencement

Dec. 19 – Undergraduate Commencement

*** - Time to Start Applications for Graduate School, Professional School and Summer Internships**

Follow the Department at

<https://chemistry.umbc.edu>

To get on the ACS Chem/Biochem Club mailing list, email ACS_Chapter@umbc.edu

New Jobs, Internships and REU Listings

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

- [U.S. DoD – DNA/RNA Extraction and qPCR Internship](#)
- [USDA-ARS Research Chemist Position in Bio-Oils Research](#)
- [U.S. Army DEVCOM – Biomanufacturing Branch Fellowship](#)
- [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