

February 2025 Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight



Dr. Tiffany Gierasch

Teaching Professor & Chem Tutorial Center Director

Teaching Interests:

The process is more important than the answer. Tutoring leads to deeper learning

Personal Factoid:

I love to walk and hike with my dog and make 1000 - piece puzzles by myself.

RETRIEVERS
myUMBC Bio
Webpage

Upcoming Events

Feb. 3 (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – ACS Chemistry/Biochemistry Club Meeting - Principles of Green Chemistry

Feb. 7 (11:30 am; RAC) – UMBC Spring 2025 Career & Internship Fair (Register now)

Feb. 17 (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – ACS Chemistry/Biochemistry Club Meeting

Departmental Seminars

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

Feb. 7: Dr. Susan Trolier-McKinstry (Penn State) – Ferroelectric Thin Films for 3D Non-volatile Memory

Feb. 14: Dr. Norman Haughey (Tulane) – Neurodegenerative and Neuroinfectious Disease Laboratory

Feb. 21: Dr. Tyrel McQueen (JHU) – Quantum Materials

Feb. 28: Dr. Byung Ran So (UT - Arlington) – U1 snRNP-specific Proteins Regulate the Survival of Motor Neuron Complex

Important Dates and Deadlines

Jan. 27 – First Day of Classes

Feb. 7 – Last Day to Adjust Course Schedule

Feb. 15 – Last Day to Apply for Spring Graduation

Feb. 28 – Last Day to Add Independent Research

*** - Time to Complete Applications for Graduate and Professional Schools 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

Student Tip of the Month – “Don’t feel like tutoring is only for students who are struggling – it’s a great place to master the material to”

Did you know? – This year’s annual UMBC Science Olympiad Invitational hosted over 1000 high school students from 72 teams, in just its second year, making it one of the largest Science Olympiads in the nation. Thank you to all the volunteers!

Department News

- CHEM 123 and CHEM 124 (General Organic and Biochemistry I and II) course sequence being replaced by CHEM 120 as a single streamlined course in Fall 2025
- Congratulations Drs. Chanda Lowrance (Daniel lab) and John Terrell (Chen lab), the newest PhD graduates from the Department
- Summers’ lab highlighted by Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) as a model for inclusive excellence in research
- Department opens morning sessions of CHEM 102 Laboratory to satisfy overwhelming growth in enrollment
- Dr. Bindu Abraham named to the Maryland State Science Olympiad Supervising Board

New Jobs, Internships and REU Listings

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

- [Clean Harbors – Laboratory Chemist I](#)
- [U.S. FDA Handheld Device Methods Development](#)
- [U.S. Patent & Trademark Office – Chemistry Patent Examiner](#)
- [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