

September 2025 Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight



myUMBC Bio
Lab Website

Dr. Michael Summers

Professor & Howard Hughes
Medical Investigator

Research Interests:

We use biophysical methods
to understand how viruses
replicate

Personal Factoid:

Raised on a farm, I enjoy
outdoor activities including
hiking, mountain biking and
skiing

Student Tip of the Month – “Reach out to your instructor if you have questions, they really do want to help and see that you understand the material. Visit their office hours too.”

Did you know? – The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at UMBC is on track to graduate its 250th PhD next year, just 40 years after the program’s inception, making it and UMBC one of the fastest growing R1 Universities in the nation.

Department News

- Congratulations to recent biochemistry graduate Jayo Adegbayo on being named the 2025 Arthur Ashe Jr. Male Sports Scholar of the Year
- Congratulations to Drs. Naba Das (Koirala Lab), Daniel Pierce (Geddes Lab), Zach Nichols (Geddes Lab), Mona Layegh (Bennett Lab), Christianna Kutz (Radtke Lab) and Misti Cartwright (A. Smith Lab), the Dept’s newest PhD graduates
- Dr. Sarah Bass receives 2025 CNMS Excellence in Teaching Award
- Chemistry-Biology Interface (CBI) Program renewed for another 5-years by the National Institutes of Health
- Chen Lab receives FEAT grant to develop commercializable 3D scaffolded liver models

Upcoming Events

Aug. 26 (3:00 – 5:00 pm; Events Center) –

Convocation (official start to the academic year)

Sept. 5 (3:00 – 4:30 pm; Chemistry Courtyard) –

Department Open House/Welcome Celebration;
open to all chem/biochem and prospective majors
– learn about department clubs, meet faculty, etc.

Sept. 9 – (10:00 am – 4:00 pm; MP 201) – Resume
Rescue; drop-in professional resume review

Sept. 17 (11:30 am – 3:30 pm; RAC) – Fall Career &
Internship Fair – hundreds of employers on campus

Oct. 3 – (9:00 am – 2:00 pm; UnderArmour) – “On
The Road To UnderArmour”; visit UnderArmour’s
facilities and learn about career opportunities

Departmental Seminars

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

Sept. 12: Dr. Gabriella Weiss (NASA Goddard) –
Isotopic Analysis of Amino Acids for Monitoring
Carbon Fixation in Bacteria

***Special Chemistry-Biology Interface Seminar**

Sept. 22 (Monday): Dr. Andy Hamilton; President
Emeritus (NYU)

Important Dates and Deadlines

August 27 – First Day of Classes for Fall Semester

Sept. 1 – Labor Day – No Classes

Sept. 8 – Tutoring Groups in Chemistry Tutorial
Center begin to Meet

Sept. 10 – Last Day to change Your Schedule

Sept. 15 – Last Day to Apply for Fall Graduation

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](#)

- [Arcellx – Analytical Scientist I – Analytical Sample Testing](#)
- [Meso Scale Diagnostics, LLC – Ph.D. Scientist](#)
- [Joule – Associate Scientist – Analytical Sciences - ELISA](#)
- [IonQ – Senior Scientist – Quantum Chemistry](#)
- [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); covering courses Chem 101, 102, 300 & 351 this Fall
 - 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