

October 2025 Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight



myUMBC Bio
Lab Website

Dr. Joel Liebman

Professor – Theoretical
Physical Chemistry

Research Interests:

Understanding the
interrelations among
molecular structure, binding
and energetics

Personal Factoid:

I enjoy the interplay of
chemistry, physics,
wordplay and poetry

Student Tip of the Month – “It’s not too early, even in Sept/Oct to visit your instructors during office hours to make sure you are up on your courses. Stay ahead and do the practice problems.”

Did you know? – Former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams (2017-2021) received his B.S. in Biochemistry from UMBC

Department News

- Department hosts 8th graders from across Baltimore County and City for hands on and demos of chemistry in action
- Professor Jacqueline Smith (B.S. Chemistry; '06) of Howard Univ. to receive UMBC's 2025 Outstanding Alumni Award
- UMBC's NIH Chemistry Biology Interface (CBI) Program renewed by the NIH, making it one of the longest running programs in the country, at almost 30 years and running
- Dr. Sarah Bass receives Learning Analytics grant to further develop virtual AI assistant to provide 24/7 service for students in General Chemistry course (Chem 101)
- Seneviratne Lab receives MD Stem Cell Research Fund Grant to better understand drug induced neurotoxicity
- Bennett Lab pioneering a new method for discovering new 2D materials for advanced electronics applications

Upcoming Events

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

Oct. 6 (11:00 – 1:00 pm; UC Ballroom) – UMBC Majors Fair; learn about different majors offered on campus if you are still trying to find your path

Oct. 10 – (6:00 pm – 10:00 pm; Erickson Field) – Homecoming Carnival Preview; rides and games

Oct. 13 (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – Summer REU and Internship Panel hosted by ACS Council of Majors

Departmental Seminars

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

Oct. 3: Dr. Jennifer Golden (U. Wisc.) – Quinazolinone-based synthetic strategies for antiviral and antiparasitic drug development

Oct. 17: Dr. Dan Talley (NIH) – Advancing Rabies Antiviral Research: Multiplatform Screening and Optimization Using 3D-Neural Models

Oct. 24: Dr. John Herbert (Ohio State) – Multiscale Approximations for Quantum Chemistry

Oct. 31: Dr. Joseph Bennett (UMBC) – Database-driven Discovery of New Ferroic Materials

Important Dates and Deadlines

Oct. 1 – Last Day to Add Independent Study Course

Oct. 1 – Last Day to Add an Internship Course

Oct. 28 – Spring 2026 Class Registration Begins

Nov. 5 – Last Day to Withdraw from a Course

New Jobs, Internships and REU Listings

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

- [Randstad – R&D Chemist – Polyurethane Foam Development](#)
- [Republic Services – Environmental Field Chemist](#)
- [Maryland State Police – Crime Scene Technician](#)
- [Arcellux – Scientist – Biochemistry](#)
- [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

Follow the Department at

<https://chemistry.umbc.edu>

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