

November 2025 Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight



myUMBC Bio
Website

Dr. Allison Tracy

Teaching Professor –
Biochemistry

Teaching Interests:

Designing Innovative
Curriculum, Inspiring Critical
Thinking, and Sparking Joy in
Learning

Personal Factoid:

I love to Travel to National
Parks and Have Been to 26
So Far.

Student Tip of the Month – “Make sure to plan ahead and get your materials ready to apply for summer REU Programs and Internships during winter break.”

Did you know? – “One Quarter of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product is Supported by the Business of Chemistry” – The American Chemistry Council

Department News

- Congratulations and Thank You to our 2025-2026 Undergraduate Advisory Board Members: Stephen Shaner, DeOnna Battle, Enrique Leitz, Kevin Schwanebeck, Naomi Nance, Augustine Nnakwe and Matteo Chase on Being Elected by Your Peers to Represent Them in Departmental Planning
- Dr. Tara Carpenter is Named UMBC's Finalist for 2025-2026 USM Board of Regents Faculty Teaching Award
- Dr. Michael Summers is Named UMBC's Finalist for 2025-2026 USM Board of Regents Faculty Mentoring Award
- Chen Lab Receives FEAT Award for Wearable Sensor for Cystic Fibrosis Detection and Monitoring
- Koirala Lab Highlighted in Nat. Comm. for Elucidating the Structural Basis of Enteroviral RNA Synthesis

Upcoming Events

Nov. 5 – (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm; UC 207) – Faculty-led Study Abroad Drop-in Hours

Nov. 10 – (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – ACS Chemistry/Biochemistry Club Meeting

Nov. 18 (4:00 – 5:00 pm; Library 259) – Skills for Graduate Students: Tools for Managing and Organizing Your Research from Start to Finish

Nov. 24 – (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – ACS Chem Club Presents “Green Chemistry”

Departmental Seminars

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

Nov. 7: Dr. Jeff Mugridge (U. Del.) – Metals, Mechanisms and Messages: How Metalloenzymes Do Chemistry on RNA to Control Gene Expression

Nov. 14: Dr. Catherine Murphy (U. Ill.- Urbana Champaign) – A Golden Time for Nanotechnology

Nov. 21: Dr. Aaron Smith (UMBC) – The ABCs of Prokaryotic Ferrous Iron (Fe²⁺) Transport & Sensing

Dec. 5: Dr. Esther Braselmann (Georgetown) – Rational Designs of the Riboglow Platform for Multiplexed Imaging of RNA in Live Cells

Important Dates and Deadlines

Nov. 5 – Last Day to Withdraw from a Course

Nov. 5 – Last Day to Change to S/U Grade Option

Nov. 26 - 28 – Thanksgiving Break

***- 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](#)

- [Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab – Chemist](#)
- [Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab – Hyperspectral Imaging](#)
- [Thermo Fisher Scientific – Biochemist/Scientist I](#)
- [Novel Microdevices Inc. – Staff Scientist – Assay Development](#)
- [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