

# March 2026 Newsletter



## Faculty Spotlight



**Dr. Herana (Kamal) Seneviratne**

Professor – Analytical

***Research Interests:***

Understanding the Mechanistic Basis of Drug Disposition and Responses

***Personal Factoid:***

I Love Trail Running in the Woods

myUMBC Bio  
Lab Website

**Student Tip of the Month** – “A model kit is very helpful for organic chemistry, especially when trying to visualize the orientation and shape of different molecules.”

**Did you know?** – Departmental Alumni have gone on to successful positions, ranging from U.S. Surgeon General to Professors at Harvard and other Top Universities Worldwide

## Department News

- UMBC will Host the 2026 Maryland State High School Science Olympiad Tournament on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> – Volunteers Still Needed – Sign Up Here
- 17 Alumni Panelists Returning for this Year’s Graduate Research Day that will Feature 23 Research Poster Presentations from Senior Graduate Students
- Cullum Lab Collaborates with Marine Biotechnol. Dept. (Dr. Yohar) on Multispectral Imaging of Fish in Precision Aquaculture Center in Congressionally Funded Project
- Koirala Lab Identifies Conserved RNA Structural Domains that May Aid in the Development of Universal Antivirals in Positive-Sense RNA Viruses
- Seneviratne Lab Receives Funding from the Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund to Study Role of Cancer Drugs and HIV on Brain

## Upcoming Events

**Mar. 9 – (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – ACS Chem Club Event - Graduate School Panel**

**Mar. 5 – (10:00 am – 2:00 pm; Commons Main Street) – University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Information Session – Learn about Graduate Degrees in Pharmacy**

**Mar. 13 (12:00 pm – 6:00 pm; MEYR 120 & ILSB Atrium) – Graduate Research Day**

**Mar. 23 (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – ACS Chem Club Meeting**

## Departmental Seminars

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

**Mar. 6:** Dr. Danielle Schmitt (UCLA) – Illuminating Compartmentalized Metabolic Regulation in Single Cells

**Mar. 27:** Dr. Daniel Talley (NCATS - NIH) – Advancing Rabies Antiviral Research: A Multi-platform Screening and Optimization Approach Utilizing 3D Neural Models

## Important Dates and Deadlines

**Mar. 14 – 22** – Spring Break (No Classes)

**Apr. 3** – Last Day to Withdraw from an Individual Course

**\* - Time to Complete Applications for Summer Internships**

## New Jobs, Internships and REU Listings

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

- [ChemPacific Corp. – Chemist – Organic Synthesis](#)
- [Constellation Energy – Associate Chemist](#)
- [JHU Applied Physics Laboratory – Synthetic Chemist](#)
- [Parexel – Analytical Chemistry and Molecular Biology](#)
- [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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:ACS_Chapter@umbc.edu)