

September 2026 Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight



myUMBC Bio
Lab Webpage

Dr. Nicole Gonzalez

Assistant Professor –
Physical Chemistry

Research Interests:

Using Laser Spectroscopy to
Understand Chemistry at
Aqueous Interfaces

Personal Factoid:

I Enjoy Movies, Workouts,
New Restaurants, and
Playing with my Lovebird

Student Tip of the Month – Get involved in the Department in research and ACS club, visit the Open House to learn more

Did you know? – UMBC Chemistry and Biochemistry Department is ranked in the top 100 in the country by U.S. News and World Reports

Department News

- Undergraduate student Mia Coon (Biochem) receives selective American Chemical Society (ACS) Catalyst Scholarship
- Congratulations to our most recent Ph.D. graduates: Dr. Charlie Waters (Seley-Radtke lab), Dr. Brian Grossman (Summers lab), Dr. Ashesh Sharma (An lab), Dr. Hasan Al Banna (Koirala lab), Dr. Manju Ojha (Koirala lab), Dr. Dr. Leslie Scheurer (Arnold lab), Dr. Brandon Busick (Ptaszek lab)
- Welcome Drs. Nicole Gonzalez (P. Chem.), Sebastian Arteaga (Gen. Chem.) and Suliman Ayad (Org. Chem) our newest faculty
- Dr. Sarah Bass named one of four University System of Maryland Community Leads in digital accessibility
- Dr. Seneviratne receives NIH R21 award for understanding HIV drug variation among patients via mass spec imaging
- Dr. Aaron Smith receives NIH R21 award for iron regulation in antibiotic resistant bacteria
- Dr. Chen receives NSF award for microfluidic, metabolomics work to understand diabetes
- Dr. Bennett receives NSF CAREER award for design of novel ferroic materials

Upcoming Events

Aug. 23 (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm; Events Center) – Convocation (official start to the academic year)

Aug. 27 (2:00 – 4:30 pm; Chemistry Courtyard) – Department Open House/Welcome Celebration; open to all chem/biochem and prospective majors

Sept. 8 (10:00 am – 4:00 pm; MP 201) – Resume Rescue; drop-in professional resume review

Sept. 16 (11:30 am; RAC) – UMBC Fall Career and Internship Fair

Sept. 24 (2:00 pm; Commons 331) – Under Armour Career Corner; learn about jobs and paid internship opportunities

Oct. 2 (9:00 am; off campus) – On the Road: Millipore Sigma; network with Millipore Sigma

Departmental Seminars

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

Sept. 11: Dr. Emily Scott (U. Mich) – Cytochrome P450 Structure and Function for Drug Design in Bile Acid Pathways

Sept. 18: Dr. Younan Xia (JHU) – Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Putting Chemistry to Work

Sept. 25: Dr. Danielle Reifsnnyder Hickey (Penn St.) – Understanding Atomic Structures and Transformations in Tellurides at Atomic Resolution

Important Dates and Deadlines

Aug. 24 – First Day of Classes for Fall Semester

Sept. 4 – Last Day to Change Your Schedule

Sept. 7 – Labor Day (No Classes)

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

Sept. 15 – Last Day to Apply for Fall Graduation

New Jobs, Internships and REU Listings

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

- [US Library of Congress – Preservation Chemist](#)
- [Precision Systems – Analytical Chemist](#)
- [Environmental Management Services Inc. – Env. Field Chemist](#)
- [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

Follow the Department at

<https://chemistry.umbc.edu>

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