October 2026 Newsletter

Faculty Spotlight



myUMBC Bio Webpage

Dr. Sebastian Arteaga
Assistant Teaching Professor – General Chemistry

Research Interests:
Using Student Learning Outcomes to Better Refine Teaching Practices

Personal Factoid:
I Enjoy Running, Photography, Live Music and Coffee Shop Get-togethers

Upcoming Events

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

Oct. 5 (11:30 am – 1:00 pm; UC Ballroom – UMBC Majors Fair; learn about different majors on campus

Oct. 19 (12:00 – 1:00 pm; MEYR 256) – How to Get Engaged in Dept. Discussion – hosted by ACS Council of Majors

Oct. 20 (5:00 pm – 7:00 pm; Events Center-Retriever Room) – Meet Employers Hiring 2027 Summer Interns

Oct. 31 (all week; across campus) – Homecoming Week; rides, games, fun, friendship and memories

Departmental Seminars

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

Oct. 9: Dr. Heidi Klem (LSU) – Modeling the Active Site: A Moving Target in Mechanistic Chemistry

Oct. 16: Dr. Fred Guengerich (Vanderbilt) – Old and New Tricks on Cytochrome P450 Oxidation Mechanisms

Oct. 23: Dr. Gopan Krishnan (Oklahoma St.) – Biosensor and Microarray Design and Application

Oct. 30: Dr. Daniel Appella (NIH) – Thyclotides That Deliver Peptides Into Cells

Important Dates and Deadlines

Sept. 25 – Last Day to Add Independent Study Course

Sept. 25 – Last Day to Add an Internship Course

Oct. 12 & 13 – Fall Break (No Classes)

Nov. 02 – Last Day to Withdraw from a Course

Follow the Department at https://chemistry.umbc.edu

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

Student Tip of the Month – "Make sure to visit your instructor's office hours as often as possible, especially if you didn't do as well as you hoped on your first exam"

Did you know? – The Department offers a bachelor's degree in Chemical Education for those interested in teaching in K-12

Department News

- Undergraduate student Aria Tauraso (Chem BA) receives Fulbright Scholarship
- PhD Candidate Leopoldo Posada Escobar receives a Dissertation Fellowship for Fall 2026
- Biochemistry undergraduates (Aryan Srivastava, Silvi Shah, Nahom Getachew) selected to among inaugural class of HHMI Cech Fellows
- Mr. Creighton Smith, Manager Chemistry Stores, retires after many years of dedicated service
- Dr. Jeffrey Blumenstein joins Department's External Advisory Board, bringing years of experience from industrial and government positions
- Congratulations to Dr. Joseph Bennett on his promotion to Associate Professor
- Congratulations to Dr. Aaron T. Smith on his promotion to Full Professor

New Jobs, Internships and REU Listings

For an extended listing of recent job postings and internships; click here

- Hunterian Medicine – Scientist (Cell Culture)
- DAP – R&D Scientist I – BS Chemist position
- ChemPacific Corp – Organic 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