



2022 WELCOME EVENT



On August 12, 2022, just before the start of the fall semester, CBC held the 2022 Welcome Event. This event provides an overview of the department to new faculty, staff, and students as well as highlights notable staff and student awards.

The 2022 1st year graduate students were introduced during the event and presented with their lab coats.

Welcome Event



2022 HAROLD MCNAIR STAFF AWARDEES



Peggy Humbert (Left)

Administrative Associate

Colleen Kelley

Manager, Instructional
Laboratories

Congratulations to Peggy & Colleen who were announced as the awardees for the 2022 Dr. Harold McNair Staff Award during the Welcome Event.

The McNair Staff Award honors CBC staff members who have dedicated service to the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department. Winners are recognized for exceptional performance, making them valued and knowledgeable employees of the department.

[Dr. Harold McNair Staff Award](#)

STUDENT AWARDS

During the 2022 Welcome Event, the student winners of the 2022 Research Symposium were announced.

David F. O'Brien Fellowship

Presenters:

Alessandra Fistrovich

Devin Seka

Tasmia Ahmed-**Winner**

Howard P. Klein Early Career Excellence In Research

Presenters:

Savannah Stull

Rajat Ravi-**Winner**

Christopher Marshall

Tapasyatanu Dash

Carl S. Marvel Fellowship

Presenters:

Ananya Chakraborti

Julia Townsend-**Winner**

Yu-Shein Sung



DAVID F. O'BRIEN FELLOWSHIP
Tasmia Ahmed (pictured far left)

**HOWARD P. KLEIN
EARLY CAREER EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH**
Rajat Ravi (pictured 2nd from the left)



CARL S. MARVEL FELLOWSHIP
Julia Townsend (pictured 2nd from the left)
Mubarak Hossain (pictured far left)

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

INTERIM DEAN W.A. FRANKE HONORS COLLEGE

John Pollard

Professor of Practice

Congratulations to Dr. John Pollard who was appointed as interim dean of the W.A. Franke Honors College. This appointment was made effective this summer on July 1st.

Read more at: [W.A. Franke Honors College Announces Interim Dean](#)



FRANCIS P. GARVAN-JOHN M. OLIN MEDAL

Jeanne Pemberton

Regents Professor

The American Chemical Society (ACS) **announced its list of award winners on Friday**, and our very own Regents Professor Jeanne Pemberton starred as the winner of the Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin Medal.

Dr. Pemberton will be honored at the ACS awards ceremony on March 28, 2023, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The **purpose of the award** is to recognize distinguished service to chemistry by women chemists. Dr. Pemberton is adding this prestigious medal to a **long list of awards and honors**.

As Dr. Bredas stated, “This is a richly deserved recognition, and we are proud of being your CBC colleagues!”



ARIZONA CHAMPION

Oliver Monti

Professor

Congratulations to Dr. Oliver Monti who was selected as an *Arizona Champion* by the Office of the Provost!

Dr. Monti will be invited to attend the UArizona president’s tailgate and football game when UArizona faces off against Washington State on November 19, 2022.

Arizona Champions are our incredible faculty and staff members at the University of Arizona who go above and beyond every day.

Read more about Dr. Monti’s nomination at **Arizona Champion**.



HISPANIC HERITAGE FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

Vicente Talanquer

Distinguished Professor

Did you know that for the past twenty years, Dr. Talanquer's investigations have focused on exploring the conceptual difficulties that college students face in understanding central scientific ideas? The results of these investigations are then used to design and implement novel teaching strategies that better foster student understanding.

That might help explain why Dr. Talanquer is recognized as such a great teacher.

Dr. Talanquer answers questions, both personal and professional, during an interview for a Hispanic Heritage Spotlight conducted by the College of Science.



You can [read the full story here](#).

INVENTOR OF THE YEAR

Robin Polt

Professor

During this year's Tech Launch Arizona (TLA) Expo and Awards Ceremony, CBC Professor Robin Polt was the first winner to the podium when they announced him as Inventor of the Year.

TLA recognized Dr. Polt for his research in developing novel synthetic amino acids in glycopeptides, and for his hand in launching two companies during his time at UArizona.

The event, [including Dr. Polt's thank-you speech](#), can be viewed on YouTube.



The annual TLA event is aimed at celebrating inventors, startups, and ecosystem drivers that have had the greatest influence in advancing the impact of UArizona inventions.

Most recently, Professor Polt co-founded [Teleport Pharmaceuticals](#) along CBC Professor Heien and UArizona Associate Professor Faulk.

NEW FACULTY

Michael Taylor



Associate Professor

From 2017 through August of 2022, Michael held the position of Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Wyoming. Whilst at Wyoming, he developed a research program that is underpinned by an interest in developing organic transformations for use at the chemistry-biology interface. Michael has received an NSF CAREER

award, a Thieme Chemistry Journals award, an NIH outstanding investigator award, and a Presidential Scholarly Achievement Award from the University of Wyoming.

Read more about [Dr. Michael Taylor](#)



Tara Archuleta

Lecturer

Hello CBC! I grew up in Tucson and received my bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics from the University of Arizona. While at UArizona I gained my first experiences in research and made lifelong connections through the CBC community. I then completed my Ph.D. and postdoctoral fellowship at Vanderbilt University, in the field of protein chemistry and X-ray crystallography. Fun fact – my roommate (and former CBCer) from

UArizona, Craig Sheedy, decided to join me at Vanderbilt University for his medical school and residency training. The connection we made at UArizona allowed us to continue our friendship and become roommates again in Nashville, TN.

Read more about [Tara Archuleta](#)

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

COMIC BOOK CHEMISTRY

Colleen Kelley

Manager, Instructional Laboratories

Dr. Colleen Kelley sat down with Arizona Illustrated recently for **a video highlighting Kids' Chemical Solutions**, her chemistry



themed comic book series.

In the video, Dr. Kelley explains the why and how this series captures children's attention and helps them learn advanced chemistry topics.

The series was released in 2021 and has been **gaining attention ever since**.

You can find the first case in the series, ***File 1: Poppi 'n Ray and the Case of the Deadly Dials***, on the Kids' Chemical Solutions webpage.



Poppi



Ray

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Nerea Irigorri Molinero

CBC exchange student

"I'm Nerea Irigorri Molinero. I'm 21 years old, and I'm an exchange student from Tarragona, Spain.

I'm in my last year of my bachelor's degree, and I have the pleasure to be working in Jon Njardarson's group this year. I'd like to continue studying and be able to work in research someday.



I love playing basketball and spend my free time meeting friends, watching TV series and listening to music.”

Nerea is an exchange student from the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV) in Spain. CBC has an exciting study abroad program with the chemistry department at URV, where the entire curriculum is taught in English. If you are a chemistry major and would like to learn more about this opportunity, please use the link below and contact your CBC advisor for more information.

STUDY-ABROAD TARAGONA

GEORGE GREGSON IN CHEMISTRY SCHOLAR



Congratulations to Aidan McMahon, CBC Graduate Student named as a 2022-23 George Gregson in Chemistry Scholar.

Hi, my name is Aidan McMahon, I grew up in Waukesha Wisconsin, just outside of Milwaukee. I went to a small private college in Minnesota named Gustavus Adolphus College where I got my bachelors in chemistry along with a mathematics minor. Upon graduation I moved to Arizona to complete an internship here in Tucson, all before I started at the University of Arizona, studying organic chemistry, hoping to obtain a PhD!

[George Gregson Scholarships in Chemistry](#)

ALUMNI UPDATES



Kathia Antillón

Hey y'all! My name is Kathia Antillón, and I graduated from the UA in 2019 with a BS in Chemistry, a BA in Spanish Literature, and a minor in psychology. My experience as an undergrad at the UA was a mix of late-night studying, involvement in CBC events and chemistry clubs while also participating in my sorority events and trying to stay somewhat social. I was able to form a "Chem Squad" group of friends that really helped me push through the difficult moments of my degree, especially when we were all struggling with a particular class or lab. Meeting people that I am still in touch with years later was one of the best parts of being a Chemistry major in the CBC department. Those friendships, formed through classes and undergraduate research experiences, were a huge factor in my success both then and now.

- **Kathia Antillón**



Jessy Forelli

Jessy Forelli was born and raised in New Jersey, but she knew from the moment she stepped on the University of Arizona campus that it was the school for her. Her family had visited the area several times when she was a child as her great grandparents were “snowbirds.” She went back during high school to visit for a tour and remembered how much she loved the area. After she was accepted, she enrolled as a biochemistry major since she loved her STEM classes and desired to get involved in cancer research in one of the outstanding labs on campus.

Jessy Forelli



Spencer Carey

Hello everyone! My name is Spencer Carey, and I graduated with a BS in Chemistry and a mathematics minor in 2013. I am most grateful to UArizona, especially its research opportunities for undergraduates. I spent three years working with Dr. Stephen Kukolich using microwave spectroscopy to study molecular structures. This work opened many doors for me and prepared me well for graduate school. I went on to earn my Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Washington. My dissertation focused on the thermodynamics of adsorbates on catalyst surfaces, which allowed us to understand how catalysts speed up reactions and why some work better than others.

[Spencer Carey](#)

IN MEMORIAM



Gisele (Rosin) Green
May 26, 1937-May 11, 2022
Palo Alto, California

PALO ALTO ONLINE OBITUARY

ACS REGIONAL MEETING



Western Regional Meeting
American Chemical Society
October 19 – 22, 2022
Flamingo Hotel & Casino Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV

Empower The Chemist For A Better Tomorrow



The American Chemical Society (ACS) will be hosting the 47th Western Regional Meeting on October 19-22, at the Flamingo Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Western Region consists of California, Arizona, Hawaii, and Southern Nevada. The society expects approximately 600 to 800 registrants from the industry, government, academic, and service sector of the chemistry profession.

You can find more information on the [Western Regional Meeting 2022 website](#).

ARIZONA HOMECOMING



Join Us for a Weekend of Wildcat Pride and Spirit

Join other thousands of other alumni in celebrating their Wildcat pride and reconnecting with classmates.

The CBC Chemistry club will present the **Chemistry "Magic" Show** on **October 29, in Koffler Room 204 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm!**

The celebration culminates with the Wildcat for Life Tailgate on the Mall on Saturday before Arizona Football take on USC.

EVER WILD 2022 HOMECOMING

UA CARES

The UA Cares campaign runs from September 30-November 4.

Faculty, staff, and alumni support our annual workplace giving campaign each fall, which gives employees the opportunity to enroll in payroll deductions to support the charities of their choice.

All can support the CBC Department by contributing to the general fund (ID: 20-10-0091) or graduate scholarships (ID: 20-11-2070). Scan the QR code below for more information about the UA Cares campaign.

UA Cares GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

September 30–
November 4



You can donate to:

Chemistry
& Biochemistry

- General Fund
- Graduate Scholarships



Enroll on UAccess



CBC LEADERSHIP TEAM



Craig Aspinwall



Lisa Arrotta



Dee Belle-Oudry



Marie-Pierre Hasne



Kelly Huff



Brooke Massani



Dominic McGrath



Oliver Monti

Craig Aspinwall- Professor, Department Head

Lisa Arrotta- Executive Assistant

Marie-Pierre Hasne- Assistant Professor of Practice, Diversity Champion

Kelly Huff-Manager, Business & Finance

Brooke Massani- Director of Research Support Services, Staff Scientist

Dominic McGrath-Professor, Associate Department Head

Oliver Monti-Professor, Associate Department Head

Help Build The Future

Your support of CBC scholarships today helps create the scientific leaders of tomorrow.

Give Today!



Visit our website



Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous

peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.



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