

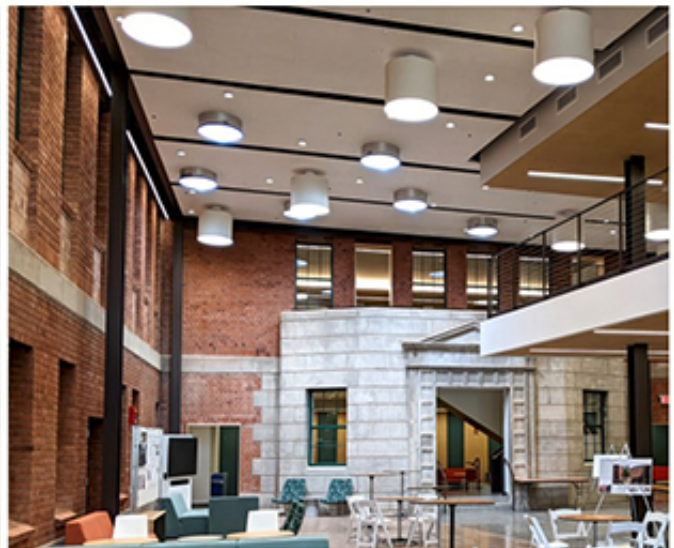
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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



E-Catalyst

Volume 9, Issue 1 | Summer 2023



Chemistry Building Remodel Complete

In April of 2023, CBC celebrated the opening of the renovated Chemistry Building and a newly constructed building called The Commons.

Hundreds of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends took the opportunity to tour the new facilities as soon as construction was complete. The opening ceremony featured presentations from University of Arizona President Robert C. Robbins, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Liesl Folks, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Teaching and Learning Gail Burd, and Department Head Craig Aspinwall.

“In a way,” Provost Folks said, “this project is meant to respect the past and embrace the future.”

The construction paid homage to the past by largely keeping the historic Old Chem exterior. The interior is now home to state-of-the-art collaborative learning spaces.

“This exciting space provides key enhancements to all areas of our mission,” Department Head Craig Aspinwall said, “and honors the past while boldly shaping the future.”

If you haven't had an opportunity to visit, please contact the department at CBC-FrontOffice@list.arizona.edu.

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Congratulations 2023 Graduates!

CBC students continue to excel. In total, there were 53 undergraduate scholars and awardees who earned 68 scholarships and awards, and 19 graduate student scholars

and awardees who earned 20 scholarships and awards.

You can view the full list of winners by following these links:

- [**Undergraduate Student Awards**](#)
- [**Graduate Student Awards**](#)



2022-2023 Undergraduate Research

The annual Undergraduate Research and Senior Thesis Poster Fair allows Chemistry & Biochemistry (CBC) majors, along with students from other majors in CBC research labs, the opportunity to present their research to the broader university community.

Students showcase the research proficiency in CBC and provide information about the majors in this department. The event is free, open to the public, and usually scheduled in the spring.

The student presenters are enrolled in courses such as independent study, directed research, senior thesis/capstone, and honors thesis.

Project categories include emerging research, advanced research (more than two semesters worth of research), and senior thesis research. They also are divided into either physical or bio-related science. This year, 37 senior thesis/capstone, and 18 directed research posters were presented from 43 different labs across the UArizona campus.

This year's Poster Fair was partially funded by the College of Humanities.

POSTER FAIR WINNERS

Faculty Awards

Here are a few of the CBC faculty continue to earn local, national, and international awards!



2023 Galileo Circle Curie Award - Dr. Thomas Gianetti

Congratulations to Dr. Thomas Gianetti for earning the 2023 Galileo Circle Curie Award!

The **Galileo Circle Curie Award** recognizes a rising-star in the College of Science and is given to junior faculty whose innovative work not only advances science, but also adds to the diversity within the scientific community.

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2023 Galileo Circle Copernicus Award and the Gerald J. Swanson Prize for Teaching Excellence - Dr. Amy Graham

Congratulations to Dr. Amy Graham who has earned two prestigious awards thus far in 2023!

The [Galileo Circle Copernicus Award](#) recognizes extraordinary accomplishments that are deserving of recognition and significantly advance the mission of the college of science and knowledge base of the discipline.

The [Gerald J. Swanson Prize for Teaching Excellence](#) is awarded to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching at the University of Arizona.

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NSF Career Award - Dr. Vanessa Huxter

Congratulations to Dr. Huxter for earning the National Science Foundation Career Award!

The **\$650,000 award** will provide five years of funding to study photoinduced single-electron transfer in photoredox catalytic systems using optical spectroscopy across a wide range of time and energy scales.

This research will identify the driving forces and intermediate states for photoredox catalytic reactions, which could open pathways to design new, efficient catalysts. The award will also support the development and deployment of 3D-printed spectrometers that will bring hands-on learning to students from historically underrepresented groups.

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2023 Distinguished Scholar Award - Dr. Michael Marty

Congratulations to Dr. Michael Marty for earning the Distinguished Scholar Award!

The **Distinguished Scholar Award** is granted to outstanding faculty who are making transformative contributions to their disciplines and to our purpose, mission and values, and who are achieving national/international recognition.

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Faculty Promotions

CBC is thrilled that the following faculty have received promotions effective in the upcoming school year!



Associate Professor with Tenure

Dr. Thomas Gianetti has been promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure.

Dr. Gianetti has been consistently recognized by the department, college, and university for his research programs and academic leadership skills. Dr. Gianetti is an emerging star in catalysis, photo catalysis, and energy storage, and has been nationally and internationally recognized for his research advancements within the scientific community.



Associate Professor of Practice

Dr. Tori Hidalgo has been promoted to Associate Professor of Practice.

Dr. Hidalgo plays an integral role by instructing dynamic and interactive courses in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Dr. Hidalgo is an award winning professor who's guidance is key to the success of CBC students and the department.



Assistant Professor of Practice

Dr. Suchi Perera has been promoted to Assistant Professor of Practice.

Dr. Perera plays an integral role in our Chemical Thinking coursework and actively collaborates on rhodopsin research—guiding and mentoring graduate, undergraduate, and high school students in scientific exploration. Dr. Perera is a gifted instructor whose influence is broad and fundamental to CBC.



Assistant Professor of Practice

Dr. Laura Van Dorn has been promoted to Associate Professor of Practice.

Dr. Van Dorn has pioneered the development of a chemistry course that has transformed CBC's delivery of chemistry to Allied Health majors. Dr. Van Dorn is highly focused on student support and curriculum development that goes beyond CBC.



Help Build the Future

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

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY

To give by check, make it payable to the University of Arizona Foundation. Please add "Chemistry & Biochemistry General Fund," or the fund of your choice, in the Memo line and mail it to:

The University of Arizona Foundation
P.O. Box 210109
Tucson, AZ 85721-0109

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Land Acknowledgment

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.