

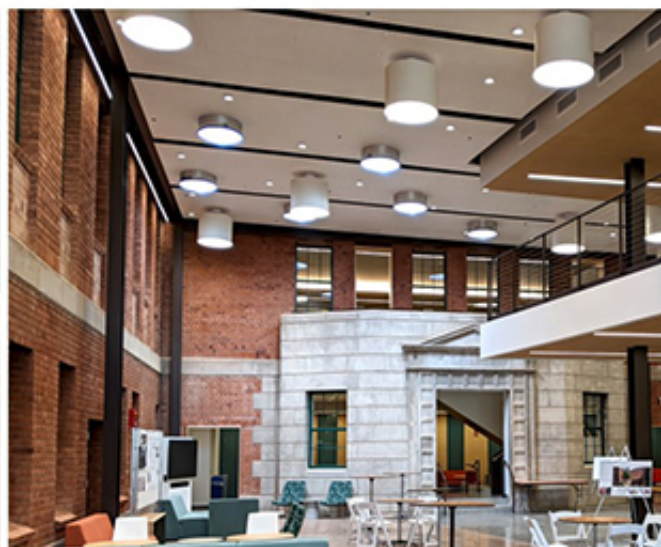
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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



## E-Catalyst

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## Chemistry Building Remodel Complete

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

The two interconnected buildings combine the historic Old Chem exterior with state-of-the-art collaborative learning spaces inside.

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 Liesl Folks, and Department Head Craig Aspinwall.

“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.”

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## Congratulations 2023 Graduates!

We are so proud of our students! In total, there were 53 undergraduate scholars and awardees who earned 68 awards, and 19 graduate student scholars and awardees who earned 20 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

Congratulations to our 2023 award winning faculty!





## 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 of the department 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 amazing 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 department and knowledge base of the discipline.

The **Gerald J. Swanson Prize for Teaching Excellence** is designed 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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## 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 awarded 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 has played 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 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's impact in the department is highly respected.



## 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.*