

Northwestern | Chemistry

Spring 2019 Chemistry Newsletter

From the Chair



Happy Spring! The season has arrived in full, from a snow-filled day followed by one with clear skies and al fresco dining temperatures. The Department has continued to thrive with graduate students receiving prestigious postdoctoral fellowships and elite graduate research fellowships. Faculty in the most senior ranks have been honored with lifetime achievement awards and faculty in the junior ranks have received prominent early-career grants. And, our staff have expanded and hosted another successful Industrial Associates Meeting. Enjoy our latest happenings!

Spotlights



Faculty: **Omar K. Farha**

Omar is an Associate Professor whose expertise is in inorganic materials chemistry, specifically atomically precise functional materials known as metal-organic frameworks (MOFs). He is co-Founder / President of NuMat Technologies, the largest privately-held US energy and technology start-up based on MOFs. [Read more.](#)



Student: **Ariana Gray Bé**

Ariana, a graduate joint student in Geiger and Thomson Labs, is from Cleveland, Ohio (the 216!). She obtained her B.S. in chemistry and a minor in vocal music performance from Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Ariana is currently a singer in the Apollo Chorus of Chicago. [Read more.](#)



Alumnus: **Martin Donakowski**

Martin ('14 Poeppelmeier Alum) defended his thesis five years ago. He was one of the 2013 winners of the Reaxys PhD Prize. Today, he is a scientist at Exponent, working with the team that completed the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 battery failure root cause investigation. [Read more.](#)



Staff: **Aaron Jones**

Aaron was born and raised in Dayton, Ohio but moved to Chicago to pursue a career in music. He joined Chemistry Department as a financial assistant in 2007 and was promoted to Senior Financial Administrator in October of 2017. [Read more.](#)

Recent Honors and Awards



Chad Mirkin received prestigious Perkin Medal.



Omar Farha received JSCC International Award for Creative Work.



Brian Hoffman received 2020 Robert Burns Woodward Career Lifetime Achievement Award in Porphyrin Chemistry.

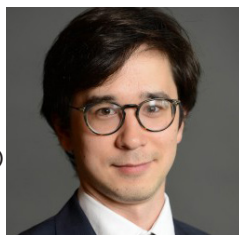


Julia Kalow received an NSF CAREER Award.

Student News



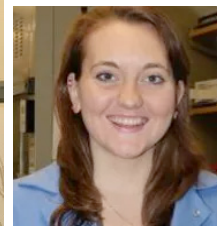
Sylvia Hanna (Farha Lab) was selected for the Stewardship Science Graduate Fellowship.



Paul Ohno (Geiger Lab) named a 2019 Schmidt Science Fellow.



Darren Hsu (Chen Lab) was selected for the DOE Office of Science Graduate Student Research Program.



Casey Adams, Megan Kaster, and Meghan Ward (Meade Lab) were awarded Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA).



Riki Drout (Farha Lab) was awarded Weinberg College Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award for 2018-2019.

Aleia Bellcross, Ioannina Castano, Christopher Eckdahl, and Megan Wasson were awarded the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship.

Congratulations also to Allison Arinaga, Aidan Caravana, Ray Fu, Waleed Helweh, Kenton Hicks, Emilie Lozier, Emily Ma, Emily Roesner, Alex Sample, Eugenia Vasileiadou, and Meghan Ward for earning honorable mention recognitions.

Press

Northwestern commits to preventing sexual harassment in higher education. [Read more.](#)

Graduate Students Strengthen 'Stay Safe' Mentality. [Read more.](#)

Gianneschi's research on exploring new ways to heal damage after a heart attack. [Read more.](#)

Kanatzidis' research on efficient perovskites gain momentum. [Read more.](#)

Finding the road to interdisciplinary research. [Read more.](#)

Odom's research on tiny optical elements could one day replace traditional refractive lenses. [Read more.](#)

Odom presented the Eminent Scientist Lecture at the Spring 2019 ACS National Meeting. [Read more.](#)

Institute for Sustainability and Energy (ISEN) is launching a new Program on Plastics, Ecosystems, and Public Health. [Read more.](#)

Events



Michael McAnally (Institute for Defense Analyses) presented the lecture for the Excellence in Graduate Research Award on 1 March 2019.



Jeffery Bricker (UOP LLC, A Honeywell Company) presented the Charles D. Hurd Lectures on 11-12 March 2019.



Kate Nichols (Artist and TED Fellow) presented Mark A. Rather Series of Scholars lecture on 20 March 2019.

Industrial Associates Meeting

Representatives from 3M, Abbott Laboratories, AbbVie, Assertio Therapeutics, BASF, Bayer Healthcare, Biodesix Bristol-Myers Squibb, Charles River Laboratories, Corteva, Dow Chemical, DuPont, Exponent, ExxonMobil, HEE Solar, LLC, Institute for Defense Analyses, INVO (Northwestern), Lubrizol, NuMat Technologies, Oakwood Chemical, Phillips 66, PPG, Procter & Gamble, and Stepan Company came to the Chemistry Department on **2 May 2019** for the annual Industrial Associates Meeting.

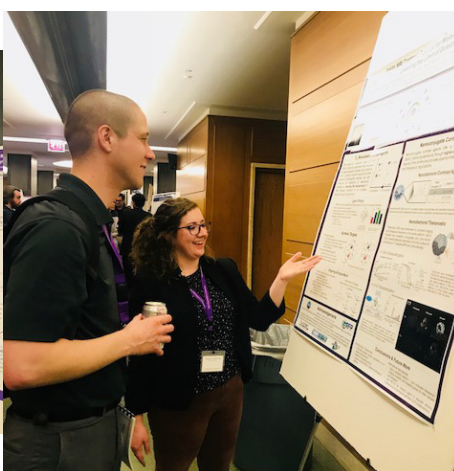
Graduate students and postdoctoral scholars heard from a panel of industrial representatives about their research and companies. A poster session followed to allow graduate students and postdoctoral scholars to discuss their research and interact one-on-one with the representatives.

The Industrial Associates Meeting offers companies an opportunity to partner with the Chemistry Department in areas such as recruiting top talent and training staff. **Save the date** - next Industrial Associates Meeting is **Thursday, 7 May 2020**.

Poster Session



Max Klemes (Dichtel Lab) presented his research to Michael Irwin (HEE Solar, LLC) and Chris Campbell (3M).

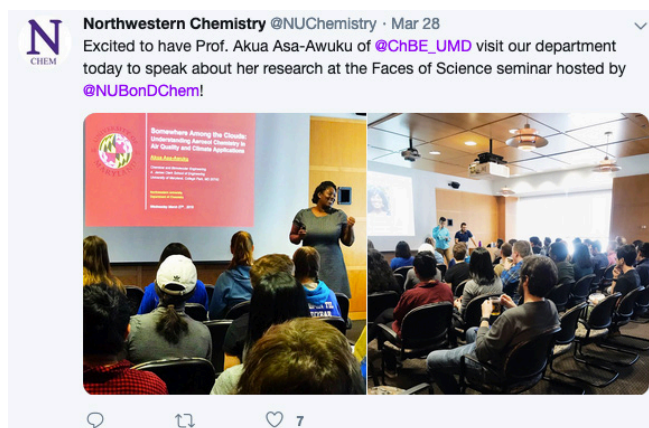
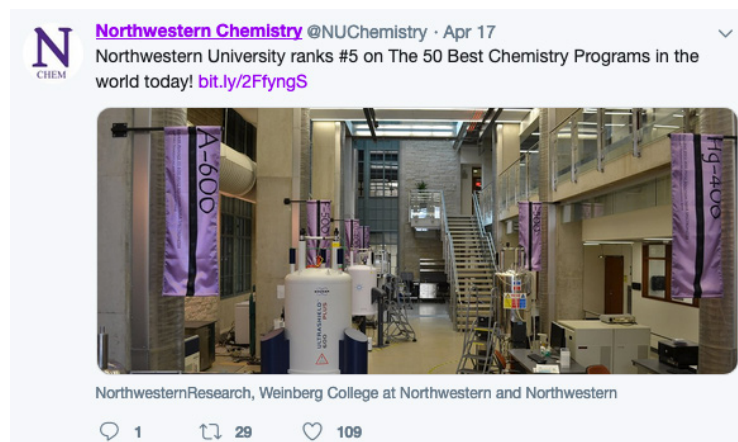


Shaunna McLeod (Meade Lab) presented her research to Reza Rock (PPG).



Max Klemes (Dichtel Lab) presented his research to Mike Vagnini (DuPont).

Social Media



From the Archives



Silverman Hall dedication ceremony in 2009. From left: Tom O'Halloran, Henry Bienen, Sarah Mangelsdorf, Barbara Silverman, Rick Silverman, Daniel Linzer, Morton Schapiro, and Julio Ottino.

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