

SMS Connects - February 2021



SMS needs your help

Dear SMS Community,

As an academic institution we are charged with supporting our students beyond just the classroom or the lab. We try to help in different ways, one of these is by offering financial support in the form of scholarships to those who are most in need. These scholarships are funded by us, the members and friends of the School, personal donations from you and from me. Fundraising for these scholarships was another victim of the covid pandemic since the primary mechanism for collecting donations, Sun Devil Giving Day, was cancelled last year. Consequently, several of our scholarship funds are now depleted to the extent that we may not be able to award some of them after this year. Please take a look at this video; in it you will see SMS students who are deserving and who are grateful.



Watch on YouTube: [SMS Scholarships help our students archive their career goals](#)

Soon, we will be asking for your support on Sun Devil Giving day 2021, please remember these students when we reach out to you.

Thank you!

Ian Gould
SMS Interim Director

Our Students



U.S. Air Force officer achieves dental school goal with ASU School of Molecular Sciences

United States Air Force Capt. Kyle McKelvey, took SMS classes online to complete dental-school admission requirements while on active duty. Although the courses were challenging, he earned high grades, passed the Dental Admissions Test, and has now been accepted to the Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry. "The coursework is designed to develop your ability to think, rather than just memorize information," recalled McKelvey.

[Read the full story](#)

Alumni Story



ASU alumna designing vaccines at Moderna

Ana Julia Narvaez, a 2003 biochemistry PhD graduate from SMS, joined Moderna Therapeutics as the director of biological science and translational biology in February 2020. She had previously worked as an associate principal scientist at AstraZeneca in Cambridge, England from 2015 to 2019. She made the decision to relocate in December 2019 so that she could live in Boston and expand her social and scientific network, but little did she know that her scientific life was about to change drastically with the onset of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

[Read the full story](#)

SMS Team Highlight

ASU academic advisers excel during pandemic

At a time when colleges are struggling to meet enrollment goals and the public continues to question the value of higher education, Arizona State University's School of Molecular Sciences academic advisers have excelled in their mission to facilitate the educational process for thousands of student, including a record number of those who are fully online.



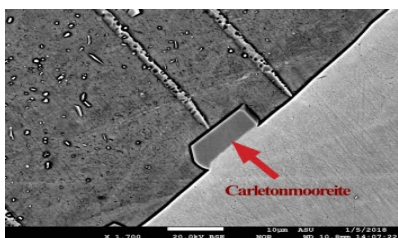
Read: [ASU academic advisers excel during pandemic](#)

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/fXqwoNEkWFA>

News and Research Highlights



School of Molecular Sciences assistant professors Laura Ackerman-Biegasiewicz and Kyle Biegasiewicz bring attention to diversity, equity, inclusion in academia. [read more...](#)



A new mineral has been named for Arizona State University Emeritus Regents Professor Carleton Moore, the founding director of ASU's Center for Meteorite Studies. The mineral, named "carletonmooreite," was found in a large, rare type of meteorite that fell in February 1948 in Norton County, Kansas. [read more..](#)



ASU researchers unraveling protein structure to understand and fight disease, a new paper recently published in the journal Nature Methods. [read more..](#)

Upcoming Events



ASU Open Door (March 1, 2021)

Make your own discovery and explore ASU! This year, ASU Open Door will be an online event, [click here to check out the exciting chemistry demonstrations provided by SMS](#). Video links will go live on March 1, 2021.



Sun Devil Giving Day (March 18, 2021)

Mark your calendar, join us on March 18th, make a contribution that will help our most deserving students. [Please visit our giving website](#), more information will be posted on our next newsletter.

SMS Social Media Channels



We have created a new series highlighting women scientists within our school and other women who have left their mark on the science community. Stay up-to-date by following us on [SMS Facebook](#) and [SMS Instagram \(@sms.asu\)](#). If you would like to nominate a woman scientist who has left a positive impact on you, send it to asusms@asu.edu, with the title "Women in Science Nomination."

Employment Opportunities

- University of California Los Angeles: [Chemistry & Biochemistry Faculty Positions](#)
- Genentech, South San Francisco, California: [Senior Scientific Researcher, Protein Biochemist, Peptide Discovery](#)
- Planet Pharma: [Principal Scientist, Medicinal Chemistry](#)
- Summer internships: Please check the [SMS internship website](#) for internship related information

Please follow us on the [SMS LinkedIn](#) page for more job opportunities. Please also check [Chemistry Job Resource: Chemjobber](#) for more chemistry jobs.

Please feel free to send email to ASUSMS@asu.edu at any time with questions, concerns, or suggestions. You can visit our website at sms.asu.edu or connect with us by liking our [Facebook](#) page!

Connect with us on social media:

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ASU School of
Molecular Sciences
Arizona State University

