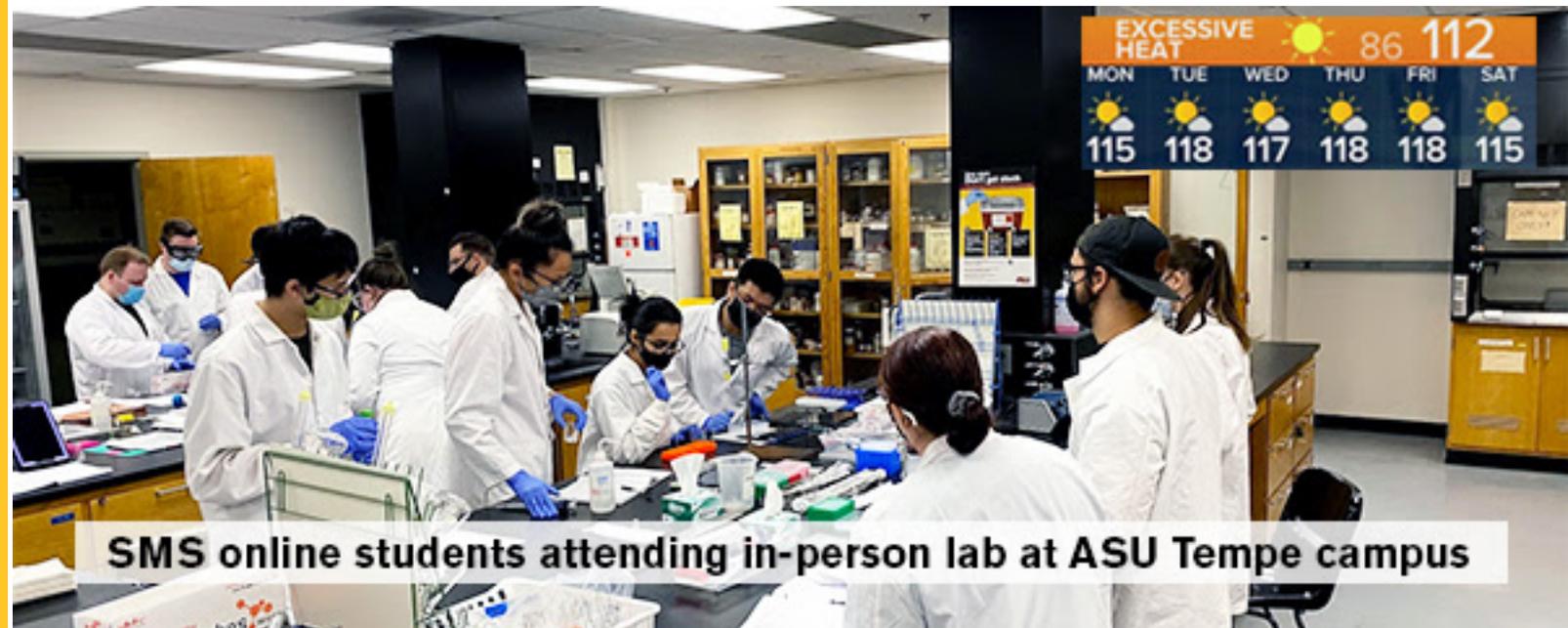


SMS Connects - June 2021



Dear SMS Community,

As the pandemic-induced constraints start to ease, day-to-day life within the School of Molecular Sciences is starting to return to normal. Although the spring semester is now behind us and we are well into summer, the School is still buzzing with activity. The teaching labs are busy with the online students who have returned this summer to take their accelerated lab courses, the herculean task of emptying the E- and D-wings has been completed and the building renovations are fully underway, a thaw in the hiring freeze has allowed the School to bring in several new faces, and research activity is essentially back to pre-pandemic levels. All of this activity, across the entire breadth of the School's mission, is thanks to an enormous effort by staff, by the faculty and by the graduate students, both in the teaching lab and in the research lab.

I thank everyone for their efforts this last month that have exceeded expectation in every respect. I haven't forgotten that as soon as COVID restrictions are sufficiently eased, we will finally have our long-promised SMS barbecue celebration!

Ian Gould
SMS Interim Director

In the School...

SMS New Leadership Team

Summer Lab for online students...



[Watch Video](#)

Renovations are underway!



[Watch Video](#)

Our Students...

Online program helps Navy veteran pursue lifelong dream

Anthony Pacheco knew since the third grade that he wanted to be a lawyer. Now, after graduating with a BS in biochemistry from ASU's School of Molecular Sciences online program, Pacheco is ready to take the next step in his education.

[Read the full story](#)

PhD Graduate credits opportunity and mentor trust

Use-inspired research around diagnostic innovation was an important part of Swarup Dey's ASU journey. Under his mentors Dr. Hao Yan and Dr. Rizal Hariadi, Swarup Dey developed a diagnostic system that mimics a protein in the body. Swarup graduated in May 2021 with a PhD degree from the School of Molecular Sciences; soon he will be a postdoctoral candidate at Harvard Medical School.

[Read the full story](#)

Biochemistry student wins at the 2021 AAAS Student E-poster Competition

SMS undergraduate student Zhela Sabir recently presented her poster "**Vitamin D Impacts Nrf-2 and Antioxidation Pathways that Modulate Cellular Aging**" at the 2021 AAAS Student E-poster Competition, and received a third place undergraduate award in the "Biochemistry and Molecular Biology" category. **The award was announced at the AAAS website.**



Faculty and Staff Highlights



Faculty promotions announced

School of Molecular Sciences recognizes and congratulates its faculty member promotions, as announced by The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. [read more...](#)



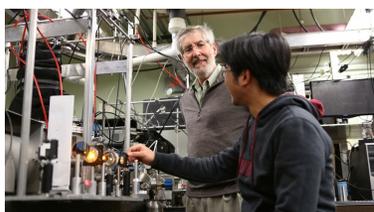
Ara Austin, Orenda Griffin excited to have greater impact on online students

Two recent promotions in ASU's School of Molecular Sciences poised to have positive impact on growing number of students. [read more...](#)



Petra Fromme receives Anfinssen Awards

Professor Petra Fromme's pioneering efforts in X-ray crystallography honored with prestigious Anfinssen Award. [read more...](#)



Tim Steimle retires after fulfilling career of nearly four decades

Professor Timothy Steimle has enjoyed a productive career at ASU School of Molecular Sciences. He is retiring in July 2021 after 36 years at the school. [read more...](#)

SMS Welcomes New Team Members



Jessica Shipley: Assistant Director of Academic Services

Jessica has worked in higher education since 2010. In addition, she has served in many volunteering roles at ASU; Jessica was the chair for the Council of Academic Advisors, a member of the CHS JEDI Council, and currently serves as a Student Organization Advisor for AZNA Dance.



Jenna Simmons: Academic success specialist

Jenna comes to SMS from Northwest Vista College where she was a certified academic advisor. She has worked in a variety of roles within higher education and enjoys advising students as they navigate through their academic journeys.

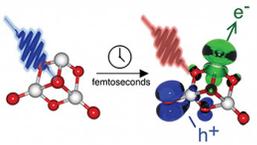


Lauren Eltringham: Senior Coordinator for Undergraduate Programs
 Lauren spent the last two years working as an Academic Advisor with ASU's Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation at the ASU Downtown campus. Prior to joining ASU, Lauren taught chemistry, AP Chemistry, and Physical Science at high schools in Alabama and Pennsylvania.



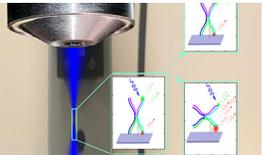
Carmen Radcliff: Accounting Specialist
 Prior to SMS, Carmen worked in Collections at ASU Student Business Services. Before coming to ASU four years ago, Carmen lived in New Mexico and worked as a bookkeeper at Gallup McKinley County Schools.

Research Highlights



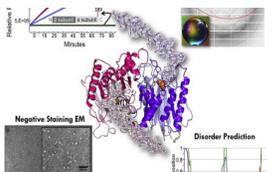
Study paves the way for new photosensitive materials

In new research appearing in the JPC Letters, Scott Sayres and his research group describe their investigations into the molecular dynamics of titania clusters. [read more...](#)



Beating detectors at their own game: How to catch a fast molecule in action

Steve Pressé and co-authors report a new mathematical method to extract changes in biomolecular shapes that occur on timescales that exceed detector exposure times. [read more...](#)



First detailed look at crucial enzyme advances cancer research

In a new study appearing in the Cell Press journal Structure, researchers from ASU describe their investigations, which reveal the structure of Taspase 1 as never before. [read more...](#)

Alumni



ASU alumnus Spencer Silver lived life as an inventor

ASU chemistry and biochemistry alumnus Spencer Silver died May 8 at age 80. Silver was a research organic and polymer chemist at the 3M Corporation who invented the adhesive used in Post-it Notes. [read more...](#)

Employment Opportunities- SMS is Hiring!

- ASU SMS: Lecturer - [General Chemistry \(AY Job #16781\)](#)
- ASU SMS: Lecturer - [Organic Chemistry \(AY Job #16778\)](#)

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. Please visit our website at sms.asu.edu to learn more about our school.

Connect with us on social media:

[SMS Facebook](#), [SMS Instagram\(@sms.asu\)](#), [SMS YouTube](#)

