

## SMS Connects - July 2022

Dear SMS Community,

This summer was hot in Tempe and not only weather wise. SMS had a record number of enrolled online students that attended in-person instruction at ASU Tempe Campus. The students enriched their hands-on lab experience by participating in laboratory courses in organic chemistry, biochemistry and analytical chemistry in a specially designed, condensed and immersive format. This in-person instruction consisted of six laboratory courses for 540 online students and was organized in total of 36 class sessions in 6 weeks. This was a humongous task and we thank our faculty, staff and teaching assistants for all their hard work and devotion to our unique nontraditional approach to hands-on empowered online teaching. For more information, please also visit our newly designed [online website](#) and find out why "Online at ASU is so much more than you were expecting."

We also had our first cohort of NSF REU 10-week summer research experience designed for undergraduate students in the areas of sustainable chemistry and catalysis. Although these undergraduate students had limited research experience prior to coming to ASU, this summer they had a chance to conduct research with SMS faculty and graduate students which guided them through the research process. The program was a true success! The students showcased their summer research findings in the infographic research presentation last week and revealed great accomplishments in a dynamic and interactive forum. We are so proud of our faculty, staff, mentors and especially our REU students for all their achievements during this summer!

We thank Emeritus Professor Bill Glaunsinger for his generous gift to the ASU Foundation that will enable endowment of the "Glaunsinger Innovation Award." Prof. Glaunsinger chaired the SMS while it was still Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and remains dedicated to student success and with this award the School of Molecular Science will recognize deserving graduate students for entrepreneurship.

SMS will welcome 530 new undergraduate students this Fall, 224 of the students as on campus immersion students and 306 online students. A special "Fall Welcome" event for new students will be held on August 16th, at 2:30 pm in PSH150. Don't miss this welcome event where some of SMS best faculty, staff and students from SAACS will demonstrate fun with chemistry.

I look forward to seeing everyone in fall 2022!

Best regards,  
Tijana Rajh  
SMS Director

**Featured in ASU News**



## **ASU provides hands-on laboratory experiences for online students at scale**

This summer, Arizona State University's School of Molecular Sciences provided in-person instruction to a record number of 540 enrolled online students, who took laboratory courses in organic chemistry, biochemistry and analytical chemistry in a specially designed, condensed and immersive format.

## **News and research...**



### **SMS hosts Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program in Sustainable Chemistry and Catalysis**

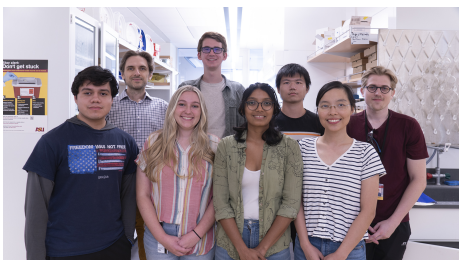
Undergraduate students from across the country gain valuable research experience at ASU.



### **ASU Online students' startup organization grows to become one of largest university clubs**

The IDEAS Student Society at ASU created by our online students now is one of the largest university clubs.

### **ASU professor, students advance ecologically responsible chemistry**

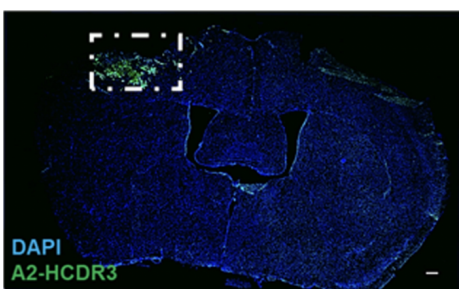


Ryan Trovitch and his students develop ecologically responsible energy efficient new chemistry.



**ASU researchers patent a new industrial-scale chemical method using geomimicry.**

A team from the SMS and the SESE develop a method for the production of isooctane from common feedstock molecules that using only Earth-abundant materials.



**ASU scientists find molecular clues behind traumatic brain injury.**

Scientists at ASU have uncovered molecular clues associated with traumatic brain injury.

## Emeritus Professor Bill Glaunsinger

**Glaunsinger Innovation Award recognizes SMS graduate students for entrepreneurship**



ASU is recognized as one of the most innovative universities in the nation. Establishment of the new Glaunsinger Innovation Award by William and Lorna Glaunsinger in 2019 further reinforced that reputation.

**Fall semester is around the corner**



This fall, the School will welcome 530 new undergraduate students (306 online and 224 campus immersion students), and 42 graduate students. A special "Fall Welcome" event will be on August 16th, where students will meet some of SMS faculty, staff, and students from SAACS who will perform some captivating chemistry demonstrations. More information about this event will be announced soon!

## Videos on the SMS YouTube Channel

The School of Molecular Sciences respects and promotes its online students. Please watch this short video for an important video message from the School:

<https://youtu.be/VxFTSlxx71E>

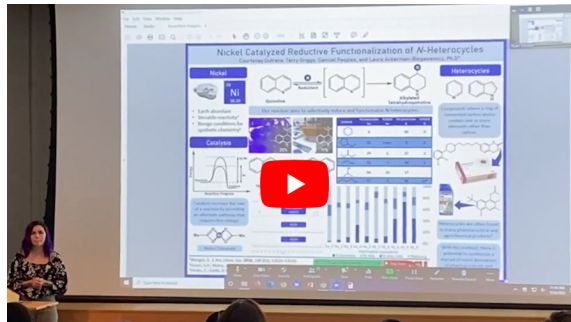


PhD student Thu Thao Nguyen



<https://youtu.be/Ov1hHOezl3Y>

REU Students, Summer 2022



<https://youtu.be/Vkvod-fj0JQ>

### SMS is Hiring...

- Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship (3 positions)
- Postdoc-Navrotsky Eyring Center for Materials of the Universe (MotU)
- Instructor-General Chemistry

- Teaching Assistant (TA)

Please visit <https://sms.asu.edu/About/Employment-Opportunities> for job descriptions.

Please feel free to send email to [ASUSMS@asu.edu](mailto:ASUSMS@asu.edu) at any time with questions, concerns, or suggestions. Please visit our website at [sms.asu.edu](https://sms.asu.edu) to learn more about our school.

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