

## SMS Connects - June 2022

Dear SMS Community,

The School of Molecular Sciences is honored to celebrate the achievements and dedication of our employees. Each year, ASU recognizes with Service Awards those who have achieved years of service to the School of Molecular Sciences and ASU. Please join us in expressing gratitude to those reaching 5 year marks, from 5 to, yes, believe it or not, 45 year milestones. We truly appreciate the dedication and hard work required to reach these milestones and we thank everyone for their service to our students, to our School and to ASU.

This spring we celebrated the retirement of our four distinguished faculty Ray Carpenter, Gary Cabirac, William Petuskey and Dan Buttry. All four of our retirees have, in their own way, contributed tremendously to make SMS what it is today, an internationally recognized institution that focuses uniquely on molecular sciences, research and education.

Our summers are also full of excitement. This month SMS welcomed NSF funded Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) students. This intense 10-week summer research experience for current freshman, sophomores, and juniors in the areas of Sustainable Chemistry and Catalysis allowed each student is to work closely with the faculty and graduate students on a specific research project. This fun summer session is still ongoing, so look closely on our SMS social media to see our newest REU adventures.

We also hosted the summer in-person Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry lab courses for online students. Our online students from all around the US gathered on Tempe Campus to attend in-person laboratory courses and get the thrill of laboratory experiments. During these summer sessions our online students collaborate with each other and with ASU faculty, work in teams and learn to communicate their excitement for chemistry. This unique laboratory experience provided by online programs in the School of Molecular Sciences at ASU develops their collaboration and teamwork skills and prepares them for their future careers.

Have a great rest of summer!

Best regards,  
Tijana Rajh  
SMS Director

### 2022 Sun Devil Service Awards

We are proud to celebrate the following service milestones for our faculty and staff:



Po-Lin Chiu



Lacey Haden



Hila Keidan Toporik



Yuval Mazor



Michelle Near



Ryan Trovitch



Theresa Shin



Don Seo



George Wolf



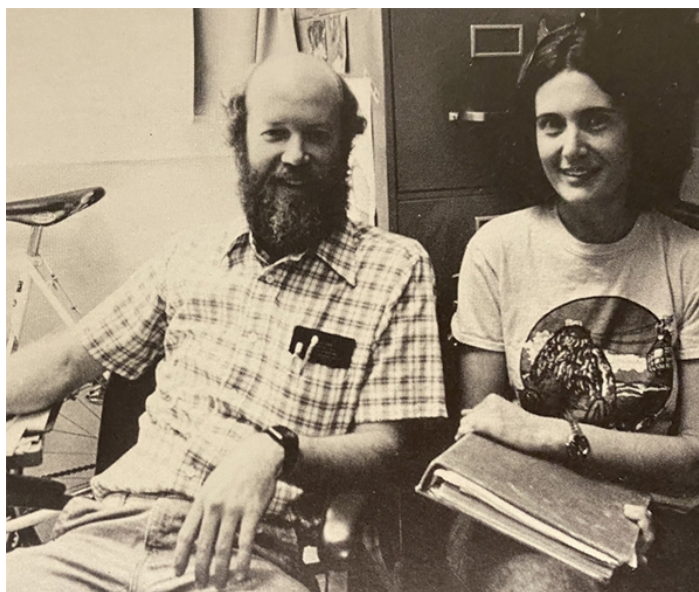
Ana Moore



Thomas Moore

- 5 years: Po-Lin Chiu, Lacey Haden, Hila Keidan Toporik, Yuval Mazor, Michelle Near
- 10 years: Ryan Trovitch
- 15 years: Theresa Shin
- 20 years: Don Seo
- 35 years: George Wolf
- 45 years: Ana Moore, Thomas Moore

## The School celebrates 45 'Moore' years



ASU has an outstanding reputation in the areas of natural and artificial photosynthesis research, to a large extent thanks to the contributions of Ana and Tom Moore. Ana and Tom have been important members of the School of Molecular Sciences, and formerly the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, at ASU since late 1976. The pair were founding members of one of the earliest and most successful research centers at ASU, the Center for the Study of Early Events in Photosynthesis. This year marks 45 years of service to ASU for both.

**Happy Retirement!**

Last month we celebrated the retirement of four outstanding faculty members, Dan Buttry, Ray Carpenter, Gary Cabirac, and Bill Petuskey. We thank them for their many years of hard work, their contributions to the academic success of the School and the scientific community. We wish them all a happy retirement!



**Dan Buttry**

Professor

[School of Molecular Sciences inaugural director retires after exemplary ASU career](#)



**Ray Carpenter**

Professor

[Ray Carpenter retires after four-decade distinguished career at ASU](#)



**Gary Cabirac**

Senior Lecturer

[Lecturer and ASU alum Gary Cabirac to retire in June](#)

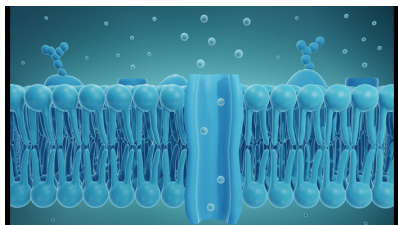


**William Petuskey**

Professor

[William Petuskey retires after distinguished four-decade career at ASU](#)

## Research Highlights



[Artificial cell membrane channels composed of DNA can be opened and locked with a key.](#)

Hao Yan along with ASU colleagues and collaborators from University College London describe the design and construction of artificial membrane channels using DNA.



[Immune recognition of self and non-self explored in new study.](#)

Joshua LaBaer and his colleagues explore components of the immune system known as autoantibodies.





### Universities partner to make chemistry more equitable

ASU and Carnegie Mellon University partner to develop more equitable general chemistry courseware with grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

## Featured Video 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>



### 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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