Chemical Sciences at the
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Newsletter

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A Word from the CSIE|UM Director

Brian P. Coppola

Greetings! You have received this Newsletter because you have requested to be on the mailing list, or because you are an alum of the U-M Deparment of Chemistry who has an academic affiliation. CSIE|UM is a program in the U-M department of chemistry in which chemistry students who are interested in academic careers, undergraduate through post-doctoral associates, can work on projects involving instructional development, implementation, and/or assessment. These projects are led by the faculty and imbedded in the instructional program of the department, which creates a mechanism and a culture for sustained and iterative improvement within the teaching program. We are building a network for our past and future alumni who are in academia.

2014-15 CSIE|UM Program highlight

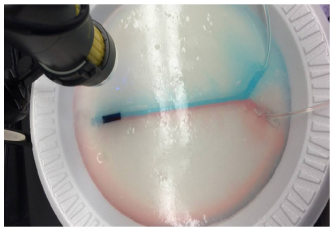
Throughout the year, the students who make up the CSIE|UM organizing committee have planned and hosted a series of panels, seminars, and workshops related to faculty work an academic careers. This year, the department began offering FFGSI (future faculty GSI) positions for students to get involved with instructional development projects led by faculty members in the department. On February 13, 2015, five of the FFGSIs from the Fall term were featured in one of these sessions. They gave summaries and updates about their work.

(l-to-r: Kevin Ileka, Casey Dougherty, Matt Beyersdorf, Danielle Zurcher, Luke Peterson)

Alumni profile

Professor Sam Pazicni was one of our dual mentorship (research & teaching) post-docs during 2006-09 (Penner-Hahn/Fierke/Coppola). Sam has recently earned tenure in the department of chemistry at the University of New Hampshire. His research includes understanding student competence and exploring polymer-bound models of [Fe Fe] hydrogenase. Sam was recently back in Ann Arbor, on March 13, 2015, for a CSIE|UM panel on faculty careers that balance research in chemistry and education, as well as for a research seminar.

Project profile



Students in CHEM 242 (Analytical Lab) are being introduced to concepts in microfluidics thanks to work led by Professor Kristina Hakannson and FFGSI Kevin Ileka. Using channels formed in Agar (pictured, above), students can study, using optical methods, authentic flow phenomena, as they might in an actual chip.

CSIE|UM 2015 SYMPOSIUM
June 19, 2015 10 AM - 4 PM
see CSIE|UM web site for details