

**DEPARTMENT NEWS**

**ACS PROJECT SEED**

This was the first year for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga to participate in the American Chemical Society Project SEED (Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged). This national program sponsors high school students to experience a paid summer research internship to encourage them to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). Dr. Keenan Dungey submitted a grant proposal on behalf of the department and the Chattanooga local section of ACS. Three area high school students joined our 36th annual Summer Undergraduate Research Program (URP) under the supervision of chemistry faculty mentors and college student

“near-peers” and obtained experience in original research. In Dr. Wang Yong Yang’s lab, Enrique Rodriguez measured the binding of small molecules to RNA. Makyah Schleininger worked with Dr. Dungey to measure the biophysical properties of bacterial cells. And Vinesah Goodwin worked in the lab of Dr. Jared Pienkos, successfully synthesizing and crystallizing new phosphorescent complexes. Each student made a professional presentation at a dinner of the Chattanooga section of ACS.

Our program was co-sponsored by the local ACS and the UTC Office of Diversity and Engagement, led by Vice Chancellor Stacy Lightfoot. In addition to laboratory and communication skills, students learned about careers in STEM and how to apply to college. Students who complete the program are eligible to apply to ACS for a college scholarship.



*Enrique Rodriguez learns biochemical research techniques from Lucas Wise in Dr. Yang’s lab.*

**UTC CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR LANDS RESEARCH GRANT**

Dr. Ben Stein, an assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Tennessee of Chattanooga, has been on the faculty for a little more than a year.

It’s the first faculty position he’s held in higher education.

In February, he filed a grant proposal for more than \$322,000 from the National Institutes of Health. It’s the first time he’s applied for a grant of any kind.

In August 2022, he learned he got it. His first reaction?

“Disbelief,” he said. “It was a surprise. It was very exciting.”

Stein was awarded a \$322,375 grant from the NIH for a project titled, “Characterization of non-canonical regulatory pathways in the *Caulobacter NtrYX* signaling system.” The NIH Research Enhancement Award, known as an R15, is only the second received by a UTC faculty member in recent years.

Stein, who received a bachelor’s degree from Brown University in 2010 and a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2016, will be researching how bacteria adapt to changing environments. Knowing how the process works may eventually help in the prevention or treatment of diseases in both humans and animals, he said.

Understanding the process also may help in agriculture since bacteria are both positive and negative components in plant growth.

Stein said that the three-year NIH grant pays for six undergraduate students to work in the lab-based study, which is a mixture of biochemistry and microbiology.

“It’s a large sum for undergraduate-focused lab research,” he said. “For a university that has six graduate students to support, this might not be as huge, but for us, it’s absolutely big.”

The study builds on scientific evidence that, whether they’re in humans, animals or soil, disease-causing bacteria can alter themselves to adapt and thrive inside their hosts.

“It’s kind of analogous to us. We get burned on the stove; we send signals to our brain; we move our hand away,” Stein said. “If something infects us, the environment changes for that organism and it needs to adapt.”

He explained that proteins on the outer edge of each bacteria regularly communicate with proteins on the inside through chemical signals. As the environment around the bacterium changes, the outside proteins alert those inside.



*Ben Stein*

In turn, those proteins send signals that eventually lead to the bacteria’s DNA—telling it to change to deal with the new environment.

Much of that process is understood, Stein said, but there’s still a lot to be learned.

“These systems have been studied for decades, and there’s a lot known about them. A lot of great scientists have worked on them,” he said. “But what I think we’ve come to realize over the past decades of research is that we have this very simple model, but it’s very rarely that simple in any one system.”

Studying bacteria is very familiar to Stein, a native of Ithaca, New York. As a doctoral student at MIT, he focused on proteins that help target obsolete proteins for destruction.

After earning his Ph.D., he worked in postdoctoral research at Michigan State University and the University of Chicago. His work there on bacteria was a stepping stone to pursuing faculty positions.

Stein applied for the job at UTC for a couple of reasons.

“I wanted to work with a mix of students,” he said, “and I liked the urban environment of UTC as well.”

**STEIN WAS AWARDED A \$322,375 GRANT FROM THE NIH**

**“IT’S KIND OF ANALOGOUS TO US. WE GET BURNED ON THE STOVE; WE SEND SIGNALS TO OUR BRAIN; WE MOVE OUR HAND AWAY,” STEIN SAID. “IF SOMETHING INFECTS US, THE ENVIRONMENT CHANGES FOR THAT ORGANISM AND IT NEEDS TO ADAPT.”**

## FACULTY PROFILES

### MEET OUR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

**Dr. Tian Li** joined UTC in August 2022 as an assistant professor of physics. Dr. Li received a Ph.D. in physics in 2017 from the Joint Quantum Institute (JQI), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the University of Maryland, College Park. Prior to UTC, Dr. Li was an associate research scientist (promoted from postdoctoral research associate) in the Institute for Quantum Science and Engineering and the Department of Biological & Agricultural Engineering at Texas A&M University. Dr. Li

**AFTER 14 YEARS WORKING IN THE FIELD OF QUANTUM OPTICS, DR. LI IS NOW ONE OF SIX FACULTY MEMBERS COLLABORATING IN THE UTC QUANTUM INITIATIVE.**

specializes primarily in experimental quantum information science and technology, or QIST. He uses atomic vapor as well as nonlinear optical crystals to generate quantum correlations and entanglement for quantum information, quantum sensing and quantum imaging investigations. Dr. Li is a key member of the UTC Quantum Initiative and leading the development of a Quantum Node Lab which provides access to the EPB Quantum Network - the first commercial quantum network in the world. When he's not in his office or labs

assisting students with advancing the frontiers of QIST, Dr. Li is either learning to master acoustic guitar or messing around with his kid.

We welcome **Dr. Luis Sanchez-Diaz** to the Department of Chemistry and Physics. Assistant professor Sanchez teaches introductory and advanced physics courses, astronomy and biophysics courses. His research group investigates the rheology of

**DR. SANCHEZ FOCUSES ON UNDERSTANDING HOW THE ELASTICITY AND MOTILITY OF LIVING CELLS LIKE BACTERIA CAN AFFECT THE VISCOSITY OF A LIQUID.**

colloids and living systems that can be used to develop new materials for industrial or medical applications. More specifically, Dr. Sanchez focuses on understanding how the elasticity and motility of living cells like bacteria can affect the viscosity of a liquid. Dr. Sanchez obtained bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Universidad Autonoma de San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and completed post-doctoral studies at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. In summer 2023, he participated in our department's

Undergraduate Research Program by conducting research with two current UTC students and looks forward to continuing his research and teaching in the coming years. Outside of teaching and research, Dr. Sanchez enjoys backpacking, cooking, fixing cars and taking care of his cats.

**Emily Alonge** recently assumed the role of laboratory teaching specialist in the Department of Chemistry and Physics, focusing on providing engaging and meaningful lab experiences for the general and organic chemistry lab sequences. She received bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from Tennessee Technological University and also earned an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree, driven by her passion for teaching chemistry. She is especially interested in chemical education research, focusing on developing and implementing innovative strategies to enhance student engagement. Recognizing the daunting nature of the subject matter, she works to cultivate a

**EMILY ALONGE STRIVES TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE WHERE ALL LEARNERS FEEL VALUED, SUPPORTED AND ENCOURAGED TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE LEARNING PROCESS.**

welcoming and inclusive learning environment that empowers students to take ownership in their individual learning process. Outside of Grote Hall, Alonge enjoys weaving, renovating her house and playing with her dogs and cats.

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*From top down: Tian Li, Luis Sanchez-Diaz, Emily Alonge*

## STUDENT SUCCESS

### SPS CHAPTER WINS NATIONAL GRANT

Starting a new student club can be a challenge, but the UTC chapter of the Society of Physics Students (formerly Sigma Pi Sigma) has an important leg up: nearly 100 years of history at UTC! Sigma Pi Sigma was originally formed in 1921 as a Physics Honor Society at Davidson College. UTC's was the seventh chapter of Sigma Pi Sigma and was installed on May 17, 1929. In 1968, the student section of the American Institute of Physics joined with Sigma Pi Sigma to create the Society of Physics Students, SPS. SPS is a professional association for any students and their advisors interested in physics. There are more than 500 chapters nationwide.

The UTC chapter hit a road bump in 2020, when former club advisor Professor Robert Marlowe retired and the COVID-19 pandemic precluded in-person meetings and activities. Professor Tatiana Allen, who is now the club's faculty advisor, helped a group of students re-register the UTC SPS chapter as an official UTC student club in 2021.

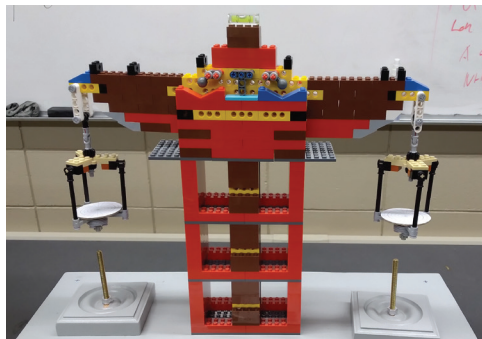
"We have a vibrant group of very enthusiastic and capable students. Everyone brings their special talents to each project we are working on. It is a pure pleasure to work with such motivated individuals," said Dr. Allen.

The club elected new officers that year and held regular monthly meetings with approximately seven students as members. The SPS chapter was re-established at UTC just in time for the centennial Sigma Pi Sigma celebration in 2021. In the 2022-23 academic year, the club grew to 15 members. They have provided weekly tutoring for introductory physics courses and volunteered at the UTC Clarence T. Jones Observatory and Chattanooga's Creative Discovery Museum.

Students and faculty worked together to apply for a grant from the national SPS organization, which they won in 2022. The grant funding allowed them to build a LEGO-based model of the Watt (Kibble) Balance. The Watt Balance was invented in 1975 by Dr. Bryan Kibble, originally to realize the unit of electrical current, the ampere. The balance constructed at the National Institute of Standards and Technology makes a connection between the unit of mass, the kilogram, and the Planck constant and is able to realize the kilogram with a relative uncertainty of  $10^{-8}$ . It is a very expensive machine that must be kept in special clean room conditions. UTC students Lillian Gensolin, Landon Boone, Gaije Benkert, Ivy

Cartwright and Jackson Ricketts were all a part of the team that constructed a LEGO model of the balance. "It's a marvel that something so simple like LEGOs can be used to quantify one of the most complex and fundamental constants in all of physics," said Boone, a rising junior. Gensolin and Boone presented the results of the project at the UTC Spring and Research Arts Conference (formerly ReSEARCH Dialogues) on April 12, 2023 in the University Center. The project was also presented at the Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society (SESAPS-2022) and the 2023 Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics at Auburn University.

All of these accomplishments were recently recognized by SPS, which awarded UTC's chapter the Distinguished Chapter Award. Next year, Boone will be club president and plans to increase member outreach while continuing to work on the LEGO Watt Balance and starting a new LEGO-related project. All students interested in physics, regardless of their major, are very welcome to join the UTC SPS chapter, attend meetings and participate in projects.



### OBSERVATORY RE-OPENS

The Clarence T. Jones Observatory fully re-opened this year after closing to the public in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were able to complete some renovations over the past summer and, in fall 2022, resumed our public Star Parties. Below is attendance data from Spring 2023:

*Total Attendance—492*  
*Average Nightly Attendance—41*

About 80% of attendees had never been to the Jones Observatory. Total attendance is about where it was before the pandemic closing.

Our policy of offering the lecture and planetarium show simultaneously and then switching audiences worked well. A special thanks to Barnard Astronomical Society (BAS) members who volunteered to assist with our event and set up their telescopes in the parking lot.

As always, we appreciate the dedication, good humor, knowledge, competence and love of astronomy everyone has. Special thanks to the members of the BAS, UTC and the Friends of the Observatory. This place is nothing if not a community effort.

We hope to start our Fall 2023 Star Party season in October 2023. Preparations are now under way.



## STUDENT PROFILE

### MASON WOODS

CHEMISTRY '24



**“WHAT I DO AT WORK, LIKE VACUUM FILTRATIONS, ROTARY EVAPORATION, DISTILLATION-THAT’S EXACTLY WHAT WE DO IN THE ORGANIC CHEMISTRY II LAB. THAT GIVES ME A STEP UP WHENEVER IT COMES INTO BEING IN CLASS AND BEING CONFIDENT WITH WHAT I DO.”**

Rising senior biochemistry major Mason Woods has been motivated to study biochemistry at UTC thanks to his interest in the field and how it helps him pursue his career goals. “Chemistry is kind of like magic. You get to turn different compounds into different things. With chemistry, it’s just so hands-on.”

Woods has benefited from his lab classes and values the hands-on nature of chemistry. “It’s not just this idea that you’ve talked about or read about in books, it’s something that you actually get to do every day.” In addition to his lab course work, Woods has been involved in undergraduate research with Professor Luis Sanchez-Diaz. He started conducting research during the spring of his sophomore year at UTC. His work focuses on the structure and conductivity of ionic liquids. As part of conducting research at UTC, he has had the opportunity to attend conferences, such as the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society (SESAPS) to present his work. “I’m getting used to presenting things out in front of people and being able to discuss science, which is a completely different skill that I’ve never learned before.”

Woods also has an internship as a biochemistry lab technician at Alkane Analytics. “The faculty are great here, you can tell they really care about us succeeding. One of my lab professors asked me if I was interested in an internship. He knew of somebody that I would fit in well with,” Mason explained. “I had an interview and was able to get into that position pretty early.” The internship has helped him excel in his lab classes. “What I do at work, like vacuum filtrations, rotary evaporation, distillation—that’s exactly what we do in the organic chemistry II lab. That gives me a step up whenever it comes into being in class and being confident with what I do.”

The confidence he has gained will help him pursue his future career goals, as well. Mason is planning to attend medical school after his expected graduation in spring 2024. He credits the chemistry program for more than just learning chemistry, but also for the problem-solving skills and creative thinking he has learned. He plans to put these skills to good use as he considers different medical specialties, particularly orthopedics. “I’m open to what field of medicine I go into. I’ve done a lot of shadowing in orthopedics, which I find very interesting because I spent my whole life playing sports and have had a lot of injuries,” Woods said in a recent interview. “I want to help people that have had similar situations that I did.”

In her first semester at UTC for an assignment for UHON 1000, Paige Freyre wrote: “When I grow up I want to be a chemist. Specifically, I want to be a pharmaceutical engineer. That is probably my most significant long-term goal in life, however, it doesn’t tell the whole story.” It certainly doesn’t tell the whole story about Freyre. Her wonderful energy, spirit and intellect will be greatly missed at UTC to say the least.

While at UTC, Freyre was a William E. Brock, Jr. Scholar, an Honors College Scholar and a Grote Scholar. She completed her departmental honors thesis with Dr. Thomas Rybolt, professor of chemistry. Her project, “Modeling Surface Structures for the Capture of Carbon Dioxide” addressed the greenhouse gas, CO<sub>2</sub>, the primary factor in global climate change.

Rybolt described her project goal like this: “to use molecular modeling software to create a simulated surface pore structure that could preferentially bind and trap carbon dioxide more strongly than nitrogen gas.”

“Paige learned the software used for molecular modeling, refined and tested many model surfaces and conducted an extensive review of published articles. The result of her work is a model pore surface superior to the 20 previously published systems in its ability to differentiate between CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> and thus trap carbon dioxide. Paige is organized, timely in her work, self-directed and productive. It has been a great pleasure to work with her, and she is off to what I am sure will be a significant industrial career.”

During her studies, Freyre interned at the chemical and materials manufacturing company W.R. Grace in Chattanooga. Upon graduation, she was hired full-time at W.R. Grace. She has been accepted in their Manufacturing Leadership Program. She is the first non-engineering major to ever be accepted into this special program. This position will take her to multiple sites around the country starting with her initial appointment in Baltimore, Maryland.

In 2023, the department recognized Freyre’s excellence as a student of chemistry by selecting her for the American Chemical Society Chattanooga Local Section Award.

According to Freyre, her greatest accomplishment at UTC was forming bonds with her peers (pun intended!) She said: “I would have never finished my thesis and definitely would not have done well in biochemistry without the support of my friends.”

## STUDENT PROFILE

### PAIGE FREYRE

CHEMISTRY '23



**“I WOULD HAVE NEVER FINISHED MY THESIS AND DEFINITELY WOULD NOT HAVE DONE WELL IN BIOCHEMISTRY WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF MY FRIENDS.”**

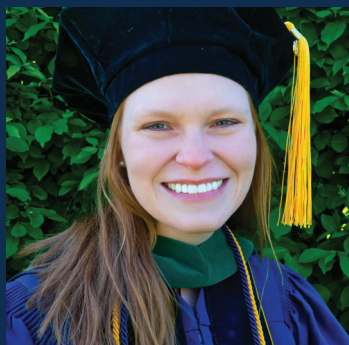
## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS



### HENDRIK GREVE

Dr. Hendrik Greve graduated from UTC in 2015 with a B.S. degree in chemistry and a concentration in biochemistry. He is currently in his last year of the Medical Scientist Training Program (MD/PhD) program at Indiana University. He completed his Ph.D. in medical neuroscience in March 2022. Congratulations!

Greve will enter medical school in 2024 and plans to go into neurology as an academic physician-scientist. He encourages students to appreciate the amazing training they are receiving in the chemistry program at UTC. "I cannot stress how valuable my education was in helping me transition to a fast-paced Ph.D. lab, even though it was in a different discipline," he said. Greve also made many life-long friends at UTC, especially his spouse, Katherynne, who also earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry degree from UTC in 2014.



### KATHERYNN GREVE

Dr. Katherynne Greve graduated from UTC in 2014 with a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry and a minor in biology. She earned a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree in 2020 from Marian University. She is currently chief resident and pediatric hospitalist at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. This fall, she plans to apply for pediatric endocrinology fellowships.

Greve recommends current students take advantage of as many opportunities at UTC as they can. "I learned so much through participating in research, working with wonderful mentors in faculty (thank you Dr. Mebane and Dr. Potts!) and presenting at ACS conferences that prepared me for my future career. I even worked alongside my future husband Hendrik Greve over the summer while participating in URP!"



### HEIR JORDAN

Dr. Heir Jordan graduated from UTC in 2015 with a B.S. in chemistry. At UTC, he was extremely involved in departmental and campus activities. He worked in collaboration with Dr. Tom Rybolt, former chemistry and physics department head, and Dr. Roger Nichols, former associate head of mathematics, on research projects and presented results at annual conferences. Jordan also worked in the UTC housing office as a resident assistant.

After graduation, he enrolled in the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Pharmacy in Memphis and received a doctorate in 2019. He started his career working as a dual outpatient/inpatient pharmacist and has worked his way into a prominent clinical pharmacist role within several of the largest health care systems in the country. Jordan remains passionate about being a health care professional and is now with Ascension Health in Nashville.



### JANEL FIELDS

Janel Fields, a 2014 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, won the Aug. 9 episode of "Supermarket Stakeout" on the Food Network.

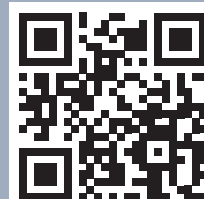
"I think the skills that are going to help me out in this competition are my background in biochemistry and food science. And, of course, my smile," Fields said in the show.

The owner of Field of Greens DFW in Dallas, Fields earned a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from UTC and works as a private chef and a recruiter for biotechnology companies.

In the three-round competition, Fields—who was featured on the web series "Instachef" in 2019—faced off against three other chefs. Working in temporary kitchens set up in the parking lot of a grocery store, they had to prepare three dishes using only \$500 to purchase mystery ingredients from random shoppers exiting the store.

## SHARE YOUR ALUMNI NEWS

Please send your news to share on our social media or in the next edition of *Mocs Matter*.  
[utc.edu/chem-phys-alum](http://utc.edu/chem-phys-alum)



## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT GRETCHEN POTTS



*Gretchen Potts.*

If you want your students to be interested in what you're teaching, you have to have an interest in their activities, too.

That's the mantra Gretchen Potts lives by.

"We want students to be in class, so we ask them to come to class," Potts said, "and I feel like we should participate in the things they're doing. That's why I'm supporting them at their events.

Potts, UC Foundation Professor of

Chemistry and the department head for Biology, Geology and Environmental Science, is celebrating the 20th anniversary of her arrival in Chattanooga.

After earning a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, in 1996, a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from the University of Florida in 2000 and spending two years as a visiting assistant professor at the College of Charleston, she arrived at UTC in August 2002 as assistant professor of chemistry.

When asked what 20 years meant to her, she said the first word that came to her head was family.

"This is where I come every day; this is where I come on the weekends and where I am at night," Potts said. "The people I work with, my colleagues and my students are family, so this is where I enjoy spending time."

Very few faculty members are as visible around campus as she is—as a fan of Mocs athletics, as a social media contributor and for just being involved, period.

Her involvement with athletics might be

considered next-level. How many chemistry professors have been called on to sing the national anthem at sporting events?

"I've been a performer all my life," Potts said. "People always tell me how they appreciate my rendition of the national anthem because it's very traditional. That's because I have a background in opera."

Potts was recently named the Biology, Geology and Environmental Science department head after serving in an interim role during the 2021-2022 academic year.

While her academic background is in chemistry, she has been involved in other

areas—starting and developing the University's integrated studies program—before moving into her current role.

How is she able to transition from one subject to another?

"I am an analytical chemist who identifies and counts things," she explained, "and I'm probably an ultra-analytical chemist—where I like things very ordered. I think a lot of that has helped me in my other roles.

My organizational skills have been applied to all the things that I do."

**"THE PEOPLE I WORK WITH, MY COLLEAGUES AND MY STUDENTS ARE FAMILY, SO THIS IS WHERE I ENJOY SPENDING TIME."**

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT BECCA STIMSON

When Department of Chemistry faculty member Becca Stimson began teaching at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2008, she figured she'd be a short-timer after a 26-year career in the corporate world.

Heck, chemistry wasn't even the subject she was teaching.

"I expected to maybe do this for a few years and have some fun," Stimson recalled.

"I wanted to teach in the business school because I had spent the last 15 years in the business world as a global business manager."

But a one-year stint as adjunct faculty in the Gary W. Rollins College of Business wasn't the right fit; she was a research chemist at heart, complete with a Ph.D. in chemistry and a long career with the DuPont chemical company on her resume.

The teaching bug, however, had bitten her.

It turned out to be the beginning of a next career. Stimson is now in her second decade at UTC, serving as an associate lecturer of chemistry and the general chemistry laboratory director.

"I think I've found my role," Stimson said.

After earning a bachelor's degree from

Davidson College in North Carolina and a combined master's/Ph.D. from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, Stimson was hired as a bench chemist—a chemist whose main job is research—for DuPont. She worked in a research lab for several years before moving into technical supervision.

These days, Stimson's main course load is the general chemistry sequence, which Professor of Chemistry Keenan Dungey, the head of the department, described as a gateway course.

"All chemistry majors, physics majors, biology majors, engineering majors, anyone who's pre-med takes that first Gen Chem 1—which is often one of their first courses," Dungey explained, "and it's a big shock for most students to make that transition from high school to a rigorous college science course. Becca really cares about the students and tries to help them get through it."

Dungey noted that Stimson was accepted into a National Science Foundation-funded summer workshop, a seven-week-long program on how to make Gen Chem courses more inclusive for diverse student populations.

Along with teaching gateway courses, Stimson has developed a new CHEM 1999r course designed to increase retention.

"A lot of the time," Stimson said, "I think

**"I THINK STUDENTS FEEL LIKE SCIENCE IS HARD, SO PLAIN LANGUAGE IS HELPFUL."**



*Becca Stimson.*

students feel like science is hard, so plain language is helpful. It gives people confidence. You don't have to be the smartest kid in class to appreciate science. There are all different kinds of ways to appreciate it."

# **C** MOCS GIVE DAY

OCTOBER 3, 2023

## UPDATE!

The third annual one-day fundraising effort known as Mocs Give Day was organized in October 2022. The generosity of our donors was amazing! We raised \$5,865. The funds were used to support student conference travel, research

in water quality and support programs at the Clarence T. Jones Observatory. This year Mocs Give Day will be on Oct. 3. [MocsGiveDay.utc.edu](https://mocs.giveday.utc.edu)

**GIVE TODAY!**



## SUMMER RESEARCH

This summer marks the 37th annual Undergraduate Research Program. Last year, 18 students (pictured above) participated. During the school year, 53 students earned credit for research and three students completed departmental honors theses.

With funds from the Grote Endowment, students also traveled to present their research at professional conferences, including the SERMACS, SASAPS and national ACS. Check our website for the latest list of student and faculty publications and presentations.

### NEHEMIAH ANTOINE

(faculty mentor: Dr. Keenan Dungey) "Synthesis and Characterization of 2D Crystals Formed *via* Halogen Bonding"

### PAIGE FREYRE

(faculty mentor: Dr. Thomas Rybolt) "Modeling Surface Structures for the Capture of Carbon Dioxide"

### CHRISTINE RUKEYSER

(faculty mentor: Dr. Meredith Barbee) "Stress-sensing in Flexible Epoxy Adhesives"

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## LAB NOTES

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Oct. 6, 2023**

You're invited to the annual **Undergraduate Research Program (URP)** poster session on Friday, Oct. 6, 2023. The afternoon event will be followed by an alumni reception. Activities take place in Grote Hall Room 403, 3-5:30 p.m.

**Oct. 22, 2023**

Celebrate National Chemistry Week with us by attending Science Day at the Chattanooga Market.

