

The latest news from Chemical and Biological Engineering at Mines.

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FROM THE TOP



Dear Friends & Supporters of CBE,

It is my pleasure to introduce myself and note a few highlights for the CBE Department since we last sent out a newsletter. I am **Dan Knauss**, **Associate Dean of Energy and Materials Programs** and **Professor of Chemistry**; I have been the **Interim Department Head for CBE** since November. **Anuj Chauhan** stepped down as Department Head after 4 years of service, and I was asked to lead the Department in the interim while we search for a new Department Head.

The Department has excellent momentum and the high-quality, caring **faculty and staff** make my job easy. I encourage you to read the entire newsletter to view the recent accomplishments of the faculty and students. Some of the highlights include promotions and awards of tenure: **Justin Shaffer** was promoted to Teaching Professor (Sp '23), while **Kevin Cash**, **Joseph Samaniuk**, and **Diego Gómez-Gualdrón** were all promoted to **Associate Professor with tenure** (Sp '22). Finally, we have very sad news that **Moises Carreon**, Fryrear Chair and Professor in CBE, **passed away on April 21, 2023**. We will miss him

This year we saw Kim Luzeckyj and Savannah Rodgers leave our [administrative staff](#). Carrie Artman and Katie Hurley were also hired.

Please join me in celebrating these and other accomplishments of our incredible faculty and students.

Dan Knauss

TOP STORIES



In memorium

With deep sorrow, the Mines Chemical and Biological Engineering Department shares the news of Moises Carreon's passing on April 21, 2023. Please visit the [memorial page of Moises Abraham Carreon](#) for more information and to share condolences with the family.



Upward Bound Math Science Program

Mines and Jeffco Public Schools' [Alameda International Junior/Senior High School](#) are launching a new federally-funded college preparatory program encouraging low-income and first-gen students in Colorado to continue their post-secondary education. [Read more »](#)



CBE wins big at Innov8x Challenge

The **Innov8x Global Energy Future Initiative (GEFI) Challenge** finals were held on Sept. 8. Team Green Ammonia Energy received the top prize of \$10,000. The **team consisted of CBE students** (left to right) Isabella Roszell, Nolan Kelley, Rok Sitar and Elizabeth Golonski, all of whom are advised by **Professor Colin Wolden**. [Read more »](#)



New online graduate certificate program

The Chemical Engineering Processes in Energy Transitions online certificate program consists of three courses: Chemical Engineering Flow Assurance, Advanced Electrochemical Engineering and Non-Geological CCUS: Capture & Utilization. For more information contact cbe@mines.edu.



graduates

The first cohort of the newly developed [online Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage \(CCUS\) certificate program](#) graduated in summer 2022.

[Read more »](#)



Chevron Corporation funds awarded to CBE for carbon capture

Professors [Michael Barankin](#) and [Jason Ganley](#) were awarded \$100,000 by [Chevron Corporation](#) for their unit operations experiment involving carbon capture.

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FACULTY NEWS



Farnsworth, Russ awarded JDRF strategic research agreement award for "Engineering nanocapsules for targeted drug delivery to the β -cell"

[Nikki Farnsworth](#) and her collaborator [Holger Russ](#) at the University of Florida have received \$900,000 from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation to



Boyle receives DOE funding for algal biofuels

Nanette Boyle is co-PI on one of 37 projects recently awarded a total of \$178M to **advance bioenergy technology by the DOE**. The project will bring \$1.1M to the **Boyle Lab** over the next five years.

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Farnsworth presents at Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation during Type 1 National Summit at Mines

The event for families of newly diagnosed patients allowed them to learn about the disease, while highlighting the research the JDRF funds and how it helped the patients. [Read more »](#)



Herring new Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives

As vice provost, **Andrew Herring** works closely with Provost Richard Holz to lead and direct **MINES@150 strategic and leadership initiatives** and serves as a strategic advisor and counsel to academic leadership. [Read more »](#)



Therapeutics win multiple awards

[GelSana Therapeutics](#) was selected to participate at the [TechConnect World Innovation Conference 2022 Medical Innovation Challenge](#), and [Melissa Krebs'](#) pitch was selected as one of the five winners. She also won first place at two other pitch events for GelSana Therapeutics this past year. [Read more »](#)

Faculty promotions, awards and honors

- [Rachel Morrish](#) was promoted to associate department head
- [Justin Shaffer](#) was promoted to full teaching professor and received the [Alfred E. Jenni Faculty Fellowship](#)
- [Melissa Krebs](#) won the [Women of Mines Leadership Award](#) and was also featured in [5280 Magazine](#). Krebs also received a \$360,000 grant from the NIH for her project titled "Extracellular Matrix Impacts Angiogenesis and Growth Plate Repair"
- [Alexander Pak](#) was awarded \$200,000 in NSF funding and \$395,000 in NIH funding for two separate projects
- [Kevin Cash](#), [Diego Gómez-Gualdrón](#) and [Joseph Samaniuk](#) were promoted to [associate professors](#)
- [John Jechura](#) provided an overview of octane on [9 News](#)
- [Kevin Cash](#) won the Scialog award for advancing bioimaging

[More faculty news »](#)

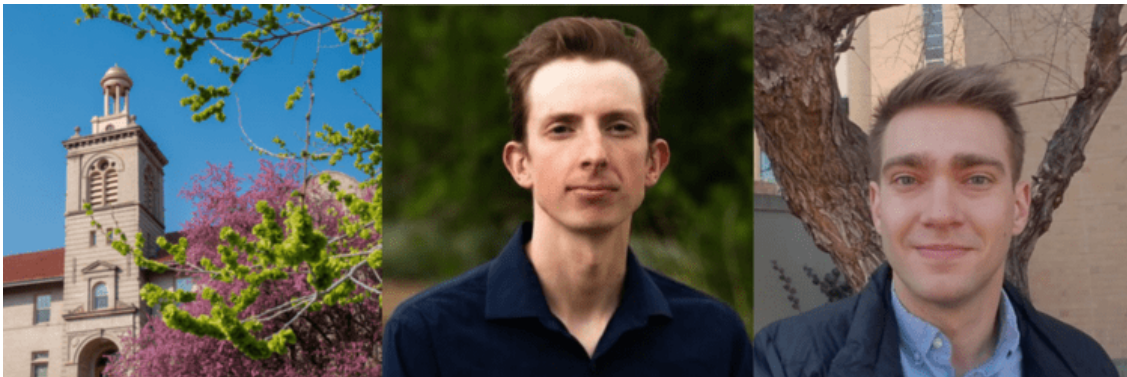
STUDENT NEWS



Jessica Lawson (left) was awarded the [NSF Graduate Research Fellowship \(GRF\)](#), Aryelle Wright (middle) and Adam Humpal (right) were honorable mentions. All students are advised by [Ramya Kumar](#).



Adrian Mendonsa (left) won 1st place and Keerthana Krishnan (right) was awarded with audience choice at the spring 2023 [3-Minute Thesis competition](#). Adrian Mendonsa also received the [DAAD Rise Pro Award](#) and won 1st place in the [Health and Life Sciences presentation at GRADS](#).



Michael Stager (left) and William Smith (right) won the Outstanding PhD Thesis Award. Stager was also nominated for the Spring 2023 Rath Award and



Collins publishes in *Nature*

Graduate student Jillian Collins, a fourth year student in the Farnsworth lab, recently published an article in *Nature* focusing on peer groups created during the pandemic. Collins also won the people's choice award for the best overall oral presentation for the GRADS symposium.

[Read more »](#)



Garcia wins NIH Predoctoral Fellowship

Graduate student Chelsea Garcia was awarded an [NIH NIDDK F31 Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Predoctoral Fellowship](#). She is a third-year PhD student in [Professor Farnsworth's lab](#). Garcia was also awarded "Best PhD Oral Presentation" at the Rocky Mountain Biomaterials Day on March 3.

[Read more »](#)

CBE graduate students awarded VPRTT Fellowships



Luc Christians from [Professor Alexander Pak's group](#) (left) and Michelle Nolan from [Professor Stephanie Kwon's group](#) (right) received VPRTT fellowships from the Materials Science Graduate Fellowship Program established by the NSF-funded ID4 (Institute for Data Driven Dynamical Design) initiative in May 2022.



Neil Reich (above), Nikita Komlev and Kaylee Beiler won scholarships from the [GPA Midstream Rocky Mountain Chapter](#).

Eve Wolvington received the [2021-22 Donald F. Othmer Second Year Student Academic Excellence Award](#).

In Fall 2022, three CBE students received the [Undergraduate Research Scholar Distinction](#): Sierra Schlussel, Jens Carter and Addison Berrier.

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We'd love to reconnect with alumni! Send us an email with your news and updates at CBE+Alumni@mines.edu.

We would also like to thank all of our alumni and friends who have donated to the department through the [MINES@150](#) and [#idigmines](#) campaigns or through separate donations. A gift to the Colorado School of Mines Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering is an investment in the future. To learn more about [supporting the department](#), contact the Mines Foundation.

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