

The latest news from Chemical and Biological Engineering at Mines.



Chemical and
Biological Engineering

Department E-newsletter Spring 2024

Faculty News



Stephanie Kwon awarded the NSF CAREER award for proposal titled "Molecular Imprinting Strategy to Rationally Design Porous Solid Acid Catalysts for C-C Coupling Chemistries"

Kwon's focus is on bottom-up designing catalysts to increase their effectiveness in converting raw biomass molecules to higher-value fuels and chemicals. This \$656,791 award will cover 5 years of research.

[Read more about Stephanie's award >>](#)



Promoted to Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Justin is a Teaching Professor in Chemical and Biological Engineering. He is also the Fryrear Chair for 2023-2026. Adding to his list of roles, he became Dean of Undergraduate Students at the start of 2024!

[Check out Justin on LinkedIn](#) for amazing teaching tips and innovative updates.

Tracy Gardner Wins Every Oredigger Award!

Thanks to a nomination by Dr. Kevin Cash, Professor Tracy Gardner was awarded an inaugural Every Oredigger Award! This award was presented to people who best represent the Every Oredigger Dimensions of Well-Being (Physical, Emotional, Environmental, Intellectual, Spiritual, and Financial Well-Being), and to those that strives to ensure everyone is successful at Mines. She's a true role model to all and we're lucky to have her in CBE!





Associate Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering

Melissa Krebs wins inaugural Mines Venture Fund I investment

GelSana Therapeutics is a biomaterials company founded by Melissa Krebs, associate professor of chemical and biological engineering. The company has received seed equity funding from Mines Venture Fund I, which it plans to use to push their product Cleragel to FDA registration and clinical market.

Congrats to Melissa and GelSana!

[You can read more about this story here >>](#)



**Stephanie Kwon
receives DOE SIPS award**



**Sumit Agarwal receives
DOE SIPS award**

Reactor/Receiver for Converting Solar
Energy to Fuels and Chemicals

DOE Award Amount: \$400,000

[Read more about this project and award here >](#)

Degrading Defects in Gallium-doped
Czochralski Silicon Solar Cells with Data-
Informed Modeling

DOE Award Amount: \$250,000

[Read more about this project and award here >](#)



**Anuj Chauhan received an R21 award
from the National Institutes of Health**

Titled "Nanobarrier contact lenses for mono and combination therapy for treating microbial keratitis." Currently, patients must instill eye drops frequently, even at night, to treat the infection. Our lenses will provide sustained high concentrations of antibiotics to treat the infection more effectively. This award is in collaboration with Professor Uday Kompella from CU Denver.

Our faculty is AMAZING!

Other notable awards this semester include:

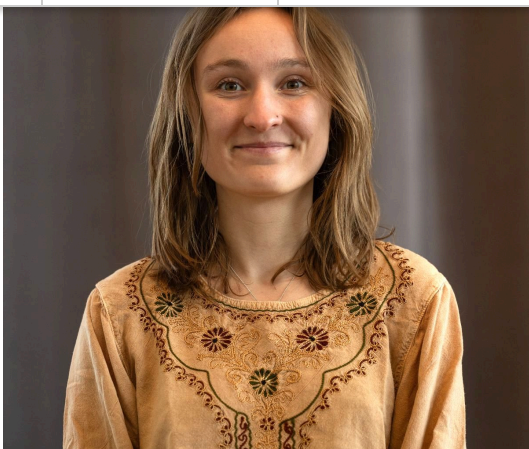
Carolyn Koh received the *University Distinguished Professor for 2023-2024*

John Jechura received the *Student Faculty Award*

Suzannah Beeler received the *Student Faculty Award*

Cynthia Norrgran received the *Board of Trustees Award*

Student News



earned the **Undergraduate Research Scholar Distinction!**

Isabella worked in Dr. Wolden's lab and was nominated and recognized for her incredible work this year.

Congrats Izzy!

Michelle Nolen has been selected by the Koerner Family Foundation (KFF) to receive a Ph.D. fellowship.

Michelle Nolen is a PhD Candidate in Chemical Engineering. Her research focus is catalyst design strategies to optimize CO₂ conversion. Her advisor is Stephanie Kwon, Assistant Professor of Chemical & Biological Engineering.

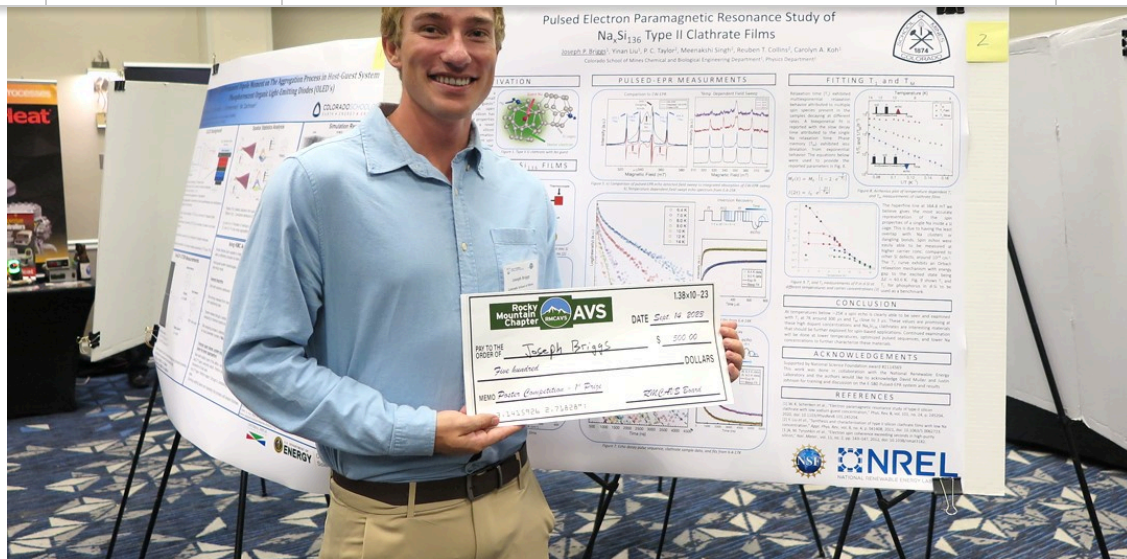


CBE Student Pamela Banuelos was awarded a Gilman International Scholarship to Study Abroad!

This is a nationally competitive award, and Pamela, a rising senior in the Chemical & Biological Engineering department, will be conducting an international research internship at the University of Augsburg in Augsburg, Germany this summer 2024.

[Read the press release here >>](#)





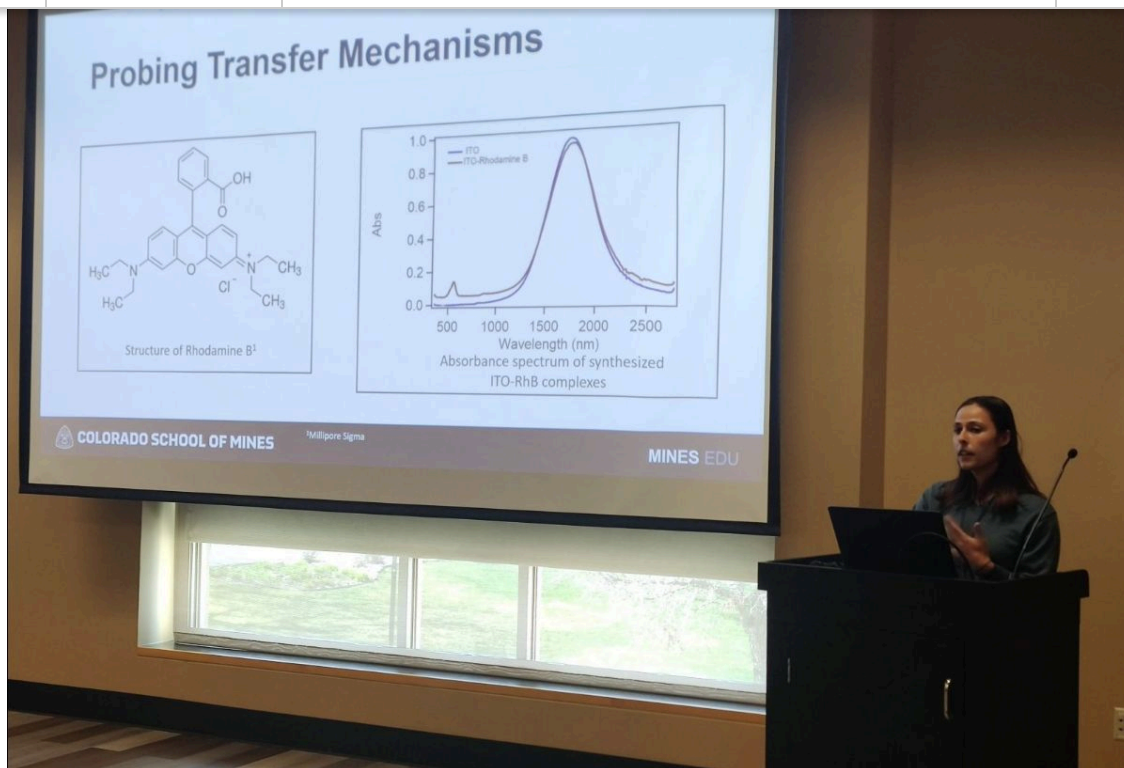
Joseph Briggs was awarded the best presenter at the Rocky Mountain Chapter AVS symposium.

Joseph is a PhD student in Carolyn Koh's research group.

GRADS Event

Graduate Research and Discovery Symposium

GRADS is an event designed by graduate students for graduate and undergraduate students doing cutting-edge research here at Mines.





Jillian Collins won 1st place in the Biological, Health and Social Sciences category. Jillian is in Dr. Farnsworth's research group.



Chelsea Johansen won People's Choice Award for her oral presentation. Chelsea is in Dr. Farnsworth's research group.



Student Awards for Spring 2024 Graduates

Outstanding Graduating Senior - **Quinn Reyes**

Harrison L Hays Awards - **Leah Bandy** and **Jackson Danley**

Pearson Potential Award - **Amber Flynn**

Selim Memorial Scholarship - **Eve Wolvington** and **Emma Neuroth**

Congrats to all our graduating seniors!





Commencement and Graduation!

Congrats to all the Chem E Graduate and Undergraduate students on your degree!



Department News

Chemical & Biological Engineering

23 DONORS



\$4,683.80 RAISED



Thank you to all donors and participants in our #iDigMines fundraising event this year!

We raised over \$4600, which will go towards scholarships to support students in our summer Field Session course. This money makes a huge difference for students and allows them to focus on their learning rather than where their funding is coming from.

Graduate Visit Days!

We had a blast hosting our potential future grad students as they learned about Mines and the Chemical and Biological Engineering Department. In conjunction with the Admissions office, we hosted tours, information sessions, research poster sessions, and events across three days, from February 29th to March 2nd. We hope to see some of these faces again in the fall!





***Want a brief overview of the
Chemical and Biological
Engineering Department and
its history at the Colorado
School of Mines?***

Some of our faculty published this article in the Chemical Engineering Education journal! Take a peek at what Nanette Boyle, Jason Ganley, Tracy Gardner, Dendy Sloan, and Charles Vestal put together by clicking the button below to see the full article.

**Read about the Chemical and Biological Engineering
Department at Mines from the CEE journal**

COLORADO SCHOOL OF
MINES

Career Center

presents

Alumni Spotlight Interview Series

Alumni Spotlight

In this interview **Patricia Lamminer (Chemical Engineering, '23)** shares her experience joining the mining industry, what it is like to make the transition from college to career as a woman in STEM with intersecting identities, and tips for other graduates as they transition to their own careers.

[Watch the full video here >>](#)

Do you have some news you'd like us to share in our next newsletter?

Send us an email at CBE@MINES.EDU

We love to feature alumni stories, faculty accomplishments and awards, and celebrate current students!

Follow us on LinkedIn for the most up to date news from CBE!

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