



NEWSLETTER

September 2024

Chemistry and Physics Department, Oxendine Science Building – Room 3101, Pembroke, NC 28372
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UNC Chemistry Visit

Dr. Marcey Waters from UNC Chemistry visited the department Friday, September 6th. She met with many students to talk about graduate and summer research programs at UNC. Dr. Waters provided a pizza lunch from 11:30 - 12:30 pm in the conference room and was available to talk with interested students from 12:30 - 1:20 pm. In addition, faculty met with Dr. Waters at 11 am and 1:30 pm.

Join Us to Learn about Chemistry at UNC Chapel Hill

Find out about

- Research Opportunities
- Summer Undergrad Research
- 1-Day Research Symposium
- Graduate School
- Stipends
- Fellowships
- Mentorship
- Grad School Application Process

What? Info session about opportunities for chem majors at UNC-CH

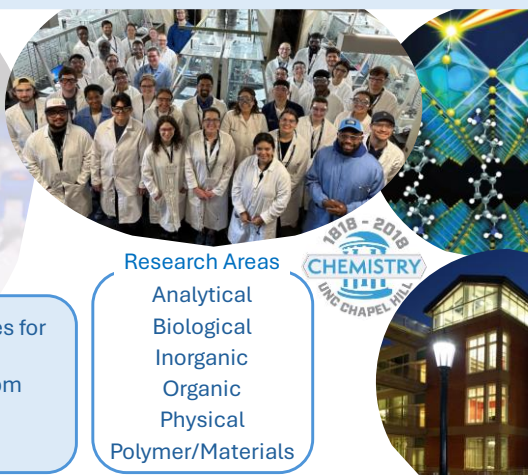
When? Friday Sept. 6, 11:30am-1:15pm

Where? Oxendine Science 3233

Pizza Provided!!!

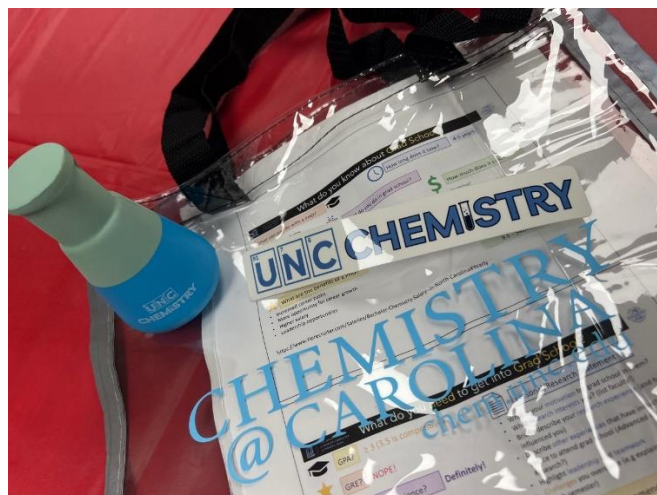
Research Areas

- Analytical
- Biological
- Inorganic
- Organic
- Physical
- Polymer/Materials





Drs. Siva Mandjiny, Marcey Waters, Rachel Smith



Swag Gifts

It was a pleasure to meet you, Dr. Waters, and see your passion for the research and your wonderful program.

UNCP Rocket Team



The UNCP high power Rocket Team is recruiting for the 2024 – 25 season. Students of all levels / majors are welcome. Meetings are held every Mondays and Fridays at 12:30 pm in room SCI 3233. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Steven Singletary.

The Chemours Company

Seven NSF COMPASS2 Scholars including three Chemistry majors, and two Chemistry faculty visited the Chemours Fayetteville Works site on Friday, September 20. Chemours produces Teflon™ found in nonstick cookware. During the tour of the facility, the students were able to see the different stages of the process of producing the Nafion™ membranes used in electrolysis of salt water to generate industrial chlorine and hydroxide as well as in fuel cells. Dr. Marcus Hunt who worked at the Chemours facility for the ten years prior to joining the UNCP Chemistry faculty helped explain the various applications to the students in attendance. He also showed the UNCP Chemistry, Biology, Environmental Science and Geo-Environmental majors the analytical instruments and explained the information about the product each can provide. The Chemistry majors were particularly interested in the analytical instrumentation since they had learned about some of these in their UNCP courses.



UNC Pembroke Industrial Luncheon

UNC Pembroke hosted an Industrial Luncheon on September 25, 2024, at the UNCP Thomas Entrepreneurship HUB located at 202 Main Street, Pembroke, NC 28372. The event ran from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm and lunch was provided by the Pembroke Tourism Authority. The purpose of this luncheon was to introduce local industry to the resources, programs, and opportunities that UNC Pembroke can provide to local industry. Dr. Steven Singletary from the Department of Chemistry & Physics provided a demonstration and information pertaining to Additive Manufacturing and UNCP's Pre-engineering Program. Other guest speakers were Dean Richard Gay (College of Arts & Sciences), Dean Mohamed Djerdjouri (the Thomas College of Business and Economics), and their teams.





Panel Participation for Braves Preview Day



The Office of Undergraduate Admissions hosted a Braves Preview Day on Thursday, September 26, in the James A. Thomas Hall Auditorium at 11 a.m. This event is a smaller version of our open house and is intended to provide a more intimate setting for our prospective students and guests. Dr. Siva Mandjiny served on the panel to provide a faculty member's prospective of UNCP and the many opportunities we have available. As part of his presentation to prospective students and their parents, he spoke about biotechnology, showed Dr. Steven Singletary's 3D printed samples and a rocket video.

The panel, consisting of current students, faculty, and alumni, aims to provide our guests with an introduction to UNCP and the value of being a student here.

Thank you, Dr. Mandjiny, for your willingness to participate in our "Up-Close with UNCP" panel as part of Braves Preview Day.

NC Region 4 Science Workshop for Science Teachers

UNC PEMBROKE

NC Region 4 Science Workshop

Sep. 26th, 5:00 - 7:00 PM

AGENDA:

- Introduction
- Rules and regulations for upcoming Fairs
- Required form
- Guidelines for the research project

Venue: UNC Pembroke
Oxendine Science Building
3rd Floor, Room # 3235

<https://ncsefreg4.stemwizard.com/>

Mark your Calendar.....

NORTH CAROLINA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR



The Chemistry and Physics Department at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP) organized a Science Workshop for K-12 teachers on September 26th at 5:00 p.m. in the Oxendine Science Building – Room 3235. The workshop served as a kickoff event for the upcoming North Carolina Region 4 Science and Engineering Fair, aiming to prepare and equip teachers with the necessary tools and knowledge for guiding students in the fair. The program was coordinated by Dr. Tikaram Neupane, Assistant Professor of Physics at UNCP, with support from Dr. Marcus Hunt (fair organizing committee), Mrs. Carolyn Oxendine, and Ms. Hope Bullock from Chemistry and Physics department. Dr. Rachel Smith, Chair of the Chemistry and Physics Department, delivered the welcoming address, providing attendees with an overview of the department and the various programs and courses available in chemistry and physics. Special guest speakers, Dr. Thomas Williams, Director of the NC Science and Engineering Fair, and Ms. Judy Day, former Director of the NC Science and Engineering Fair, shared valuable insights on the rules, regulations, and required forms for the fair. They also offered guidance on how to effectively advise students on research projects, ensuring that they meet the fair's standards. The workshop was sponsored by UNCP's Admissions Office. Faculty and staff were welcome to attend and engage with the science teachers from schools across our region.

Ritter's Recruits Walk to Defeat ALS – September 28, 2024

This is the ninth walk to defeat ALS! To be honest, Tim never expected to be around this long (<https://wpde.com/news/local/everyday-i-get-a-little-worse-north-myrtle-beach-man-opens-up-about-8-year-battle-with-als>); but he is certainly blessed that he could host yet another walk. This year's walk was at **11:30 AM Saturday, September 28, 2024**. Tim and Marie hosted both the walk and the party at their house. We will be having our usual much anticipated post walk party here at the house with catering by Mission BBQ, the ever-popular bouncy house and face painting for the kids, music, karaoke, a 50-50 raffle, a gift raffles, silent auction, and the Ritter's Recruits swag bag and T-shirts. Special guests: Emma Engel, WPDE new reporter, North Myrtle Beach Mayor Marilyn Hatley, and the Loris High School JROTC honor guard for the national anthem.

All proceeds to benefit the ALS Association South Carolina Chapter (<https://www.als.org/south-carolina>). Funds donated to the chapter will go toward helping persons living with ALS by providing financial assistance, needed medical equipment, research and various support activities. We certainly hope you can join us for this event as we raise money to help defeat ALS. We are truly blessed to be able to host this for one more year.

As you may know, in March 2015, Tim was diagnosed with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Eventually, people with ALS lose the ability to initiate and control muscle movement, which often leads to total paralysis and death within 2 - 5 years of diagnosis. For unknown reasons, veterans are twice as likely to develop ALS as the general population. There is no cure and currently only two drugs approved by the FDA that modestly extends survival by a few months. So far, the disease has been progressing slowly in my case but still....it progresses every day and he find himself on a ventilator 18 to 20 hours per day.



ALS is an always fatal neurodegenerative disease in which a person's brain loses connection with the muscles.

Every 90 minutes someone is diagnosed with or passes away from ALS

2 - 5 Years is the average life expectancy

What is ALS

There is **NO CURE!**

Annual cost of care \$250,000

Military veterans are twice as likely to be diagnosed with ALS than those who did not serve

People with ALS lose their ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe.

Ritter's Recruits Walk to Defeat ALS

WHEN: Saturday, September 28, 2024, 11:30 AM

WHERE: Cherry Grove, North Myrtle Beach

WHAT: Walk as little or as much as you want, then enjoy our post walk party.

WHO: Tim Ritter - tmritter13@gmail.com



What can you do to help?

Tim - Iraq 2010

Tim & Friends - 2023

- Come out and walk with us
- Make a donation
- Become a corporate sponsor for only \$100!
 - Your logo on our T-shirts
 - Your logo on our sponsors banner
 - Your business info in our swag bags
 - Your business name displayed prominently on our webpage

More information
Registration
Donation

Tim Ritter was diagnosed with ALS about ten years ago, and he organized the walk in North Myrtle Beach. His team is called "Ritters Recruits", and he said his team has raised around \$28,000 so far and thinks it will hit more than \$30,000 after the event.

Ritter said, "I had 215 people sign up, which is a new record for us."

He said he was overwhelmed by all the support from the community.

He said, "It brings tears to my eyes quite literally. I have people here that live in the neighborhood, I have people here that have come from Colorado, and lots of states in between. It's just amazing, I can't express how overwhelmed I am."



Grand Strand community rallies at annual ALS Walk; raises \$28K+

The ALS association had their annual walk to defeat ALS on the grand strand according to the ALS association—around 30,000 people have the rare disease right now.

wpde.com