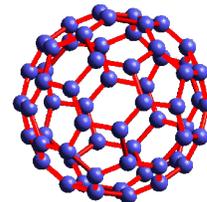




**BARNARD COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
MEMORANDUM**



To: Chemistry and Biochemistry Majors and Interested Students
From: Rachel Narehood Austin, Chair
Re: The 2018-19 Academic Year
Date: August 6, 2018

Welcome back. I hope you all had enjoyable, interesting, and restorative summers. On behalf of the members of Chemistry Department, I welcome you back for the new academic year. We had a productive and fun research-filled summer and are looking forward to another exciting year with you all. Abstracts of student work from this summer are posted on the 8th floor and posters from the summer research institute (SRI) poster session are scattered around our department. Take a moment to read about the work that your colleagues are doing in our department!

Welcome to Professor Chatterjee. Professor Chatterjee joins us for the year. He is replacing Professor Vizcarra who is on a pre-tenure leave and who will not be teaching this year. Professor Chatterjee will be teaching general chemistry labs in the fall and biochemistry 2 and biochemistry lab in the spring. His office is tucked into the north side of 813. Please stop by and introduce yourself to him at some point. He was a visiting professor at Reed College last year, teaching similar courses, so we're delighted he brings teaching experience from another liberal arts college with a very strong chemistry program to his work at Barnard.

Transitions. Professor Mary Sever will be leaving Barnard at the end of this academic year. She has been an amazing colleague, mentor, scientist, and teacher and she will be sorely missed by all of us. She leaves having the full support and respect of her departmental colleagues. We will be interviewing candidates to fill our second biochemist position this fall. We would very much like students to attend the lectures the candidates give and to provide us with feedback. We will provide more information on these interviews in October. Please keep an eye on our webpage and emails from the department.

Fall luncheon. Our fall luncheon is tentatively scheduled **Monday, October 29th, 12–2 p.m.**, in Sulzberger Parlor (3rd floor Barnard Hall). The department luncheon is a good opportunity for majors and prospective majors (and other chemophiles) to mingle with faculty and each other. In addition to lunch and advising, we will have an interesting outside speaker. We will provide additional information later in the semester.

Fall open house. The Barnard Student Chemical Society and members of the department will be jointly hosting an open house in Altschul 806 on **Wednesday September 5th from 12-1pm**. All are welcome. Please come and ask questions or come and provide answers. We are eager to make the department a welcoming place for all.

“What did you do this summer?” The department will host a Summer Science Symposium in which everyone will be invited to share the work that they did this summer (and for students who were abroad last year, during the last academic year as well). Professors Rojas and Campbell are organizing this event that will be **Wednesday, September 26th, 6-7 pm** in Altschul 806.

Student organized inclusive pedagogy workshop. Barnard students, with support from the college, have organized the Bold Conference, which will be held on September 21st. There are

fliers posted around the department. It sounds like a great event and we hope many chemists and biochemists will participate.

Seminar/study room. Room 806 is available as a study room. Although it is often reserved for classes, office hours, and help sessions, there are free times during the week when it can be used by individual students and/or groups of students. A weekly schedule for the room is posted on the door. If you would like to reserve 806 Altschul, consult the weekly schedule and contact Department Administrator **Laura Hendrickson** (lhendric@barnard.edu, Altschul 608).

Computer room. 603 Altschul is your stop for computer work. We have many workstations, including several Macs. In terms of priority, sometimes several or all computers may be reserved for a course. Additionally, students working on chemistry-related projects take precedence. However, when available, you are welcome to use the computers for other work. Remember that the health of these computers depends on the vigilance of the users: never open attachments unless you know them to be legitimate. Please save files in a folder with your name in the "Student Documents" folder. Files left elsewhere will be deleted. It's always a good idea to back up your work. Remember also that food and drink are *expressly prohibited* in this room. Anyone who violates this policy will be denied access. If a computer or printer is not working properly, please tell Laura Hendrickson in 608 Altschul (lhendric@barnard.edu). Please do not print lengthy documents unrelated to chemistry. Leave your workspace clean and tidy when you leave. When you are finished, shut down the computer.

Bulletin boards. Notices for seminars, graduate schools, and job opportunities (summer and permanent) are posted on the bulletin boards in the department. Seminar notices and notices for full- and part-time jobs and summer opportunities are posted on the 8th floor. The 7th-floor boards display selected graduate and professional school posters. In addition, other notices of interest to majors may also be posted on the chemistry department board in Altschul lobby opposite the elevators. Also check the department web page chemistry.barnard.edu.

Graduate and professional school. Fall is the season for applying to graduate schools. Many posters for graduate and professional programs are posted on the 7th and 8th floors. Perhaps even more useful for comparing graduate programs and finding information on individual faculty is the American Chemical Society's *Directory of Graduate Research*: <http://dgr.rints.com/>. External fellowship and scholarship opportunities for students applying to graduate school can be found on the department website: [Student Resources](#). We also have new pathways for 4 + 1 engineering pathways that allow Barnard students to complete their undergraduate degree at Barnard and then continue onto Columbia for a 1 year masters degree program in chemical engineering. There is a similar pathway for students interested in biomedical engineering. See our web site for more <https://gradengineering.columbia.edu/graduate-admissions/apply> Beyond Barnard is also now available to help students with life outside of Barnard. If you have not yet visited the center, please find time to go over and see what they have to <https://barnard.edu/beyond-barnard>.

Summer internships for 2019. It is not too early to start thinking about Summer 2019 opportunities, at Barnard and elsewhere. Many colleges and universities have REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) programs, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF). We maintain a list of summer internship programs on the department website: <https://chemistry.barnard.edu/scholarships>. Also check the chemistry department bulletin board on the 8th floor. Notices start to arrive in the fall and continue to arrive throughout the year. Application deadlines vary, so check the websites and bulletin board frequently. The Barnard chemistry summer research program will announce opportunities early in the spring semester.

Jobs. All Barnard jobs are now posted on [Student Employment](#). If you have been hired to work in the department, you will first need to fill out I-9 and W-4 forms with the Office of Career Development (OCD) if you have not done so previously. After that, please give our Department

Assistant, **Joanna Chisolm** (jchisolm@barnard.edu, Altschul 504A), the following information: your name, the job position, your primary supervisor, and the approximate number of hours/week that you will be working (not to exceed 15 hours/week).

Student contact information. We pride ourselves on keeping in touch with our majors. Please e-mail Joanna Chisolm (jchisolm@barnard.edu), or stop by her office (504A Altschul) to check that we have your correct (1) student mailbox number, (2) phone number, and (3) e-mail address. This is especially important if you are not listed in Barnard's on-line directory.

Tutors. We are always looking for students who are interested in tutoring for general chemistry and organic chemistry. Tutoring is a great way to help support Barnard students interested in chemistry and an excellent way to refresh and deepen your own knowledge of chemistry. Tutoring is done for 1-2 hours per week for groups of 2 or 3 students. As a tutor, you can set hours that work for you and get paid. If you are interested, please apply on the Dean of Studies website.

Last but not least. We, the chemistry faculty, are happy to help you if you have any questions or problems. Although we cannot always solve every problem, we will do our best. Particularly as department chair, I am here to hear about any concerns you may have. I am available to meet privately; please do not hesitate to make an appointment with me. We all are proud of our department – faculty, staff, and students – and look forward to a successful and enjoyable year together.