

We are excited to welcome applications for our Assistant Professor position in Organic Chemistry. Please apply via the University of Richmond Human Relations website here: <https://richmond.csod.com/ats/careersite/JobDetails.aspx?site=1&id=2061>

The University of Richmond is a Predominantly Undergraduate Institution (PUI) and the highest degree awarded by the Department of Chemistry is the Bachelor of Science. More information about our department and its associated programs can be found below.

Devotion to Teaching

In support of the mission of the University of Richmond, the Department of Chemistry fosters scientific literacy in all students. The goal of our program is to promote all students' ability to think critically and analytically and to communicate their knowledge of scientific issues effectively. We achieve this objective through small class sizes (typically 10-30 students) and substantial opportunities for one-on-one interaction between faculty and students, including research and informal mentoring activities.

Introductory chemistry courses provide a scientific foundation for our majors (including [chemistry majors](#) and [biochemistry and molecular biology](#) majors) as well as pre-professional students and students who major in other sciences. We engage non-science majors in [applied courses](#) that focus on a variety of chemistry-related themes, including chemistry and cooking, art and science, and forensics. [Upper level courses and advanced electives](#) expand the breadth of our majors' experience, including courses in organic reaction mechanisms, organic synthesis, medicinal chemistry, synthetic methods, energy, organometallics, spectroscopy, and chemical biology.

Development and implementation of our general chemistry, organic chemistry, and inorganic chemistry laboratory sequences are overseen by two Ph.D.-level faculty directors, who work beside tenure-stream faculty to teach and design effective, innovative laboratory experiences.

Importantly, our teaching spills over into the research laboratory where undergraduates both train in modern techniques and perform the experiments that advance our science, both during the academic year and the summer research period.

In the classroom and the laboratory, we endeavor to create a supportive community that is committed to helping all students thrive.

Interdisciplinary Programs

The [Integrated Inclusive Science \(IIS\) program](#) is designed to attract STEM-interested students early in their college careers, particularly those who are underrepresented in the sciences, then encourage and support their inclusion in STEM disciplines. Through

interdisciplinary coursework, faculty-mentored research experiences, and the development of a close-knit community of peers and faculty, the IIS program prepares students to tackle upper-level science courses and to pursue graduate study, medical school, or other careers in STEM fields. The cornerstone of the IIS program is the two-semester SMART sequence, a course for first-year students that combines biology, chemistry, and math to study the topics like antibiotic resistance and HIV from an interdisciplinary perspective. The course is taught by faculty from multiple disciplines and concludes with a paid summer research experience with a UR faculty member.

In addition to the IIS program, the Department of Chemistry partners with the Department of Biology to oversee the [Biochemistry and Molecular Biology](#) program. This interdisciplinary major feature many courses found in the individual Biology and Chemistry programs plus a number of upper-level classes geared specifically to students interested in the interface of the two fields.

Commitment to Research with Undergraduates

The University of Richmond and the Department of Chemistry provide extraordinary support for undergraduate research experiences throughout the academic year and during an intensive summer research period each year. Our faculty oversee a variety of exciting research programs, both individually and through collaborations, that have led to many recent [publications](#) and [grants](#).

Our [suite of instrumentation](#), which includes three high-field NMR spectrometers and is managed and maintained by a Ph.D. Director of Instrumentation, rivals the facilities of larger research universities.

This vibrant research program draws large numbers of undergraduate researchers each year. Our annual ten-week summer research period provides a striking example of institutional and external support:

In summer 2019, the Department of Chemistry housed 57 undergraduate researchers in 15 UR faculty labs.

23 researchers were supported by internal Department of Chemistry funds.

21 researchers were supported by internal College of Arts & Sciences funds.

12 researchers were supported by external funds through grants to faculty members.



Summer Research at UR Chemistry, 2019

In summer 2018, the Department of Chemistry housed 58 undergraduate researchers in 14 UR faculty labs.

25 researchers were supported by internal Department of Chemistry funds.

20 researchers were supported by internal College of Arts & Sciences funds.

13 researchers were supported by external funds through grants to faculty members.

In summer 2017, the Department of Chemistry housed 69 undergraduate researchers in 13 UR faculty labs.

20 researchers were supported by internal Department of Chemistry funds.

30 researchers were supported by internal College of Arts & Sciences funds.

19 researchers were supported by external funds through grants to faculty members.

Expectations

The successful candidate can expect to contribute either a 3/2 or 2/3 teaching load each academic year, including of a mixture of organic chemistry lecture sections (20-30 students) and organic chemistry laboratory sections (12-20 students) during the 2021-2022 session. Opportunities to teach and design other courses will follow in subsequent terms. During the first year, the assistant professor will begin to assemble a research group of undergraduates and will mentor those students during the summer research periods and future academic

terms, with the long-term goals of securing external funding and publishing high-quality research with undergraduate coauthors.

Tentative Timeline

Review of applications will begin on October 30, 2020. We anticipate on-campus interviews for selected candidates will occur in early 2021.

The official advertisement for this position can be found at <https://richmond.csod.com/ats/careersite/JobDetails.aspx?site=1&id=2061>.

Queries should be directed to Wade Downey, Search Committee Chair, at wdowney@richmond.edu.