

COMMENCEMENT



CHEMISTRY

Department Ceremony

Saturday, May 14th, 3 p.m.

Hawkins-Carlson Room, Rush Rhees Library



UNIVERSITY *of*
ROCHESTER

For links to schedules, live streams and more information, please visit:
www.sas.rochester.edu/chm/news-events/commencement/2022.html
& www.rochester.edu/commencement



PROGRAM

Prelude

Fred P. DiCesare,

Retired Greece Music Educator (37 years)

Eastman School of Music 1970

Processional

"Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1"

composed by Edward Elgar

Chair's Welcome & Introduction

Todd D. Krauss,

Professor of Chemistry and Chair

UNDERGRADUATE CHEMISTRY AWARDS

Dr. E. W. and Maude V. Flagg Award

Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly

This award, established in 1982 as an endowed fund by Dr. John J. Flagg, '36, recognizes outstanding performance and promise in chemistry by an undergraduate student. A faculty committee appointed by the Chair of the Department of Chemistry selects the recipient. This award consists of a cash prize, as well as a certificate of recognition from the department.

John McCreary Memorial Prize

Yahia Ali

The John McCreary Memorial Fund was established in 1985 in tribute to the high academic and scientific standards, and to the personal dedication of John James McCreary. McCreary received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry with High Distinction from the University of Rochester in 1975. John's career maintained its exemplary character until his untimely death in 1983. The award, given to an outstanding senior undergraduate student, consists of a cash prize and certificate.

American Chemical Society (ACS) Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry, Rochester Section Award

Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly

This award is given to a senior with an outstanding academic record and consists of a cash prize, certificate, recognition at the ACS Annual Rochester Section Undergraduate Research Symposium in the spring, and the inclusion of the Awardee's name on a plaque in the department.

American Chemical Society (ACS) Inorganic Chemistry Award

Elliot Silk

This award is given to a student who is selected by the faculty on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in inorganic chemistry. The award consists of a cash prize, certificate, and listing on the ACS website.

American Chemical Society (ACS) Organic Chemistry Award

Yahia Ali

This award is given to a student who is selected by the faculty on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in organic chemistry. The award consists of a cash prize, certificate, and listing on the ACS website.

American Chemical Society (ACS) Physical Chemistry Award

Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly

This award is given to a student who is selected by the faculty on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in physical chemistry, and to encourage further pursuits in the field. The award consists of a cash prize, certificate, and listing on the ACS website.

American Chemical Society (ACS) Analytical Chemistry Award

Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly

This award is intended to encourage student interest in analytical chemistry and to recognize students who display an aptitude for a career in the field. The award consists of a personalized certificate and souvenir item from ACS, as well as a cash prize and certificate from the department.

CHEMISTRY AWARDS CON'T

Carl A. Whiteman, Jr. Teaching Award

Yahia Ali
Anca Frasineanu
Lauren Lopez
Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly
Ryan Pohorenec

This award recognizes exemplary teaching by an undergraduate student in the Department of Chemistry. Carl Whiteman graduated from the University of Rochester in 1950 (B.S., Physics) and worked continuously in the Chemistry Department until his retirement in 1986. His enthusiasm and dedication to laboratory teaching made him a legendary figure among undergraduate chemistry majors. Carl continued his association with us until his death in 2007. This honor recognizes Carl's teaching excellence, as well as that of the recipients who receive a cash award, along with a certificate of recognition from the Department of Chemistry.

Chemistry Department Award

Daniel Carstairs
Anca Frasineanu
Lauren Lopez
Ryan Pohorenec
Elliot Silk

The Chemistry Department Award is given to seniors in recognition of outstanding scholarship in the study of chemistry. The award consists of a cash prize and a certificate of recognition.

COLLEGE AWARDS

Janet Howell Clark Prize

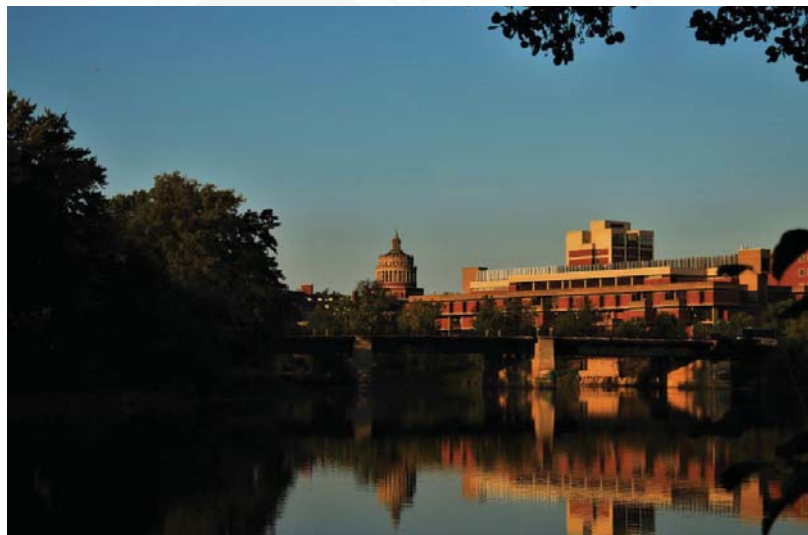
Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly

The Janet Howell Clark Prize is awarded to senior women who have shown the greatest promise in creative work in one of the following fields - Physics, Chemistry, Biology, or Astronomy - and has shown outstanding versatility in the mastery of allied fields. The award consists of a cash prize and recognition at a special senior ceremony.

Catherine Block Memorial Fund Prize

Xijue (Jade) Wu & Ellen Irving

The Catherine Block Memorial Fund Prize, established in memory of Catherine Block, an exceptional Chemistry student here at the University, is awarded each year to a woman in the Junior class in recognition of her outstanding ability and achievement in the field of science. The award consists of a cash prize and Kaelyn will be recognized at the Chemistry Department fall awards ceremony.

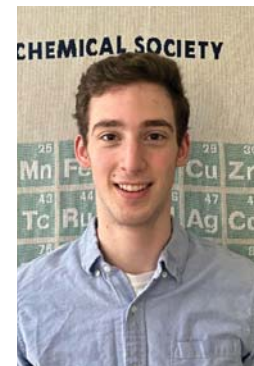




Special Thanks TO OUR PEER ADVISORS



Anca Gabriela Frasineanu



Ryan Pohorenc

We'd like to thank two of our seniors, Anca and Ryan, for being Chemistry Peer Advisors for the 2021-2022 academic year. They received training from CCAS and were always willing to help other students plan their courses, connect with faculty, or help find research opportunities. With the help of these talented students, another layer of student support has been added to the Chemistry Department.

We are all grateful for their contribution to the department during this challenging year. Best of luck to you with whatever your bright futures hold!

AWARDED GRADUATE DEGREES

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Ronald Adukure
Medina Afandiyeva
Nathalia Cajiao
Ignacio Camarero Temino
Chayan Carmenate Rodriguez
Rachel Garwick
Magali Gimeno
Ignacio Gustin
Dalton Hanaway
Christopher Hastings
Eric Koessler

Ryan Kosko
Kaye Kuphal
Alexa LaPierre
Robert Lewis
Kacie Malyk
Caitlyn McNichol
Aurodeep Panda
Joshua Ruby
Mary Siriboe
Bevan Whithead
Wenxiang Ying

DOCTORAL DEGREES (PH.D.)

Jose Luis Alvarez Hernandez
David A. Brewster
Nicole M. B. Cogan
Cody E. Fagan
Xinyang Li
Ningyu Liu
Arkajit Mandal
Analuz Mark

Leopoldo Mejía Restrepo
Rachel Linette Meyer
Jeffrey Deupree Sears
Mehrin Binth -E- Tariq
Andrew I. VanderWeide
Liwei Wang
Nikki Jo Wolford

PRESENTATION OF UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

Anca Frasineanu ^{3 MCL}
Jenna Jeffway
Gloria Kim ¹
Eleanor Mancusi-Ungaro

Madalayne Martin-Olenski ^{3 MCL}
Collin Murphy
Isabella Orup ^{2 CL}
Den Khi (Diana) Son
Katherine Stankevich ^{** 2 CL}

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)

Yahia Ali ^{3 CL}
Daniel Carstairs ^{† 2 CL}
Lauren Lopez ¹
Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly ^{† 3 CL}

Yueheng Min ¹
Ryan Pohorenec ^{2 CL}
Elliot Silk ²

¹Distinction ²High Distinction ³Highest Distinction
[†]Phi Beta Kappa ^{CL}Cum Laude ^{MCL}Magna Cum Laude ^{MCL}Summa Cum Laude
^{*} Take Five Scholar (beginning) ^{**} Take Five Scholar (finishing)

CLASS OF 2022



Yahia Ali

Chemistry B.S.

My chemical journey started in CSB 209. I sat in the back with a group of close friends and had the pleasure of listening to Professor Dinnocenzo's meticulously organized lectures, and later in the second semester, Professor Frontier's passionate, mildly chaotic ones. During one of the office hours for CHEM 172, I asked Professor Frontier about the possibility of joining her lab to do research, and a couple of months later I started working in her lab, primarily on developing a carbo-Nazarov cyclization cascade reaction. I spent the rest of my time at UR working in her lab, and was given quite a bit of independence, along with a commensurate amount of support for which I am grateful. So, I owe a lot to the first-year organic chemistry class, and I tried, in my two years as a workshop leader for the class, to make it as wonderful and rewarding an experience for my students as it was for me. I had the pleasure of dedicating even more time to teaching as vice president of the Undergraduate Chemistry Council, and as a workshop leader for Prof. Kennedy's advanced organic chemistry course. Along the way, I picked up a Carl A. Whiteman's Teaching award, along with an ACS organic chemistry award and the Dean Marvin research fellowship. Hoping to enjoy a lifetime of learning and teaching, I plan to pursue a PhD in chemistry next fall at the University of Chicago. My deepest gratitude goes out to the wonderful mentors I have had, and to the delightful friends I made.



Daniel Carstairs

Chemistry B.S.

Music B.A.

I began my undergraduate chemistry research with Professor Franco during my second year. During this time, we worked on developing fundamental skills for application in computational chemistry fields. Immediately following my return to campus in Fall 2020, I began my work with Professor Paradine in copper-catalyzed cyclization reactions culminating in my senior thesis. In the summer of 2021, I was awarded the ACS-SURF fellowship and consulted with professionals in the pharmaceutical industry on my research project. After graduation, I will begin my PhD in Organic Chemistry at the University of Chicago in Fall 2022. I would like to thank my friends, Professor Paradine, Professor Franco, my lab mates, my grandparents, sister, and parents whose support was invaluable and without them I would not be where I am today.



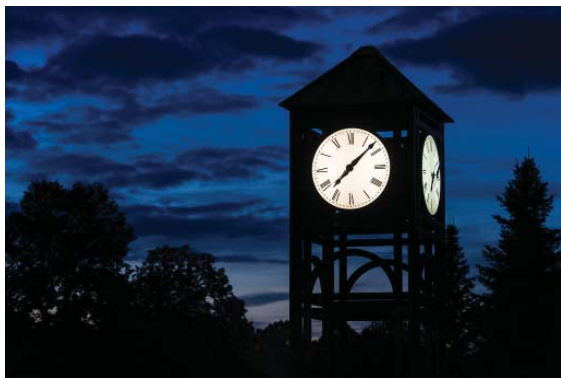


Anca Frasinianu

Chemistry B.A
Molecular Genetics B.S.

My undergraduate experience in the Chemistry Department has been an amazing period of growth both personally and academically. After taking Organic Chemistry with outstanding Professors Dinnocenzo and

Frontier, I had the opportunity to work in Dr. Frontier's lab on the synthesis of unusual, densely functionalized ring systems using the halo-Nazarov reaction, during my sophomore year. Despite this wonderful experience, I realized Molecular Genetics research was more where my interests lay and I joined Professor Gorbunova and Professor Seluanov's group where I have been working on analyzing mice's response to irradiation in different genetic backgrounds. I am truly grateful to both labs' members for giving me this opportunity and enthusiastically answering my questions. I am particularly grateful to Shukree Abdul-Rashed and Dr. Matt Simon for their continuous mentorship. I was also a workshop leader for Organic Chemistry and Physical Chemistry II, which gave me the opportunity to show other students why chemistry is so awesome. I am extremely grateful for all the people I've met during the past four years and I want to thank all of my professors for inspiring me and teaching us chemistry in such a unique and fascinating way. I also want to thank my family and friends, who have all given me so much support and love over the years. In the fall, I will be attending graduate school to pursue a PhD in Biomedical Sciences, potentially within the Biological Chemistry track.



Jenna Jeffway

Chemistry B.A.

During my time at the University of Rochester, I have gone through much personal growth and learned to adapt to difficult circumstances. I had the opportunity to be a teaching assistant for general chemistry my sophomore year, spending one semester as a

workshop leader and the following as a laboratory TA. I also began my job at Carlson Library. However, I made the difficult decision to take a leave of absence from school the following year due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on my life. I made the most of this period by working full-time as a clinical laboratory technician in specimen management services for URM along with taking classes at Monroe Community College. As a result of my efforts, I am now able to graduate and begin my career.



Gloria Kim

Chemistry B.A.

During my senior year at UR I've enjoyed working as the Korean tutor for the Language Center. I also had the wonderful experience of being a part of the Bren lab, working on photochemical hydrogen evolution with CoMC6*a. I would like to thank

the Bren lab for all the support and letting me use the break room as a study space, I appreciate you all.



Lauren Lopez

Chemistry B.S.
History B.A.

The University of Rochester was certainly a place where I was provided the opportunity to explore my many different passions. Along with a BS in Chemistry, I will also be receiving a BA in History. Early on in my time here at

the University, I found a passion for teaching through my work as a LEAP Tutor with the Rochester Center for Community Leadership (RCCL). I became a TA for the CHEM 131 and CHEM 132 class in hopes of helping students transition to life in college through arguably the most challenging year. Additionally, in the summer of 2020 I was an Urban Fellow through RCCL where I assisted a local school, Allendale Columbia, to transition their summer enrichment program into a fully remote format given the COVID-19 pandemic. In the Chemistry Department, I have conducted research with Professor Ellen Matson working on a DOE funded actinide project studying the 5f and 6d orbitals in metal to ligand charge transfer processes. In the summer of 2021, I was awarded the Dean Marvin Summer Research Fellowship as well as the ACS Bridge Travel & Career/Professional Development Award. In the Fall of 2021, I became the Undergraduate Representative for the University's SACNAS chapter and I sit on the Cultural Awareness subcommittee for the Department's DEI committee. After graduation, I will be attending Purdue University to pursue a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry. I would like to thank Professor Matson and the entirety of the Matson lab for their never-ending support and guidance. They have become like family to me and I will forever hold them close to my heart. Additionally, I would like to thank Brett Hakey, Ph.D. for his patience in mentoring and training me when I first began in the Matson lab. Lastly, I would like to thank my family for their support and love from 2,000 miles away. Thank you for believing in me and encouraging me to pursue my dreams



Eleanor Mancusi-ungaro

Chemistry B.A.
Environmental Science B.S.

Over the last four years, I've been exploring every division of chemistry available here, and thanks to the support of my professors in the Chemistry Department, especially Professor Rothberg, I will be attending

George Washington University in the fall for a graduate program in green and environmental chemistry. Outside of the lab and the classroom, I've been involved with mock trial, competing regionally and nationally alongside fellow chemistry majors Dalton Hanaway ('21, MS '22) and Aliza Panjwani ('23). I've also competed on the varsity rowing team for the last four years, captaining the women's team my junior year. My freshman year, I was recognized along with chemistry major Isabella Orup ('22), as a promising first-year rower. This fall, I was named a 2021 Garnish Scholar for my achievements on and off the field, which included two years as a First-Year Fellow, TAing for both the chemistry and environmental science department, and four years of study at the Eastman School of Music. Besides my professors, I would also like to recognize my CHEM 234W lab partner, Madalyne Martin-Olenski, as being the only person I would redo a polymerization lab for.





Madalayne Martin-Olenski

Chemistry B.A.

History B.A.

I have enjoyed my time at UR, but not more than I enjoy a Costco hotdog. In addition to my chemistry degree, I also completed a major in history, minor in biology, and cluster in Mandarin. I completed two semesters

of independent study with Dr. Mical Raz researching transgender health in the 20th century, especially issues of consent in gender affirming care for trans children. I recently published an op-ed in the Democrat and Chronicle about the dangers of recent anti-LGBTQ legislation in the United States. Since sophomore year, I have led workshops for several chemistry and biology courses. I worked as an archival researcher at the Rare Books Library and was an editor for the Campus Times. I also teach international high school students and mentor their transition to schooling in the US. This year, I worked as an Emergency Department Research Associate at URMC. Beyond campus, I work at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia with Dr. Gregory Tasian in pediatric urology. I have presented applications of machine learning to spina bifida patient care and have two publications, including a first author. Before attending medical school, I will work as a clinical research coordinator for two years. I then plan to pursue a career in transgender medicine and health policy.



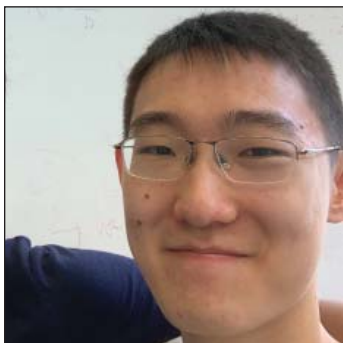
Kaelyn McFarlane-Connelly

Chemistry B.S.

Starting from my first chemistry course at the University of Rochester, I have been extremely fortunate to meet fantastic classmates and professors. The friends I made in that course have stuck with me through the ups and downs of chemistry and science and

have continued to be the people I turn to when analyzing NMR. For most of my time here, I have been doing research in the Krauss Lab studying the synthesis and applications of semiconductor nanocrystals. Bouncing from project to project, and being given probably a little too much independence, was a great learning experience that will help me in my years in lab to come. Additionally, I served as a TA for many of the chemistry courses and tutored as the president of the Undergraduate Chemistry Council. I would like to take this time to apologize to my incredible students who are probably sick of me teaching them. I am honored to have been awarded a Goldwater Scholarship, Catherine Block memorial prize, and two Dean Martin research fellowships and incredibly thankful to the graduate students in the Krauss lab, many professors, and peers who helped me along the way. Looking forward, I plan to pursue a PhD in chemistry and continue teaching and research.





Yueheng Min

Chemistry B.S.

At the University of Rochester, I was an organic chemistry lab TA for Dr. Toder and Dr. Olsen. I enjoyed the teaching the supervising experience and I met great peers and colleagues there. I worked in Franco's lab to explore how electric fields can affect the reactivity of

an Iridium complex using computational chemistry. It opened the door of computational chemistry for me and I love to have this tool with me in exploring chemistry. Now I am working in Jone's lab on the synthesis of photoswitch. Outside chemistry, I also enjoy learning psychology, especially motivation and social psychology. I am also a big game nerd. For the past three years, I am a member of the UR Esports, and I have a great team to play collegiate or competitive tournaments together.



Isabella M. Orup

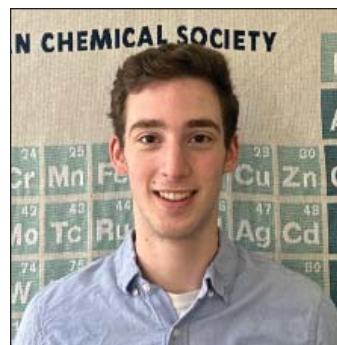
Chemistry B.A.

Biological Sciences B.S.

Business B.A.

I am graduating from the University of Rochester with a BS in Biological Sciences, BA in Chemistry, and BA in Business. During my time as an undergraduate, I worked at the Ovitt

Lab in the Center for Oral Biology within the Medical Center focusing on salivary gland regeneration. I studied effects of different injury models on mouse salivary glands as well as the regeneration capabilities of ionocytes. I have worked as a genetics teaching assistant for Dr. Brisson and as a study group leader. Within the Chemistry Department, I have worked as a workshop leader for Organic Chemistry I and II with professors Niziol and Hafensteiner. After graduation, I plan on pursuing a career in Dentistry. I would like to thank my professors, friends, and especially my family.



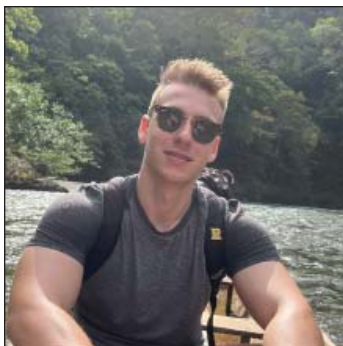
Ryan Pohorenec

Chemistry B.S.

Arriving at the UofR as a Bausch & Lomb Science Scholar 4 years ago, I am now graduating with a B.S. in chemistry and intend to remain here to take advantage of our 5th year master's program. I had the great pleasure of serving as a teaching assistant for

general chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry over 6 semesters. These experiences uncovered a passion for teaching that I hope to pursue in my professional career. I began my involvement with organometallic research during my sophomore year under the supervision of Dr. William Jones with funding provided by the Dean and Laura Marvin Scholarship. My gratitude to my fellow group members and Dr. Jones for their support and guidance cannot be overstated. I had intended to pursue medicine throughout undergrad, and time spent with research in the chemistry department and the emergency department at Strong Memorial Hospital leads me to seek additional training as an MD-PhD.





Elliot Silk

Chemistry B.S.

I am grateful for the teaching, research, and outreach opportunities the University of Rochester has provided. I have been a teaching assistant for Honors Organic Chemistry Lab (CHM 210; Bruce Toder), Inorganic Chemistry (CHM 211; Prof. Mike Neidig), and

Chemical Instrumentation (CHM 231; Prof. Dave McCamant) over the course of my time here. During the Summer of 2019, I worked at the University of Michigan under Prof. Nicolai Lehnert, focusing on using heme porphyrins as model complexes for biological enzymes. Following this, I worked with Prof. Ellen Matson in organizing National Chemistry Week in the Rochester City School District in the Spring. Beginning in the same Spring of 2019, I joined Prof. Rose Kennedy's research group as her first 'cohort' of undergraduates. With the Kennedy Group, my primary focus has been on activating amide carbon-nitrogen bonds with a [Ni] precatalyst. This Fall, I will be attending New York University to pursue my PhD in chemistry. I would like to thank Prof. Kennedy, Prof. Neidig, Prof. Matson, and the Kennedy Group for their constant support throughout the years as well as my family and friends.



Katherine Stankevich

Chemistry B.A.

Take Five Scholar (ending)

My undergraduate years at the U of R have instilled a personal quest to endeavor an academic path which not only challenged me, but also fulfilled my intellectual goals. I found this path in chemistry, which has

expanded my knowledge beyond the classroom. Through the Chemistry Department, I uncovered my passion for teaching, thereby becoming a workshop leader for several chemistry courses. Working with students allowed me to build connections past the classroom, encouraging me to become a Resident Advisor. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to pursue my occupation as an EMT while volunteering for the River Campus Medical Emergency Response Team. Within RC MERT, I expanded on my leadership skills as I became Crew Chief and the Director of Training. I completed my Take 5 program this year, studying the psychological impact spirituality and religion have on various ancient and novel somatic practices. I would like to thank my professors, my family, and my friends for their everlasting support and the impact they had on both my personal and academic growth.





Please

KEEP IN TOUCH!

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CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF 2022!



FACULTY

Brandon R. Barnett
 Kara L. Bren
 Joseph P. Dinnocenzo
 Rudi Fasan
 Ignacio Franco
 Alison J. Frontier
 Benjamin Hafensteiner
 Pengfei Huo
 William D. Jones, Jr.
 C. Rose Kennedy
 Kathryn Knowles

Todd D. Krauss
 Ellen Matson
 David W. McCamant
 Michael L. Neidig
 Bradley L. Nilsson
 John-Carl Olsen
 Shauna Paradine
 Lewis J. Rothberg
 W. Udo Schröder
 Douglas H. Turner

ADJUNCT/RESEARCH/
 CLUSTER FACULTY &
 SENIOR SCIENTISTS

Susan Cardinal, Librarian
 Lisa DeLouise
 Paul Dunman
 Frank Ebetino
 Dmitri Ermolenko
 Samir Farid
 Sina Ghaemmaghami
 Alan Grossfield
 Clara Kielkopf
 Trina Lowery
 Al Marchetti

David Mathews
 Benjamin Miller
 Brendan Mort
 Astrid Müller
 Eric Phizicky
 Marc Porosoff
 Dennis Savage
 Alexander Shestopalov
 Ching Tang
 Francesca Vitali
 Andrew White

STAFF

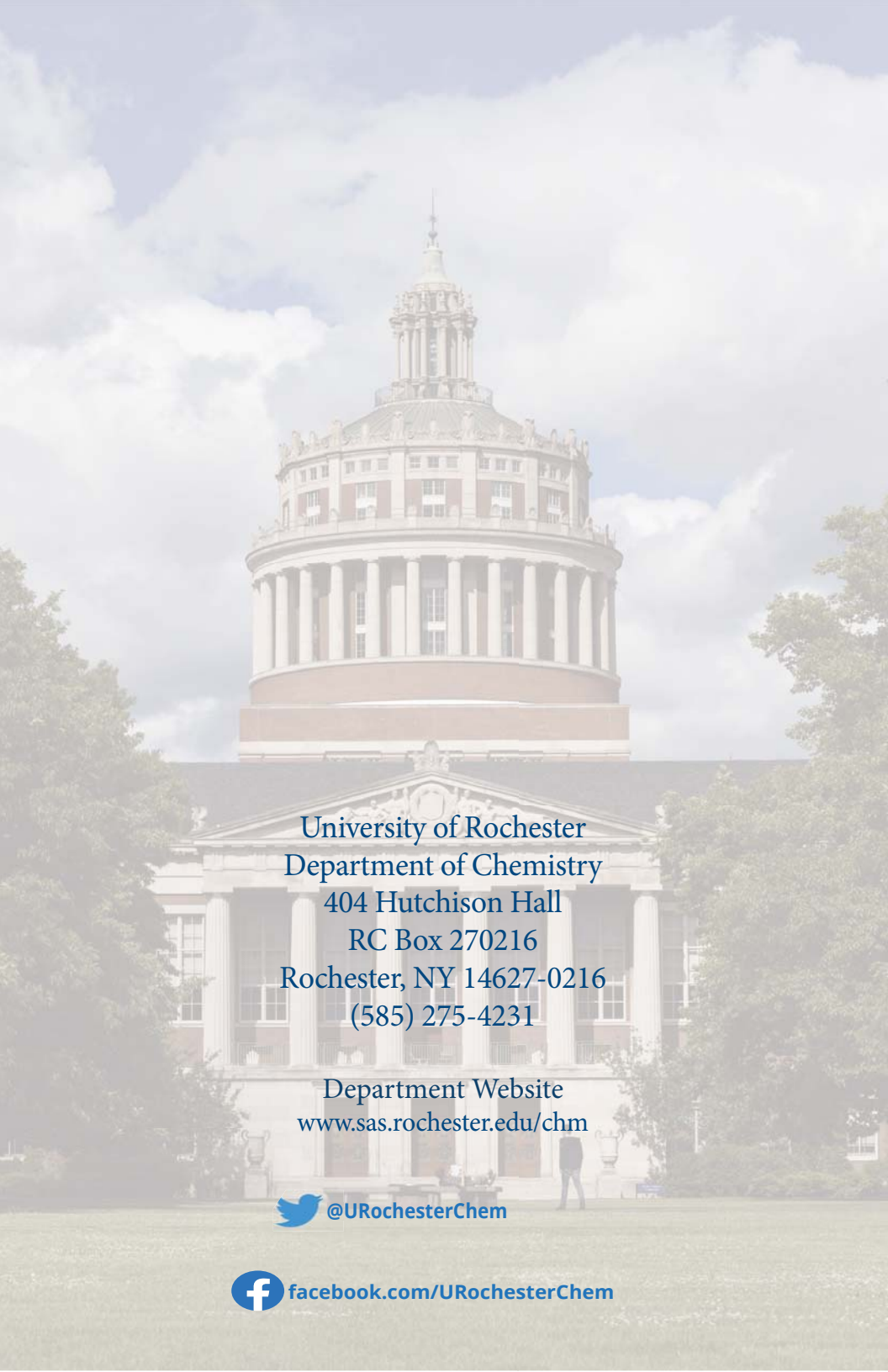
Tessa Baker
 Linda Boyle
 William Brennessel
 Deborah Contestabile
 Robin Clark
 Donna J. Dolan
 Katie Fiete
 Joseph Hickey
 Paul Liberatore
 Eric Lobenstine

Elaine Maholick
 Chloe May
 Lynda McGarry
 Terry O'Connell
 Jalil Shojaie
 Ken Simolo
 Barbara Smith
 Barbara Snaith
 Ray Teng
 Doris Wheeler



Slideshow
 Lauren Lopez ('22)

Commencement Program
 Deb Contestabile
 Chemistry Undergraduate Program Coordinator
 &
 Alejandro Ramirez ('22)
 Office Assistant, Chemistry Department

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the University of Rochester's main building, featuring a prominent circular dome with a classical portico. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

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