

COACS Chair's Choice Awards

RMRM2020 (Nov. 12-13)



My name is **Linze Du**, and I am a 4th-year chemistry graduate student at the University of Wyoming. My flash presentation was entitled STM and XPS studies of Co nanoparticles on reducible CeO₂(111) thin films. This is group work led by Professor Jing Zhou and collaborated by Professor Sanjaya D. Senanayake and was submitted to the Journal of Chemical Physics on Nov. 10th, 2020. I am a native of China, and one of my hobbies is oil painting.



My name is **Nathan Gasparovic** and I am a 2nd year graduate student at Colorado State University. My flash presentation was named "Measuring arsenic levels in the Fountain Creek watershed based on uptake by the bryophyte *Hygrohypnum ochraceum*," and the project is currently being turned into a paper for publication. I am a native of Pittsburgh, PA, and my biggest passion is movies and I've collected them for going on five years.



My name is **Alejandra Chavez** and I am a senior undergraduate student attending Adams State University. I am double majoring in Biology and Chemistry. I presented a flash presentation with Nathan Gasparovic entitled "Measuring arsenic levels in the Fountain Creek watershed based on uptake by the bryophyte *Hygrohypnum ochraceum*".

We are in the process of preparing a manuscript for publication and we hope to continue research on the speciation of arsenic within Fountain Creek watershed. I was born and raised in New Mexico, but fell in love with Colorado's lifestyle. In my spare time you can find me hiking, running or biking the trails within Colorado. When I am not in school or exploring the outdoors, I am diligently working as a lab technician at Sangre de Cristo Laboratory in Alamosa, Colorado. My future goals consist of attending graduate school and working for the United States Geological Survey government agency.

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My name is **Ryan Czarny** and I am a fourth year PhD Candidate in Dr. Shing Ho's lab in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology program at CSU. My flash presentation was entitled "Determining co-modification of 5hmC-DNA and protein structure through mammalian evolution" and focused on a protein called Endonuclease G. A portion of this work has already been published in Nucleic Acid Research and the rest is currently being written up for submission. Originally, I am from Houston, Texas but consider Colorado my home since I love to hike, camp, and rock climb.



My name is **Canan Uslan Yigit**, and I have been working as a postdoctoral researcher at the School of Chemistry, the University of Sydney since November 2019. My flash presentation was entitled "Investigation of decomposition kinetics and anti-cancer activities and mixed-ligand vanadium complexes" This study will be improved and published as a research article. I am a native of Turkey and one of my hobbies is photography.



My name is **Anjalee Wijetunge** and I am a 4th year chemistry graduate student at University of Arizona. My flash presentation was entitled "Optimization of the attachment of a base labile fluorescence quencher in designing a triazabutadiene (TBD) probe to image mosquito larval gut proteins. We hope that these probes would give us better insights about specific drug targets in mosquito larval guts and help to develop better larvicides in future.

I am originally from Sri Lanka and currently residing in Tucson. I love to sing, play the guitar and hang out with my friends during my leisure time.

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My name is **Navodi Amarakoon** and I am a 4th year analytical chemistry graduate student at University of Arizona. My flash presentation was entitled “Detection of intracellular HNO delivery via a thiol-functionalized indicator with capillary zone electrophoresis”. This project will be published soon, and the model can be modified further for testing other donor/prodrugs in different cell types. I am a native of Sri Lanka. I have multiple hobbies and I frequently change those; these days it is acrylic painting.



My name is **Irene A. R. Ogutu**, I am a postdoc at Colorado School of Mines, Department of Chemistry. My flash presentation was on Elucidating the Role of Axial cysteine residue in NHase catalysis and enzyme maturation. The work will eventually be published once we have all the data analyzed. I am a Kenyan native and I like singing and reading psycho-spiritual books and autobiographies.