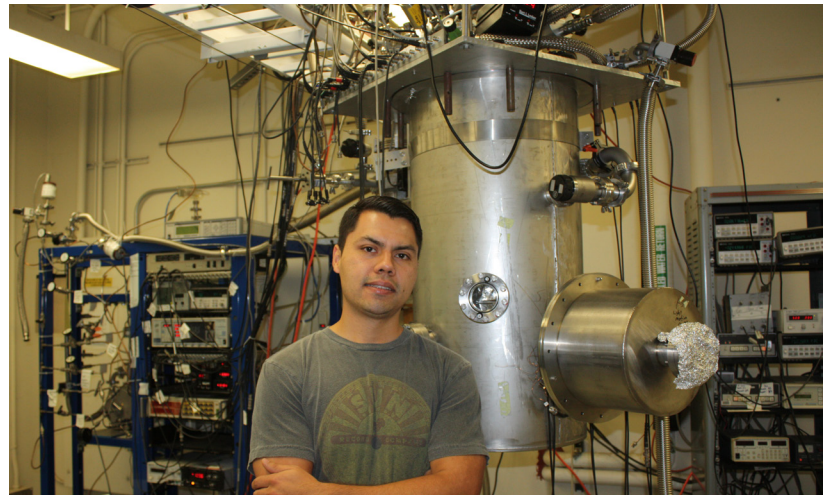
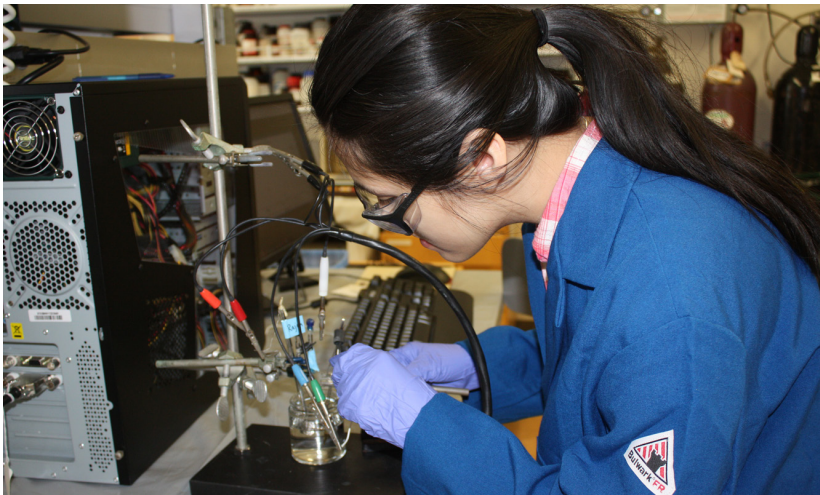


# UCIRVINE | SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES



CHEMISTRY EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE MATHEMATICS PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

(949) 824-0218 - [ps.uci.edu](http://ps.uci.edu) - 180 Rowland Hall - Irvine, CA - 92697

## Facts and Figures

- The School of Physical Sciences is one of the 8 founding schools at UCI. Nobel Laureate Frederick Reines served as founding Dean of the School, and Nobel Laureate F. Sherwood Rowland was the founding Chair of Chemistry.
- 4 academic departments: Chemistry, Earth System Science, Mathematics, and Physics & Astronomy.
- 11 Physical Sciences professors have been elected members of the National Academy of Sciences.
- 3.89 is the average GPA of incoming undergraduate students.
- An average of 40% of undergraduate students continue to graduate school.
- 1682 is the average SAT score of incoming undergraduate students.
- Approximately 1,208 undergraduate students and 516 graduate students are enrolled in the School of Physical Sciences. Doctoral degrees are granted from all four departments.
- 140 faculty members, 121 researchers, 75 post-docs, and 130 staff members keep the School of Physical Sciences moving forward.
- Half of the School's undergraduate students conduct research.
- Earth System Science professors regularly inform policy makers on environmental issues.

**“The National Research Council ranks each of the four Departments in the top 15th percentile.”**

## One of the founding schools established in 1965 at UC Irvine,

the School of Physical Sciences has built an international reputation of distinction in scientific research while also embracing the **teaching mission of a public university**. The School is comprised of four departments: **Chemistry, Earth System Science, Mathematics, and Physics & Astronomy**. In 1995, the School gained international prominence when professors **F. Sherwood Rowland** (chemistry) and **Frederick Reines** (physics) each received the **Nobel Prize**, making UCI the first public university with faculty receiving Nobel prizes in two different fields in the same year.

Building on this foundation, eleven faculty members of the School have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Consistently, professors and students are singled out for prestigious awards recognizing their scientific excellence. The School also takes great pride in the recent rankings by the **National Research Council (NRC) that place each of the four Departments in the top 15th percentile or better**. Over the past decade, the School's research expenditures have more than doubled. Moreover, the School has earned prestigious awards from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, NASA, W.M. Keck Foundation, Clare Boothe Luce Program and others.

Professors are not only leading the world in addressing today's problems, they are simultaneously teaching the scientists who will be solving tomorrow's problems. According to a recent survey, 40% of undergraduates continue to graduate school. As with undergraduate admission, the School's graduate programs become more selective every year. In the last two years, graduate students received an unprecedented 14 National Science

Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships and one graduate student received a Sloan Fellowship. Along with traditional fields of inquiry, the School offers innovative graduate curricula, including programs in **Chemical and Materials Physics; Mathematical Biology; Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacology; Polymer, Materials and Nanoscience; and Atmospheric and Environmental Science**.



*Chemist Donald Blake holds a canister used to capture samples of the world's cleanest air.*

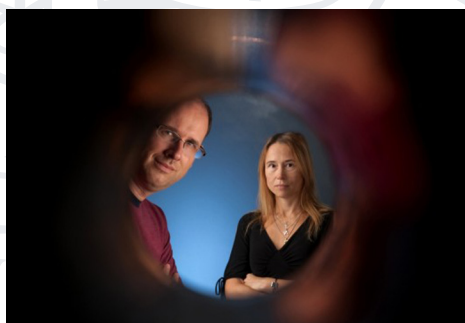
## The Department of Chemistry

is one of the **nation's largest producers of graduates with B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemistry**. The Department also offers an M.S. degree in Chemistry with a Teaching Credential. Through commitment to excellence in research and instruction, professors have earned numerous accolades and awards. Chemistry professors include one **Nobel Prize winner**, five members of the **National Academy of Sciences**, four fellows of the **American Academy of Arts and Sciences**, and sixteen **Sloan Research Fellows**. The Department's research programs range from investigating the chemistry of the Earth's atmosphere to visualizing individual molecules. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Organic Chemistry 11th, Physical Chemistry 12th, and Theoretical Chemistry 18th in graduate school rankings.



*ESS graduate students explore Mono Lake.*

**The Department of Earth System Science (ESS)** offers a B.A. degree in Environmental Science, as well as a B.S. and Ph.D. degree in ESS. Faculty expertise ranges from **climate, atmospheric chemistry and biogeochemistry, to oceanography and hydrology.** In addition to research, professors work to inform and educate policy makers as well as the community of issues that affect the environment and the quality of life. ESS faculty have numerous distinctions including three members of the **National Academy of Sciences** and nine fellows of the **American Geophysical Union.** The latest NRC ranking placed the Department among the **top five geoscience programs nationally.**



*Mathematician Natalia Komarova uses equations to evaluate gun policies.*

**The Department of Mathematics** is committed to excellence in research and education. Mathematics faculty have numerous distinctions including two members of the **National Academy of Sciences**, three fellows of the **American Academy of**

**Arts and Sciences, thirteen Sloan Research Fellows, and four fellows of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM).**

Undergraduate and graduate programs, which include B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees, provide high quality education and training. This includes supervised individual study, as well as research opportunities that prepare graduates for numerous career opportunities. This young and dynamic Department is **ranked top 10 by the latest NRC assessment of research-doctorate programs.**



*Cosmologist James Bullock is host of National Geographic's special Inside the Milky Way.*

**The Department of Physics and Astronomy** offers a B.S. degree as well as a Ph.D. degree. Professors and students conduct cutting-edge research in areas ranging from **high-energy particle physics and cosmology, to plasma physics and biophysics.** UCI physicists are also well known for **computer modeling of galaxies and low dimensional quantum solids,** and for scanning probe studies of surfaces and growth of innovative new materials. The Department also benefits from strong collaborations with faculty in areas of engineering, chemistry, and medicine. Physics and Astronomy professors have numerous distinctions including one **Nobel Prize winner**, two members of the **National Academy of Sciences**, two fellows of the **American Academy of Arts and Sciences**, and 16 **Sloan Research Fellows.**

- Earth System Science is the first university department in the U.S. dedicated exclusively to understanding the scientific basis of global environmental problems.

- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Organic Chemistry 11th, Physical Chemistry 12th, and Theoretical Chemistry 18th in graduate school rankings.

- The Department of Chemistry bestows an average of 34 Ph.D. degrees every academic year.

- Physicists from the School of Physical Sciences played a key role in the discovery of the Higgs boson particle in Geneva, Switzerland.

- The Department of Mathematics hosts first-tier research programs in pure and applied mathematics, and is strongly committed to education and community outreach.

- The Departments of Chemistry and Mathematics received \$1.6 million in fellowship funding from the U.S. Department of Education as part of the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) effort.

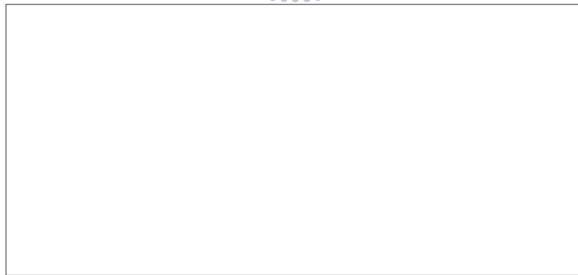
- The School offers state-of-the-art research facilities in molecular modeling, mass spectrometry, X-ray crystallography, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy, and currently has plans for a world-class electron microscopy facility.

**"Times Higher Education ranks UC Irvine #1 among U.S. universities under 50 years old."**

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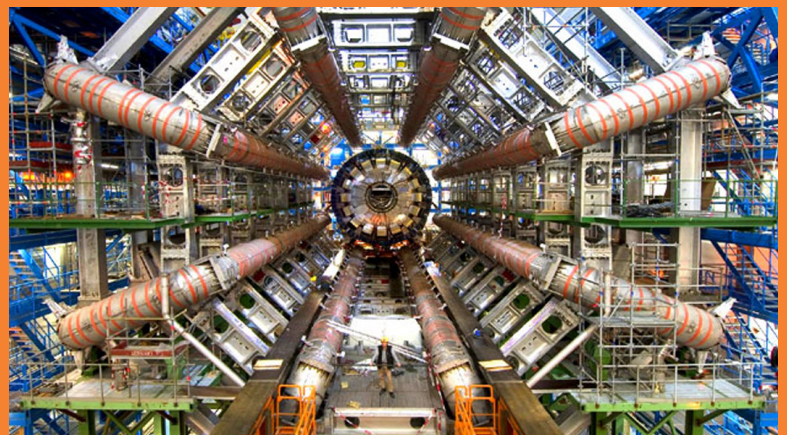
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## Public Lecture Experts

The School of Physical Sciences Dean's Public Lecture Experts are world-renowned researchers who are also excellent communicators to the general public. Scientists are available to speak to the public or the media about their areas of expertise.

Please contact the Office of External Relations at (949) 824-0218 if you are interested in hosting a lecture for your company or organization, or if you have a press inquiry. A complete list of experts is available at [ps.uci.edu/current-research](http://ps.uci.edu/current-research).



**Large Hadron Collider, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland**

***UCI Physical Sciences' physicists played a key role in the discovery of the Higgs boson particle.***