Nominations for the University Awards for Faculty Excellence from the College of Science and Mathematics are:

**Teaching/Student Learning**—Ms. Janet G. Nichols

**Scholarship/Creative Activity**—Dr. Franziska C. Sandmeier

(Dr. Sandmeier was a co-recipient winner for this award!)

**Advising/Mentoring**—Dr. Claire V. Ramos

**Service**—Dr. Matthew A. Cranswick

**Lecturer/Visiting Professor**—Dr. Charles D. Caldwell

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CSM Outstanding Faculty Member—Dr. Annette M. Gabaldon

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Faculty and staff receiving service awards were:

- 5 Years of Service—Dr. Claire V. Ramos
- 10 Years of Service—Dr. Ricardo A.G. Unglaub
- 20 Years of Service—Drs. David L. Dillon and David W. Lehmpuhl
- 25 Years of Service—Drs. Moussa M. Diawara and Bruce N. Lundberg

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Students’ Choice Award nominees from CSM were:

- **Diana Maal**—Department of Mathematics
- **Duane Pickering**—Department of Mathematics
- **Julie Spangler**—Department of Mathematics
- **Dr. Elizabeth Peterson**—CBASE
- **Abby Davidson**—STEM Learning Center

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New Retiree Award

**Dr. James Satterfield**—Department of Biology
I graduated from CSU-Pueblo in 2008 with a Bachelor’s of Science in biology with chemistry minor. I also graduated from CSU-Pueblo in 2014 with a Master’s degree in Biology. The faculty members on my committee for my Master’s degree were Dr. Brian Vanden Heuvel, Dr. Scott Herrmann, Dr. Annette Gabaldon, and Dr. Claire Ramos. The education I received at CSU-Pueblo assisted me in preparing for my current career by providing me with a diverse range of classes to choose from and different research opportunities as an undergrad and graduate student.

I am an aquatic biologist with Colorado Parks and Wildlife working in Pueblo, CO. As an aquatic biologist, I am in charge of managing the sport fisheries in my area. Some of my favorite faculty mentors in the biology department include Dr. Jeff Smith, Dr. Annette Gabaldon, Dr. Scott Herrmann, Dr. Lee Anne Martinez and Dr. Helen Caprioglio. They were all more than willing to assist me whenever I had questions while taking their classes, giving advice during research, or just life and career advice in general. The CSM has a great atmosphere and the faculty are all ready to assist with problems that arise, assistance with classes/research, and tutoring in general. The faculty is innovative and pushes their students to excel. I was also in the film produced by Sam Ebersole (I CAN'T REMEMBER THE TITLE OF IT) highlighting the excellent fishery in the tail water of the Arkansas River below Pueblo Reservoir. In this video, as the aquatic biologist, I explained the fishery and why it is unique in Colorado. I see myself continuing my career with CPW in the future, either in Pueblo or elsewhere statewide, as I have a strong passion for the resource and providing excellent angling opportunities for the public.
Dr. Franziska Sandmeier had two published articles:


Dr. Franziska Sandmeier also submitted a grant and had a professional meeting presentation:

RCN-UBE Build a Genome Network. Funded through the National Science Foundation with PI Lisa Sheifele from Loyola University Maryland and a sub-award to CSU-Pueblo to Co-PI Sandmeier. $83,081.


For the first time in the history of CSU-Pueblo, our institution has become a part of the Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit. The cooperative supports partnerships for research, education, and training focused on the ecological and cultural resources found on public lands within the Great Plains Region in the context of an agricultural landscape. The network was established to meet the challenges of managing federal lands and waters by using the skills and talents of scientists and scholars throughout the nation. **Dr. Claire Ramos** in the biology department is responsible for securing our place in this exciting new partnership. For more information, please see [http://www.cesu.psu.edu/](http://www.cesu.psu.edu/) and the regional unit [http://gpcesu.unl.edu](http://gpcesu.unl.edu).

Another national recognition is coming through our newest faculty member in the biology department, **Dr. Amauya Garcia Costas**, who will be running a SEA-PHAGES program at CSU-Pueblo. In Colorado, only UC-Boulder is also participating and only 127 institutions are involved nationwide. SEA-PHAGES (Science Education Alliance-Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science) is a two-semester, discovery-based undergraduate research course that begins with simple digging in the soil to find new viruses, but progresses through a variety of microbiology techniques and eventually to complex genome annotation and bioinformatic analyses. The program aims to increase undergraduate interest and retention in the biological sciences through immediate immersion in authentic, valuable, yet accessible research. By finding and naming their own bacteriophages, students develop a sense of project ownership and have a ready-made personal research project at a fraction of the cost of traditional apprentice-based research programs. Some of the positive effects of the SEA-PHAGES program have been reported here and the official website is [https://seaphages.org/](https://seaphages.org/). SEA-PHAGES is jointly administered by Graham Hatfull's group at the University of Pittsburgh and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Science Education division.

The new Wildlife and Natural Resources program that was seeded with funding from the CSU system officially started with the Fall 2018 catalog and we’re happy to announce that we are well ahead of our enrollment projections. Under the guidance of Visiting Assistant Professor **Dr. Jim Satterfield** and the biology department, the program has grown to 62 majors in just over a year. Although some of them were cannibalized from existing biology majors, over 40 new students have joined the program allowing it to be financially self-sustaining. In fact, two students have already graduated from the program due to transferring in credits. A tenure-track faculty member, **Dr. Nate Bickford** from the University of Nebraska, Kearney, has just been hired and will join us in the fall 2019 to replace the retiring Dr. Satterfield.

**Dr. Lee Anne Martínez**, Associate Professor of Biology, recently served as the Co-Chair for the Ecology Panel of the Ford Fellowship Program. The program, which is administered by the National Academy of Sciences, awards doctoral, dissertation and postdoctoral awards with the aim of diversifying the American professoriate. Awards support applicants who exhibit excellence in their field, in addition to demonstrating their ability to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds.

**Dr. Lee Anne Martínez** also served as a reviewer for the L’Oriel USA for Women in Science Fellowship Program, administered by the Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). This national competition rewards 5 women per year with postdoctoral fellowships for their contributions to science, technology, engineering or mathematics, and for their commitment to serving as role models for younger generations of girls and young women.

Dr. Jonathan Poritz is currently serving full time as Director and Data Analyst in the Center for Teaching and Learning at CSU-Pueblo. He also serves at the Chair of the Colorado OER Council through the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Dr. Poritz’s piece “Blockchain Pixie Dust,” appeared on Inside Higher Ed. September 12, 2018.

2009 Math B.S. and Physics Minor, Cole McGee, was among those honored by the Boettcher Foundation for their impact and dedication to students. Cole is a teacher at Rye High School in District 70.

Visit on the CSU-Pueblo website at:
csupueblo.edu/college-of-science-and-mathematics

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Or like us on our Facebook page:
Colorado State University-Pueblo College of Science and Mathematics

Work of Chemistry/Physics Alumni featured in January 2019 National Geographic

The work and research of CSU-Pueblo alumni Dr. Victor M. Spitzer is featured in the January 2019 issue of National Geographic Magazine. Dr. Spitzer is a professor in the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology and director of the Center for Human Simulation at the CU Medical School in Denver. He grew up in Pueblo, CO and attended CSU-Pueblo ’66-’71 (then SCSC) earning a Chemistry BA May 70 and a Physics and Math BS May 71. His PhD in Physical Chemistry is from University of Illinois-Champaign in 1977. See the following links which feature Dr. Spitzer and his work:

https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/magazine/00000167-2e08-de00-a1f7-af3b905a0000
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiHi7hxCu2w
In what is believed to be a first for CSU-Pueblo, a CSU-Pueblo employee earned a Ph.D. issued from Ft. Collins while working on the CSU-Pueblo campus. **Dr. Jim Carsella** has been serving as the stockroom coordinator for the chemistry department for a number of years while also working on his Ph.D. through the Ft. Collins campus. Through mutual collaboration and cooperation, he was able to coordinate classes and work on his research involving the biochemistry of selenium in the environment during evenings and weekends and he successfully defended his dissertation in January. **Dr. Sandra Bonetti** from the CSU-Pueblo chemistry department served on his graduate committee and his primary advisor was Dr. Debbie Crans from the chemistry department in Ft. Collins.

A significant number of chemistry faculty and students had research presentations in poster or oral format at the 257th American Chemical Society National Meeting in Orlando, FL, March 31-April 4th. Those presenting included the following along with other accomplishments in chemistry:

**Dr. Indrani Bhowmick**


**Dr. David Boston:**


**Dr. David Dillon:**

M. Druelinger and D. Dillon, “Electrophilic Fluorination of Aromatics: The Use of 19F-NMR Spectra for the Analysis of Mixtures”, Symposium on NMR Spectroscopy in the Undergraduate Curriculum, 257th American Chemical Society national meeting, March 31, 2019, Orlando, FL (invited presentation).


**Dr. Melvin Druelinger:**

M. Druelinger and D. Dillon, “Electrophilic Fluorination of Aromatics: The Use of 19F-NMR Spectra for the Analysis of Mixtures”, Symposium on NMR Spectroscopy in the Undergraduate Curriculum, 257th American Chemical Society national meeting, March 31, 2019, Orlando, FL (invited presentation).

M. Druelinger, “The Art and Necessity of Gaining Internal Institutional Support”, Symposium on How To Start a Successful Research Program at a Predominantly Undergraduate Institution, 257th American Chemical Society national meeting, March 31, 2019, Orlando, FL

M. Druelinger, Organizer and Chair, Symposium on How To Start a Successful Research Program at a Predominantly Undergraduate Institution, 257th American Chemical Society national meeting, March 31, 2019, Orlando, FL

C. Campbell and M. Druelinger, “Fluorination of Aromatic Compounds: Development of New Undergraduate Organic Chemistry Experiments”, 7th Annual CSU-Pueblo Student Symposium, April 5, Pueblo, CO
Dr. Chad Kinney:


Dr. Kinney completed a peer review for the journal *Environmental Pollution* in March.

Dr. Kristina Proctor:
Dr. Proctor was selected for a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Chemistry position at the U.S. Air Force Academy for 2019-2020.

Chemistry Club:
Several Chemistry Club members attended the 257th American Chemical Society National Meeting in Orlando, FL (March 31 – April 5) and presented a poster on their successful revival of the chemistry club during this academic year.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students:

**Juan Rodriguez**, MS Department of Biology has been accepted to dental school at the University of Colorado Denver Anschutz campus.

**Lauren Heyn**, BS Department of Biology has been accepted to physical therapy school at Regis University Campus.

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If you would like to be in the alumni spotlight or have news to share about what you are doing now, please send your items for inclusion in future newsletters to Sandra.obrin@csupueblo.edu. We would love to hear from you!!