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# Chemistry and Biochemistry Research in the Department of Chemistry



# Winnipeg, Manitoba

- 740,000 people
- Vibrant creative and cultural community
- Most diverse economy of major cities in Canada
- Home to NHL Hockey, CFL Football and Royal Winnipeg Ballet
- Future home of Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- Rich and varied multicultural community
- Four distinct seasons 2,727 hours of blue sky annually





# Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada





# Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

- Recognized in 2010 as Culture Capital of Canada
- Winnipeg is centrally located in Canada:

Three hour flight to Vancouver

Two hour flight to Toronto www.tourismwinnipeg.com







### The University of Manitoba

For 130 years, we have been recognized as Manitoba's premier university – shaping our leaders, enhancing our community and conducting world-class research.

Our home is Manitoba but our impact is global.



# **Many Opportunities to Learn**

- No other Canadian university is as embedded in the economic, social and cultural fabric of its home province
- Manitoba's largest, most comprehensive and only researchintensive post-secondary institution
- Offers 90 degrees, diplomas and certificates, more than 60 at the undergraduate level
- Full range of professional programs we educate doctors, engineers, architects and entrepreneurs



#### EXPLORER INNOVATOR PIONEER ADVENTURER VISIONARY





### **Our Campuses**

#### **Fort Garry Campus**

- 233-hectare complex with over 60 major buildings
- Smartpark Research and Technology Park fosters collaborative university-industry research and development with 30 of Canada's most innovative companies

#### **Bannatyne Campus**

- Located in downtown Winnipeg, adjacent to the Health Sciences Centre
- 10 building complex focused on health science education and research in dentistry, medicine, medical rehabilitation, and pharmacy



# By the Numbers

- Over 27,000 total student enrolment
- International students represent 8.5% of the student body
  - Students from Africa, Europe, the Middle East, United States, Mexico, Oceania and Central and South America
- Over 2,000 self-declared Indigenous students
- Over 3400 graduate students
- Over 8,400 staff members



#### EXPLORER INNOVATOR PIONEER ADVENTURER VISIONARY TRANSPORT





### **The Department of Chemistry**

As of 2012, we are comprised of 17 research faculty members and 7 adjunct professors





# Facilities Available:

Prairie Regional NMR Facility at U of M

300MHz, 400 MHz, 500MHz, 600MHz

Ultra-Clean Trace Elements Laboratory (UCTEL)

- Mass Spectrometry Group
- Crystallography

High Temperature X-Ray Facility (Bieringer)

Protein (Stetefeld)

SAX/WAXS (MIM Freund)

IR Microscope (Gough)





#### Raman Spectrometer (Kroeker)

**IR Spectrometer** 

High Temperature Laboratory (Bieringer)

Cold Room Laboratory (Sorensen)

**CD Spectrometer** (O'Neil)

**Robotic Teaching X-ray Diffractometer** 

High Temperature DSC/DTA/TGA (Bieringer)

Low Temperature DSC (Freund)

**Solvent Purification System** 







### **Research Areas:**

- Analytical
- Biochemistry
- Environmental
- Materials science
- Inorganic
- Organometallic
- Organic
- Physical/Theoretical
- Spectroscopy







Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic Materials Science Organic Organometallic Physical/Theoretical Spectroscopy

### **Mario Bieringer**

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#### Inorganic Materials Chemistry: Structure-Property-Reactivity Relationships in Solids and Materials Discovery



Current research topics

- Ion conducting oxides for fuel cells
- Magnetic materials and structures
- Real time reaction pathway analysis for solids
- Functionalizing oxide materials



AVO<sub>2</sub>

**2**0

remperature

AVO<sub>3</sub>





# Peter Budzelaar

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#### Towards designing catalysts through rational strategies



Research Areas:
Analytical
Biochemistry
Environmental
Inorganic
Materials Science
Organic
Organometallic

Physical/Theoretical

Spectroscopy

- Platinum metal complexes of  $\beta$ -diiminate type ligands
- Electronic and chemical non-innocence of the diiminepyridine ligand
- Chain transfer in olefin polymerization
- Geometry optimization techniques





Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic Materials Science Organic Organometallic Physical/Theoretical Spectroscopy

# Michael S. Freund

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Development of new strategies for controlling the chemical and electronic properties of electronically conducting



polymers as well as their use in sensing applications

- Efficient and cost effective artificial photosynthetic systems
- Conducting polymer-based composites for electronic applications





# Kathleen M. Gough

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# Development and applications of IR and Raman spectrochemical imaging



Spectroscopy



Current research topics are:

- Brain tissue in Alzheimer's disease
- Comparisons of saprotrophic and endophytic fungi
- Role of nutritional fatty acids in retinal health
- Collagen structures in health, wound healing and stress



FPA AND SYNCHROTRON

Analyst



<b>Research Areas:</b>	
Analytical	
Biochemistry	Cu
Environmental	Cu
Inorganic	•
Materials Science	•
Organic	•
Organometallic	
Physical/Theoretical	•
Spectroscopy	

## **David E. Herbert**

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Organometallic chemistry for environmental applications





Current research topics include:

- Electrochemical reduction of carbon dioxide
- Making commodity chemicals from CO<sub>2</sub>
- Bio-inspired reaction mechanisms and catalyst design
  - Polymeric materials for water remediation







**Research Areas:** 

- Analytical Biochemistry Environmental
- Environmen
- Inorganic
- Materials Science
- Organic
- Organometallic
- Physical/Theoretical
- Spectroscopy

# Scott Kroeker

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#### Solid-State NMR Spectroscopy of Inorganic Materials

Current research topics include:

- Oxide Glasses
- Nuclear Waste Materials
- Minerals
- Coordination Polymers







Research Areas:
Analytical
Biochemistry
Environmental
Inorganic
Materials Science
Organic
Organometallic
Physical/Theoretica
Spectroscopy

### Sean McKenna

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#### Exploration at the molecular level of how transient protein-nucleic acid recognition events affect enzymatic activity in important biological systems

- The role of RNA-protein interaction in mediating host-cell immune response to viral infection
- Investigating RNA quadruplex structures and their interactions with quadruplex-specific helicases



# Joe O'Neil

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- Research Areas:
- Analytical
- Biochemistry
- Environmental
- Inorganic
- Materials Science
- Organic
- Organometallic
- Physical/Theoretical
- Spectroscopy

#### Towards understanding the molecular structural basis of the biological activities of proteins

Current research topics are:

- Alamethicin antibiotic peptide
- Glycerol facilitator membrane protein

HIV LTR

HIV-1 Transactivator of transcription.







- Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic Materials Science Organic Organometallic Physical/Theoretical
- Spectroscopy

# Hélène Perreault

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#### Characterization of modified proteins using mass spectrometry



- Glycoproteins
- Phosphoproteins
- Modified enzymes







Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic Materials Science Organic Organometallic Physical/Theoretical

Spectroscopy

### Frank Schweizer

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Current research topics are:

- Aminoglycoside-based mimicry of antimicrobial peptides
- Effects of hydroxyproline glycosylation in structural proteins
  - Carbohydratetemplated amino acids
- Antitumor glycolipids
  - Development of novel scaffolds with immunomodulatory properties



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Polyproline Helix (PPII) Glycosylated PPII

Medicinal/ Biological Glycochemistry

Amphiphilic Aminoglycoside Antimicrobials

Antitumor Glycolipids





#### Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic Materials Science Organic Organometallic Physical/Theoretical

Spectroscopy

### H. Georg Schreckenbach

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<u>Chemistry with Computers</u>: Development and application of state-of-the-art quantum chemical methods to study molecules and their properties



- Theoretical actinide molecular science
- Environmental chemistry of mercury and other heavy metals
- Solar energy: dye-sensitized solar cells and catalytic water splitting
- Method development and benchmarking of methods





### John Sorensen

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#### Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic

Materials Science

Organic

- Organometallic
- Physical/Theoretical
- Spectroscopy



- Understanding the biosynthesis of usnic acid
- Searching for antibacterial compounds from soil fungi
- Vitamin B12 synthesis inhibitors in bacteria
- Metabolites from pathogenic bacteria
- Biofuels derived from microbial sources





# Jörg Stetefeld

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#### Detail studies in structure-function relationship of proteins as dynamic systems

Research Areas:

Analytical

Biochemistry

Environmental

Inorganic

Materials Science

Organic

Organometallic

Physical/Theoretical

Spectroscopy

- Mechanisms of complex formations and signal transduction within the extracellular matrix
- Signaling linked to catalytic turnover
- The storage function of coiled-coil domains











#### Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic Materials Science Organic Organometallic Physical/Theoretical

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Spectroscopy

# Feiyue Wang

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Investigation of speciation, cycling, and bioavailability of trace metals across environmental interfaces at the molecular and regional scales



- Cryospheric chemistry across the ocean-sea ice-atmosphere interface
- Biogeochemistry of Hg in the Arctic Ocean
- Interaction of climate change and chemical contamination in sentinel ecosystems
  - Ultra-trace analytical techniques for chemical speciation







- Research Areas: Analytical Biochemistry Environmental Inorganic Materials Science Organic Organometallic
- Physical/Theoretical

#### Spectroscopy

# Jennifer van Wijngaarden

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Characterization of reactive intermediates using high resolution spectroscopy and computational chemistry

Research themes are:

- Spectrometer development -microwave, infrared
- Production of ions/radicals
- Synchrotron techniques
- Analysis of complex spectra
- Ab initio calculations







# **Graduate Program**

- M.Sc. or Ph.D.
- Coursework
- Research
- Teaching Assistance
- Departmental Seminar
- Thesis





# **Undergraduate Program**

- B.Sc. Major or Honours (4 years)
  Chemistry, Biochemistry, or Biotechnology
- Focus Areas
  - Bioanalytical
  - Biophysical
  - Materials Science
  - Quantum/Computational
  - Physical
- Research experience (Honours)

- Biopharmaceutical
- Environmental
- Organic





### **The Department of Chemistry Profile**

# Total number of students enrolled in chemistry or biochemistry

Undergraduate program	119
M.Sc. Program	20
Ph.D. Program	21

Student numbers from 2012/2013



# Funding

- All graduate students are guaranteed funding in their first year
- UM Graduate Fellowships
- External Scholarships: NSERC, CIHR, MHRC
- Graduate Stipends







# RER INNOVATOR ADV REBEL ADVENTURER TRAILBLAZER **INNOVATOR CHALLENGER REBEL VISIONARY REBEL PIONEER CREATOR EXPLORER TRAILBLAZER INNOVATOR** ADVENTURER EXPLORER ADVENTURER TRAILBLAZER REBEL PIONEER CREATOR EXPLORER REBEL PIONE PIONEER CREATOR EXPLORER DEFENDER TRAILBLAZER REBEL PIONEER EXPLORER ADVENTURER TRAILBLAZER REBEL EXPLORER PIONEER DEFENDER TRAILBLAZER CREATOR

