History & Accomplishments

The Department of Chemistry has a long and accomplished history, dating back to the founding of the University of Illinois, in 1868, and we are consistently ranked as one of the finest departments in the United States. We have exceptional research programs in all areas of chemistry and in interdisciplinary fields. In fact, we are the only department in the nation that is also ranked in the “top ten” for every area of study in chemistry. Additionally, our commitment to excellence has provided the Department of Chemistry the honor of counting eleven Nobel Prizewinners amongst its faculty, fellows, and alumni.

Advanced Technology & Facilities

It is our endeavor to provide the greatest quality experience for our students. Over the last five years, approximately $17 million has been spent to renovate our research facilities and update them with the most state-of-the-art equipment. Our department is committed to continually making improvements to our laboratory environments. We have some of the world’s best scientific facilities including: mass spectrometry, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), and glass shop facilities. Our department also has access to some of the most exotic instrumentation and one of the largest chemistry libraries in North America.

Student Experience

Above all, we maintain a collegial atmosphere, which focuses on personal attention to students and cooperation between research groups. As a result, our students are able to draw upon the expertise from various research areas during the course of their graduate study. We firmly believe the most important product of our graduate research program is our exemplary students, and we know the strength of our research program is sustained by the work of individual students in the laboratory.

Beyond the Lab

The long history, excellent reputation, and very high national ranking of our program provides many opportunities for our students to continue to advance into very successful careers. These factors have led to many of our graduates becoming leaders in both academia and industry (including numerous CEOs and Research Directors).

Where to Start

We encourage you to browse our extensive website at chemistry.illinois.edu. We are confident that you will find our program interesting and exciting, and we invite you to apply for admission. To receive full consideration for Fall 2019, please submit your application by December 1, 2018. You may find additional information regarding our application requirements on our Chemistry Graduate Admissions website at chemistry.illinois.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions.

If you have any additional questions about our program or the application process, please feel free to contact us at chem-adm@illinois.edu.