

Shepard Hall and Quadrangle - City College of New York (CCNY) 1904

# Chemical Engineering Newsletter

The Grove School of Engineering at The City College of New York 10/2024

## ChE Professor Rosemarie Wesson Leads Department of Education Grant Award



**Prof. Rosemarie Wesson, Associate Vice Chancellor and University Vice Provost for Research**

Under the leadership of **Professor Rosemarie Wesson**, Associate Vice Chancellor and University Vice Provost for Research at The City University of New York and a faculty member in CCNY's Chemical Engineering (ChE) Department, CCNY has secured a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the Translational Research Excellence Across Disciplines (TREAD) project (<https://treadnyc.com/>). As the principal investigator (PI), Prof. Wesson, along with co-PIs **Associate Professor Elizabeth J. Biddinger** (ChE) and Prof. Ahmed Mohamed (Electrical Engineering), aims to tackle complex global challenges through the introduction of new concepts at the convergence of disciplines.

The TREAD initiative is designed to provide a comprehensive support ecosystem for CCNY's PhD students, guiding them from recruitment to long-term career development, while

enhancing convergence science research across the campus. The program also trains PhD students in translational research in partnership with industry and government collaborators. TREAD's modules are led by faculty from ChE, Computer Science, and Chemistry/Biochemistry, with a focus on Green Energy, Cybersecurity, and Nanobiotechnology.

This Fall 2024, the Chemical Engineering PhD program welcomed its first TREAD scholar, **Mary Elizabeth "Mayeth" Martin**. As part of the TREAD program, Mayeth is co-advised by Profs. Biddinger and Mohamed, reflecting the program's interdisciplinary approach. Her research explores the interactions of variable renewable electricity with energy storage and electrified chemical manufacturing, utilizing both electrochemical engineering and power systems engineering.



**L-to-R: Prof. Ahmed Mohamed (EE), 1st year PhD student Mayeth Martin, and Prof. Elizabeth J. Biddinger**



The City University of New York

Department website: [www.ccnycuny.edu/chemeng](http://www.ccnycuny.edu/chemeng)



[www.ccnycuny.edu/engineering](http://www.ccnycuny.edu/engineering)

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



**Prof. Marco J. Castaldi,  
Chairman**

Inventors and his spin-off company Urban Electric Power. The powerful connection of faculty entrepreneurship as a means of providing professional experience and advancement for ChE alumni is clearly evident in the testimonials provided. In addition, the symbiotic relationship between alumni and faculty can be seen in the generous donation of a bioreactor to the department from Renegeron, facilitated by the efforts of Jacob Weber (ChE BE '18), a process development engineer at Regeneron.

Continuing to build on our world-class research efforts Profs. Chen and Tu received an NSF Convergence Accelerator award, which has all the markings of a future potential start-up (highlighted on page 7). These consecutive grants demonstrate the sustained excellence our department is known for and enhances our reputation within important funding agencies.

All these great achievements could not have been accomplished without our outstanding graduate and undergraduate students and the donors who support them. We congratulate Sara Avraham, Class of 2025, who received the inaugural Martin & Beatrice Sherwin Scholarship that will support her studies through graduation (page 5). This summer, PhD students were part of the first cohort to participate in the CCNY Chemical Engineering Research Travel Fellowship Program and conducted research at world-class institutions (page 6). Finally, our undergraduates, featured on page 5, continue to excel at AIChE-related events.

The department continues to remain active and engaged in events that expand our network and visibility. In December, faculty, friends, and students attended the AIChE Annual Gala held at the Pierre Hotel in NYC. In the spring, we hosted Distinguished Prof. Jennifer Sinclair Curtis from the University of California, Davis as our 2024 Shinnar Lecturer who presented on "Flow Behavior of Aspherical Particles." In the summer, we hosted the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic (NEMA) ChE

Chairs Forum for the first time and brought 25 department leaders to the CCNY campus, helping to further raise

our department's visibility. Furthermore, at our most recent External Advisory Board (EAB) dinner, we presented plaques to Drs. Jinjiang Li and Mario Hubert of Bristol Myers Squibb for continuing to teach Emeritus Prof. Gabriel Tardos' Powder Science Technology course endowed by Dr. Dominick Mazzone (EAB & ChE PhD '86). We have also embarked on a digital campaign to more aggressively attract prospective PhD students by publicizing the world-class opportunities available in our department. **Please take a moment after reading the newsletter to contact fellow alumni or friends to tell them about the varied achievements and activities of the Chemical Engineering Department at The City College of New York.**

- Marco J. Castaldi



**Dr. Dominick Mazzone (EAB and  
ChE PhD '86), Dr. Jinjiang Li,  
Emeritus Prof. Gabriel Tardos,  
and Dr. Mario Hubert**



**Chairman Castaldi and  
Distinguished Prof.  
Jennifer Sinclair Curtis**



**ChE Chairman, faculty, and students with  
GSOE Dean, EAB members, alumni, and  
friends at the 2023 AIChE Gala in NYC.**



# Alumni Entrepreneurship

Following in the footsteps of The Grove School of Engineering's namesake, Andrew Grove, a transformational entrepreneur and chemical engineer himself, our ChE alumni proudly continue his legacy of combining research, cutting-edge technology and entrepreneurship.

## Meet Entrepreneur Dr. Qaizar Hassonjee (ChE PhD '87)

The ChE newsletter committee had the privilege of interviewing Dr. Qaizar Hassonjee (ChE PhD '87), a quintessential Renaissance entrepreneur. Dr. Hassonjee is a successful start-up entrepreneur, angel investor, and pioneer in wearable smart textiles.



### Tell us about your career. How did you get into the start-up business?

While finishing my doctorate, I began working at Spraylat Corp. as a Project Manager for specialty coatings for the electronics, automotive, and sign industries. I then segued to DuPont working with LYCRA® and worked my way up during the next 14 years to become the Business Director of INVISTA Apparel within DuPont, responsible for global marketing strategies. Within INVISTA, as I was working on the latest development in smart textiles, I and others from DuPont had the opportunity to spin-off and create our own start-up in 2005 called Textronics, focused on the intersection of textiles and electronics, which was venture backed. This was a major transition from a big corporate world to a start-up with significant risks. In Textronics, we successfully launched the first heart rate monitoring sports apparel. This eventually led to the acquisition of Textronics by Adidas in 2008. I then joined Adidas as part of the acquisition to become their Vice President of Innovation for their Wearable Sport Electronics. After Adidas, I had the opportunity to work at a few other start-ups in smart home textiles and consumer health technologies. All these start-ups and spin-offs led me to my current position as the President of Hass Tech Associates, LLC., a boutique advisory firm that specializes in the intersection of business, innovation and investment, and as the Founder and Managing Partner of Angel Star Ventures--an angel investment group of experienced accredited investors who provide seed funding to start-up companies.

### What prepared you for the start-up world?

My education at CCNY, where I received both my ME and PhD in Chemical Engineering studying under Profs. Bob Pfeffer (ChE) and Peter Ganatos (ME), provided me with a solid foundation in research fundamentals. These fundamentals combined with my Executive MBA from the University of Delaware, gave me the ability to combine academic research and calculated business risk to create successful start-ups and spin-offs.

### What is your advice for students and faculty thinking about starting a start-up?

It is especially important to take risks and be willing to jump into the unknown. The reality is that most start-ups fail but that should not discourage innovation or a willingness to create one.

**Thank you for your time, Qaizar!** ChE students and alumni can connect with Qaizar on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/qaizarhassonjee/> or e-mail him at [QH@HassTechLLC.com](mailto:QH@HassTechLLC.com).

## Other Alumni Involved in Start-ups:

**Dr. Julius Edson (ChE BE '12)** is the co-founder and CEO of two start-up companies, *Responsive Polymers Therapeutics*, which utilizes antimicrobial/anti-inflammatory materials as a delivery vector to treat drug-resistant lung infections, and *ChiTech*, a medical device company developing antimicrobial/anti-inflammatory dental implants. Julius credits CCNY for much of his success, writing that "CCNY served as a perfect catalyst for my entrepreneurial pursuits. I learned to identify problems, rally my team, and seek solutions during my time there--whether it was studying together in the computer lab, working late nights on the Chem-E-Car, tinkering in the lab, or celebrating after a brutal final, these experiences paralleled those of [my] startup company."



**Dr. Julius Edson  
(ChE BE '12)**



**Dr. Chaturanga  
De Silva  
(ChE BE '13)**

**Dr. Chaturanga De Silva (ChE BE '13)** was an early employee of *BioCentriq* and worked his way up to his current position as Head of Commercialization. *BioCentriq* was established in 2019 as a cell and gene therapy Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization (CDMO) to address the crucial need for advanced therapy manufacturing capacity. Under Dr. De Silva's leadership, the company grew to 110 employees and successfully dosed over 25 clinical patients. The company was acquired by Korean pharma giant GC Holdings in 2022 for \$73M. Dr. De Silva attributes this success to lessons he learned during his years as an undergraduate at CCNY, notably in the areas of entrepreneurship, critical thinking and subject matter expertise.

Have you founded a start-up? Are you interested in talking to us about your experience? Contact us at [chealumni@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:chealumni@ccny.cuny.edu)

# Alumni and Faculty Engage Professionally

## Faculty Entrepreneurship Benefits ChE Alumni

**Distinguished Professor Sanjoy Banerjee**, who was inducted into the National Academies of Inventors earlier this year, has played a pivotal role in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship among our students and alumni. In addition to founding the CUNY Energy Institute, which focuses on developing sustainable energy technologies with low carbon footprints that leverage domestic energy resources, Prof. Banerjee founded Urban Electric Power, Inc. (UEP), a spin-off that commercializes rechargeable zinc-anode batteries where he serves as Executive Chairman and CEO. UEP emerged

from a collaboration between the CUNY Energy Institute and the Chemical Engineering Department's **Professor Alexander Couzis**, who served as the company's CEO from 2014-2017 before his current appointment as Dean of The Grove School of Engineering. UEP's continued success, driven by advancements in rechargeable zinc-manganese battery technology to meet critical industry needs, has also created valuable professional opportunities for CCNY alumni. Over the past decade, UEP has hired 12 alumni with degrees ranging from bachelor's to PhD. The following testimonials highlight the positive influence of faculty entrepreneurship and the outreach efforts that have enabled our graduates to advance professionally.



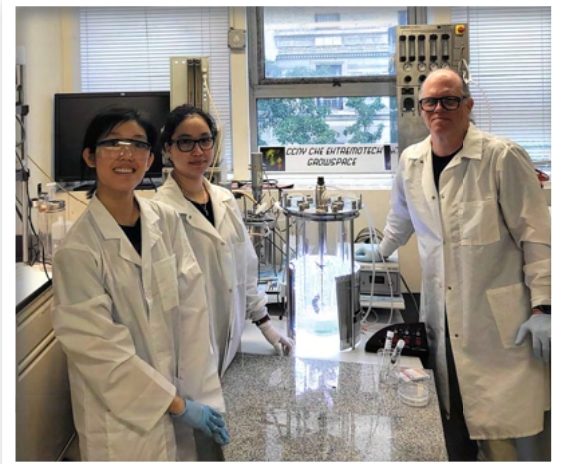
### Distinguished Prof. Sanjoy Banerjee

Dr. **Jinchao Huang (ChE PhD '18)**, Director of Development and Senior Scientist at UEP since 2018, shares, "The opportunity to lead the R&D team enhanced my leadership and project management skills, while also allowing me to deepen my expertise in materials and battery science...Collaborating with diverse teams, such as the battery manufacturing, system integration, and business teams, provided me with a comprehensive view of the battery industry. This multifaceted experience significantly enriched my professional growth." Dr. **Brendan Hawkins (ChE PhD '22)**, who joined UEP in 2022 as a Senior Battery Engineer, was able to apply his doctoral research on lab-scale zinc-alkaline batteries and their behavior on the molecular level to the development of commercial battery manufacturing processes that furthers the understanding of the collective behavior of thousands of batteries in a system. He credits UEP for giving him "the opportunity to apply the fundamental understanding of battery technology he developed at CCNY to solve problems on a commercial scale." **Megan Debnath, née Booth (ChE BE '21)**, started at UEP as a Material Science Summer Intern and later transitioned to the role of Business Intelligence Engineer in 2022. She is now the VP of Operations. Reflecting on her experience, Megan says, "UEP has been pivotal in my career growth, offering opportunities to develop my communication skills through engagements like clean energy conferences, and providing invaluable mentorship from COO and Co-founder, Ann Marie Augustus, who has played a key role in shaping my leadership abilities." **Kevin Keane (ChE ME '14)**, hired by UEP in 2018 as a lab technician, has risen to the position of Director of Quality Assurance. He credits CCNY's chemical engineering program for preparing him to thrive in these roles: "Their collaboration with the CUNY Energy Institute played a major role in preparing me to take advantage of these opportunities, providing a strong foundation in engineering principles, hands-on learning experiences, and access to an extensive network of professionals. The supportive staff and faculty at CCNY were instrumental in fostering my growth, offering guidance and mentorship that helped me navigate both academic challenges and real-world applications."

Prof. Banerjee notes, "Simultaneously, the spin-off has greatly benefited from the close collaboration with the ChE Department and its deep talent pool."

## Alumni in Industry Enhance Faculty Research

This summer at CCNY, a generous bioreactor donation from Regeneron facilitated by alumnus **Jacob Weber (ChE BE '18)** was put to use during a Biotech workshop for ChE undergraduate students taught by **Professor Lane Gilchrist**. It gave the students (and some of Prof. Gilchrist's lab members) a chance to experience some hands-on biotech training. The workshop ranged from growth, cultivation, and microscopic characterization of algae and cyanobacteria (*Oscillatoria tenuis*, *Dunaliella Salina*, *Chlorella vulgaris*) to the cultivation of the halophilic/thermophilic/anaerobic methane producer *Methanohalobium evestigatum*. **Isabella Huang (ChE BE '24)** and 4<sup>th</sup> year PhD student **Binh Nguyen** worked with one of the Regeneron-donated Braun 15L vessels running in photobioreactor airlift mode in a two-day fed-batch run of the green eukaryotic microalgae *Chlorella vulgaris*. Prof. Gilchrist is looking forward to adding additional bioreactors to the CCNY ChE Extremotech Growspace.



**L-R: Isabella Huang (ChE BE '24), 4th year PhD student Binh Nguyen, and Prof. Lane Gilchrist with Regeneron-donated Braun 15L Reactor.**



# Undergraduate Students Excel at AIChE

## Undergraduates at the 2023 AIChE & 2024 Mid-Atlantic Student Conferences



**Undergraduate students and Prof. Tu at AIChE's Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida**

ence for me. I had the opportunity to showcase the research I conduct in the Messenger lab on Zn electrodeposition alongside my mentor, 5<sup>th</sup> year doctoral student Brian Chen, during the poster session. Winning the 1<sup>st</sup> spot at the research poster competition was a truly humbling and proud moment for me, as I was able to represent both the Messenger lab and our department as a whole. I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity and the guidance I received from Prof. Messinger and other faculty in the department. The conference was a great experience."

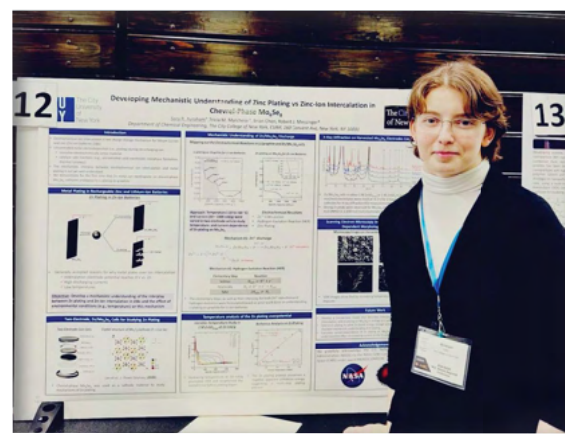
Sara also has the distinction of being selected by the ChE faculty to receive the Chemical Engineering Department's inaugural "Martin and Beatrice Sherwin Fellowship" effective Fall 2023. Martin and Beatrice Sherwin were profiled in the Fall 2021 ChE Department Newsletter. To recap, Dr. Martin B. Sherwin (ChE BE '60, PhD '67) established The Martin & Beatrice Sherwin Endowed Scholarship Fund at The City College of New York's Grove School of Engineering (named after him and his late wife). Dr. Sherwin is an illustrious alumnus of the Chemical Engineering Department and carries the distinction of being the first ChE doctoral candidate to be awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Engineering at the City University of New York. Dr. Sherwin established the Fund in recognition of his long and rewarding career made possible by the chemical engineering education he received at CCNY. The Martin & Beatrice Sherwin Endowed Scholarship Fund will provide full tuition and fees for full-time chemical engineering undergraduate students in perpetuity.

Not to be outdone, also at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, our **Chem-E-Car team** distinguished itself by coming in 4<sup>th</sup> overall with their car, "Vita Vroom" (pictured right) and subsequently qualified for the national Chem-E-Car competition coming up at the annual AIChE conference in San Diego, California in October. The undergraduate students also participated in Chem-E-Jeopardy and while they did not place in the top spot, they had a great time!

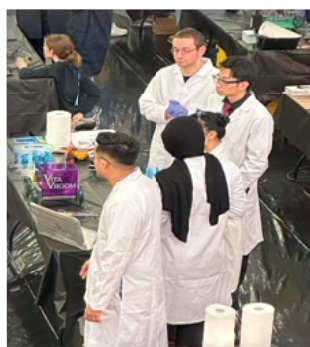
It has been a banner year for our undergraduate students at AIChE events in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024! They attended the Annual AIChE conference in Orlando, Florida in November 2023 (see left photo) and gathered intel by observing the Chem-E-Car competition and seeing other schools' designs in preparation for their own debut at the 2024 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in Baltimore. In Florida, they also participated in professional development activities including attending the Graduate School and Job Fair as well as giving presentations, and observing PhD students and faculty presentations.

This past April 2024, a group of 17 students along with faculty advisor for the AIChE club Prof. Raymond Tu attended the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference hosted by the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) on April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

The most notable win at the conference was achieved by **Sara Avraham (Class of 2025)**, who placed first in the poster session contest (pictured below). In her words, Sara says: "Participating in the 2024 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference was an incredibly enriching experi-



**Sara Avraham (Class of 2025) with her 1st place poster at the 2024 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in Baltimore**



**At the 2024 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference: Chem-E-Car team at competition (left) and undergraduate students and Prof. Tu (right).**



# PhD Students Travel to Internships

*PhD students obtain invaluable specialized training at research internships*

**Moses Chilunda** (pictured on right), a 3<sup>rd</sup> year PhD student under the mentorship of Prof. Biddinger, is spending four months at the Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL) in Richland, Washington. He has delved into the electrochemical dehydrogenation of Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carriers (LOHCs), which are essential for hydrogen storage and transportation. The work is part of the DOE's Funding Accelerated, Inclusive Research (FAIR) grant Prof. Biddinger has with Dr. Juan Lopez Ruiz. Under Dr. Lopez-Ruiz's supervision, Moses explored the reaction kinetics and mechanisms for primary alcohols electrochemical dehydrogenation, utilizing both batch and flow electrochemical reactors. His research aims to identify the key structural and environmental factors that enhance the electrochemical dehydrogenation process. Part of his work involved catalyst synthesis and designing an electrochemical flow reactor, which he will now utilize at CCNY. Moreover, Moses also participated in a DFT computational workshop at PNNL, where he applied the techniques learned to study the surface chemistry during LOHC dehydrogenation reactions.



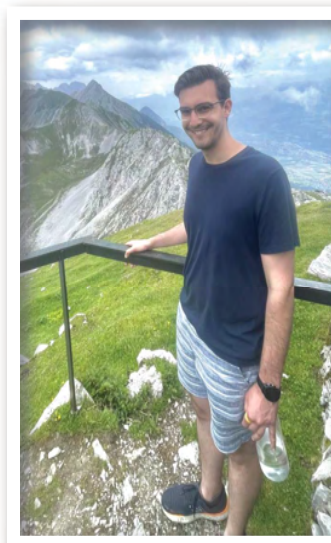
*Thanks to a generous alumni donation, the ChE Research Travel Fellowship was created for PhD students to explore research opportunities and international collaborations. Below are just two examples from this summer.*



This summer, **Nicole Donovan** (standing in middle, picture far left), a 6<sup>th</sup> year PhD student in Prof. Maldarelli's group, was a visiting student at the Science for Life Lab (KTH Royal Institute of Technology) in Stockholm, Sweden, as part of the CCNY-KTH IRES program (see Fall 2019 Newsletter). The Jönsson Group at SciLife Lab develops microfluidic platforms to encapsulate liver spheroids in droplets and injects the droplets with pharmaceuticals for high-throughput drug toxicity screening. Their work requires the same precise amount of drug be present in each droplet. Traditionally, microfluidically generated droplets are stabilized with molecular surfactants. Though surfactants can stabilize droplets from coalescence, they do not provide a barrier to diffusion of small molecules between the droplets. Nicole used her CCNY training in microfluidics and particles at interfaces to make droplets stabilized with fluorinated nanoparticles (FNPs). Her research showed that the FNPs prevent drugs from diffusing from one droplet to the next (bottom figures). In addition, Nicole was able to show that her FNP-stabilized droplets were compatible with cells, an important aspect for use with biological applications in microfluidic devices. Overall, Nicole is grateful for the opportunity

afforded to her by the Chemical Engineering Research Travel grant that made the CCNY-KTH IRES program possible and enabled her to explore potential future collaborators for postdoctoral research in the field of microfluidic biotechnology.

**Eric McPherson**, a 4<sup>th</sup> year PhD student working with Prof. Kretzschmar, recently returned from a two-week trip to Vienna, Austria. He was hosted at TU Vienna in the Institute of Theoretical Physics by Prof. Emanuela Bianchi, an expert in simulations and other computational methods used for soft matter research. Eric presented a guest lecture based on his current research to the Janus and Patchy Particles as Active Colloids course at the university. Eric has received constructive feedback for his project, as well as training and access to several computational resources that will help guide his research on magnetic Janus particles. Eric also visited the lab of Prof. Peter van Oostrum at BOKU University, who works on experimental soft matter systems and is a holographic microscopy specialist. There, Eric learned new methods of performing colloidal self-assembly experiments, which he will utilize at CCNY. He also brought along some Janus particle samples for Prof. van Oostrum for experiments using holographic microscopy with the hope of gaining a better understanding of the mechanisms behind active Janus particles. The trip concluded with a plan to explore several collaborative projects proposed between the Kretzschmar and Bianchi groups. Outside of the lab, the graduate students took Eric bouldering for the first time and he was able to do some hiking in the Alps (picture on right). He is grateful for the Chemical Engineering Research Travel Fellowship that gave him the opportunity to travel to Vienna.



# ChE Faculty Entrepreneurship Support

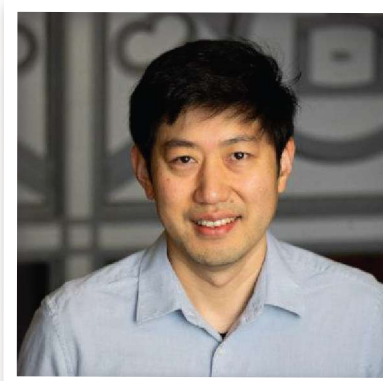
## Professors Xi Chen and Raymond Tu Receive NSF Convergence Accelerator Award to Develop Transformative Bio-inspired Solutions for Renewable Energy

The dynamic realm of renewable energy has long been dominated by solar and wind; joining their ranks now is a promising newcomer: energy generation through evaporation. This innovative technology, still in its infancy, holds tremendous potential to revolutionize clean energy by offering an efficient, abundant, and cost-effective alternative to fossil fuels. Since joining the Department in 2016, **Associate Professor Xi Chen** and his research team have discovered and studied materials that have water-responsive properties such as spores and silk for evaporative harvesting applications (*Nature Comm.* 2017, 8, 617 and *Adv. Sci.* 2022, 9, 2104697). Recently, Prof. Chen joined forces with **Professor Raymond S. Tu**, whose field of expertise is peptide design and assembly (*Soft Matter* 2023, 19, 2047). The intersection of their research provided the needed scientific foundation and infrastructure to apply for a convergence accelerator award. Both professors have done just that, recently securing a \$650,000 NSF Convergence Accelerator Phase 1 grant.

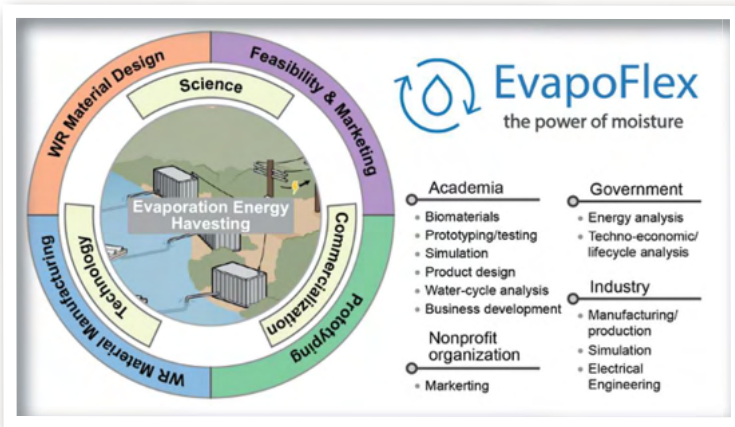
The aim of the NSF Convergence Accelerator program is to tackle national-scale societal problems with "use-inspired convergence" research. The program requires combining teams from academics, industry and government to innovate together using human-centered design and user discovery, thereby accelerating the transition of basic research into practice. Each new competition provides tracks (e.g., A-L) focusing on a specific research theme. Profs. Chen and Tu's grant, awarded under Track M: Bio-Inspired Design Innovations, will bolster the team's efforts to develop groundbreaking evaporation energy harvesting devices using water-responsive materials.

Prof. Chen, principal investigator, explains that "our goal in the year-long Phase 1 project is to establish platforms for designing water-responsive materials, creating preliminary prototypes, and developing simulation models for evaporation energy harvesting devices."

Profs. Chen and Tu's team leverages materials such as peptidoglycans, found in bacterial cell walls and highly responsive to humidity, and silk from silkworm cocoons. These materials autonomously convert evaporation energy into mechanical motion and electricity operating seamlessly day and night—a notable advantage that provides a solution to the intermittency issues of solar and wind energy. Profs.



**Associate Prof.  
Xi Chen**



Chen and Tu are collaborating with a diverse array of institutions including Hunter College (CUNY), Columbia University, New York University, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), GE Research, Cannon, Ginkgo Bioworks, and ISEE Systems, whose combined expertise includes various scientific disciplines, public policy, and marketing. Within the array of institutions is a multi-disciplinary CUNY-based team that includes students, postdocs, and faculty from CCNY, ASRC, and Hunter College. As a team, they participated in the NSF Convergence Curriculum, which took them through the process of translating basic research into user-centric design. The team is currently working on a Phase-2 proposal (\$5M/3 years) that will allow them to translate the user discovery process and put water-responsive materials into practice (picture to left).

Prof. Tu, co-principal investigator, highlights the importance of public support for such transformative technologies saying: "Educating the public about the potential of evaporation technology is crucial as it moves from lab innovation to practical application." The adaptable design of these generators allows for customization according to installation needs and available space, presenting a versatile clean energy solution ideal for regions where traditional renewable sources face limitations. "While no single technology can solve all energy challenges, evaporation technology offers another viable option for clean energy, particularly suitable based on location and environmental conditions," Prof. Chen affirms.

The team plans to unveil prototypes within the next year and to conduct demonstrations in subsequent years to pave the way for a future powered by innovative, sustainable energy solutions.

The ChE Department wishes Profs. Chen and Tu's team success with their Phase-2 proposal!



**Prof. Raymond S. Tu**



# Connect, Engage, & Contribute

## Connect

*There are many ways to connect with your alma mater. Please check the boxes that interest you.*

- I would like to visit the campus.
- I would like to speak about my experience to students.
- I would like to attend departmental seminars on technical & research topics (Mondays 2-3 PM).
- I would like to connect via LinkedIn group "CCNY ChemEng Alumni."
- I would like to mentor students.

You can always email us with updates or questions at:  
**chealumni@ccny.cuny.edu**

## Engage



**John E. Massucci (ASML)**

John E. Massucci is a Principal Engineer at ASML, the world's supplier to the semiconductor industry, who says that ASML "values face-to-face relationships in our collaborations with academic institutions. We have been fortunate to collaborate with CCNY's Department of Chemical Engineering, particularly with Chairman Marco J. Castaldi, Grove Dean Alexander Couzis, and Profs. Ilona Kretzschmar, Charles Maldarelli and the late David Rumschitzki." The success of ASML's relationship to the ChE Department is evident in ASML's hiring of several ChE alumni to work on various critical engineering analyses and complex dynamic systems and interfaces. ASML principals have participated in mentoring Prof. Castaldi's students in their final capstone Design I and II projects. On a personal note, Massucci says, "my grandfather (also a "John Massucci") was a graduate of CCNY (Chemical Engineering) in the 1930s, and my son Gianpaolo, is currently a sophomore in the ChE department as well. City College tends to create an enduring spot in the hearts of those who choose to get acquainted."

If you are interested in contacting John, he can be reached via LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-massucci-p-e-77851b7/>) or e-mailed at: [john.massucci@asml.com](mailto:john.massucci@asml.com).

## Contribute

Please fill out this form to provide an information update and/or to make a donation to the Department of Chemical Engineering at CCNY.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year & Degree from CCNY (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards Fund for Excellence

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards Undergraduate Student Activities

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards Graduate Student Development

\_\_\_\_\_ A Gift in Kind

My employer makes matching gifts.

Employer name: \_\_\_\_\_

To leave a gift in your will, simply share this sentence with your attorney or financial planner:

"I bequeath \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate to the Department of Chemical Engineering, CCNY, Steinman Hall, T322, 140th Street & Convent Avenue, New York, NY 10031."

I have included the Department of Chemical Engineering (CCNY) in my will.

**Checks may be made out to: The Foundation for City College - Department of Chemical Engineering (CCNY)**

**Gifts to the Department of Chemical Engineering (CCNY) are tax-deductible as permitted by law.**

**Please return information/pledge card and checks to: Department of Chemical Engineering Office, City College of New York, Steinman Hall Room 322, 140<sup>th</sup> Street & Convent Avenue, New York, NY 10031**

**Information-only updates may be sent to: [chealumni@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:chealumni@ccny.cuny.edu)**