

Mission

The UF Student Chapter of the Polymer and Polymer Materials Science and Engineering Divisions ACS is established to provide students in the chemical sciences:

- A social environment to network with other students with related interests
- Professional associations that provide intellectual stimulation
- Experience in preparing and presenting technical material before chemical audiences
- A forum in which members can foster professional pride in the chemical sciences
- A venue to spread awareness of the responsibilities and challenges facing the modern professional
- A network of peers with a diverse background, allowing for collaborations between members
- An opportunity to engage with the greater community around science related content
- A supportive environment focused on increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion

72 Graduate Student Members
20 Undergraduate Members

Community Outreach

- **10/26/24** | Molecular Mania
Engaged with the local community by introducing polymer science through the making of Halloween-themed slime.
- **12/03/24** | Cade Museum Community Outreach Event
Interacted with families at the local science museum in Gainesville, FL. We did two scientific demos including POLY SNOW and making slime.
- **02/08/25** | Girls do Science
Event hosted by the Florida Museum of Natural History encouraging the participation of girls in science. Provided interactive polymer demos.
- **05/21/25** | Talbot Elementary School Science Day
This event was co-organized with the help of UF Chemistry Club, and we performed five chemistry demos for each grade level.



Networking

Social Events | Building engagement between graduate students, industrial professionals, and academic faculty.

- **09/03/24** | POLY/PMSE Welcome Meeting
- **11/13/24** | Networking lunch (Tosoh Bioscience)
- **04/04/25** | POLY/PMSE Happy Hour Social after SMARTS
- **04/10/25** | Pizza party (Xenocs Inc.)

Career Spotlights and Coffee Chats | Round-table discussions where students to engage and network with polymer scientists outside of UF over coffee.

- **02/25/25** | Coffee Chat: Prof. LaShanda Korley (University of Delaware) and Prof. Adrian Figg (Virginia Tech)
- **03/06/25** | Career Spotlight: Alessandra Vito (DARPA)
- **04/09/25** | Coffee Chat: Prof. Benjamin Elling (Wesleyan University)

2025-2026 Plans

Professional Development: Continuation of Coffee Chats, Career Spotlights, Workshops, and networking opportunities between departments at UF

Education: Biweekly Journal Club, Graduate Student Mental Health Workshop

Community Outreach: Molecular Mania Outreach at the local Oaks Mall, Meet an Inventor at the CADE Science Museum, and local community cleanup efforts.

Symposia: POLY/PMSE Student-Led Symposia at Fall ACS (August 2025) and SERMACS (October 2025), 12th Annual Soft Matter Applied Research and Technology Symposia, Organization of Polymers & Materials Symposium at the annual Florida Meeting & Exposition (FAME).

Social: Monthly activities to combat stress & burnout

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Scientific

Seminars and Workshops | Technical seminars aimed at building a well-rounded skill set for graduate polymer scientists.

- **09/12/24** | Fellowship Writing workshop hosted by Prof. Austin Evans (UF Chem)
- **10/22/24** | ChemDraw workshop hosted by Prof. Guilhem De Hoe (UF MSE)
- **11/13/24** | GPC workshop hosted by Tosoh Bioscience
- **04/10/25** | SAXS seminar hosted by Dr. Scott Barton (Xenocs Inc.)

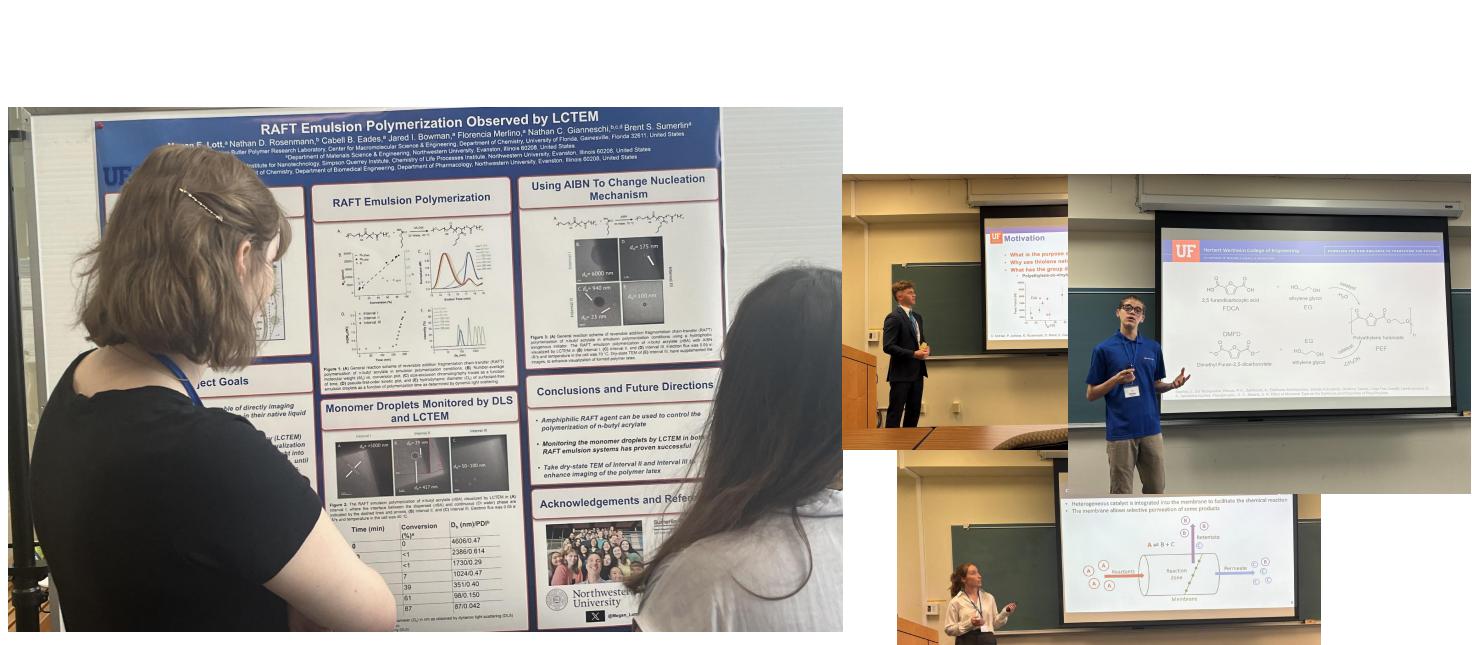
Journal Clubs | Student presentations on relevant academic literature within the fields of polymer chemistry or materials. 28 students shared published research papers this year.

14x meetings held: **09/17/24, 10/01/24, 10/15/24, 10/29/24, 11/12/24, 11/26/24, 12/10/24, 01/21/25, 02/04/25, 02/18/25, 03/04/25, 03/25/25, 04/08/25, 04/22/25.**

Symposium

04/04/25 | Soft Matter Applied Research & Technology Symposium (SMARTS)

Campus wide symposia focused on celebrating advances and promoting collaborations in the soft matter community. Researchers from UF CHEM, MSE, and ChemE shared their investigations in soft matter. 18 Graduate Student Talks, 21 Poster Presentations, and 5 undergraduate Michelin Scholar flash talks. The symposium featured three keynote speakers: Prof. Janani Sampath (UF ChemE), Prof. Guilhem De Hoe (UF MSE), and Prof. Amal Narayanan (UF Chem).



Get involved!

@ufpolypmse

<https://www.butlerpolymerlab.com/poly-pmse>