



College of Sciences & Mathematics Newsletter
June 2022

CoSM Faculty Spotlight
**Tunno is Keynote
Speaker for
Symposium**

Dr. Ferebee Tunno, associate professor of statistics, was the keynote speaker at Christian Brothers University's recent Undergraduate Math and Computer Science Symposium. He was invited by A-State alumnus **Dr. Justin Smith**, who is an assistant professor on the CBU faculty. The title of Tunno's talk was "Introduction to GARCH Processes," where GARCH is an acronym for "generalized autoregressive conditionally heteroskedastic."





CoSM Staff Spotlight

Jenkins is Rookie of the Year

Amanda Jenkins, administrative specialist in Biological Sciences, is recipient of the Rookie of the Year Award. After beginning this job in 2021, her quick move through the learning curve has been noted by faculty. In addition to serving as the department's first point of contact, she books travel, assists uploading the academic schedule, drafts minutes for faculty meetings, and assists students and faculty members with various needs.

CoSM Faculty Spotlight

Neuman-Lee Studies Snakes' Unique Immunity

Dr. Lori Neuman-Lee, assistant professor of physiology, was recently [awarded a grant](#) from the Arkansas IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (Arkansas INBRE), along with two collaborators from Southern Arkansas University. Their grant, titled "Characterization of Snake Immunity in a Novel Animal Model," examines the role of immune cells in snakes, which have a unique immune strategy. Neuman-Lee joined the faculty in 2017.





CoSM Faculty Spotlight

Merten Appointed to Journal Editorial Board

Dr. Jonathan A. Merten, associate professor of chemistry, has been appointed to the editorial advisory board of *Spectrochimica Acta Part B: Atomic Spectroscopy*, a journal in which his work has frequently been published. The journal was initially established in 1939 by the Vatican's astronomic observatory. The [editorial board](#) of the publication includes 46 editors and editorial advisory board members in 13 countries or regions.

CoSM Faculty Spotlight

ABI Researchers Featured in Annual Report

As Arkansas Biosciences Institute celebrates its 20th anniversary, its 2021 annual report features researchers who have contributed to its success, including eight ABI faculty at A-State. Congratulations to ABI veterans **Dr. Fabricio Medina-Bolivar** (p. 18), **Dr. Argelia Lorence** (p. 20), and **Dr. Maureen Dolan** (p. 32), along with newer faculty **Dr. Emily Bellis** (p. 34), **Dr. Sudeepa Bhattacharyya** (p. 47), **Dr. Kyle Gustafson** (p. 35), **Dr. Scott Mangan** (p. 36) and **Dr. Andrew Sweet** (p. 37). [The report is online.](#)





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