



College of Sciences & Mathematics Newsletter
August 2023



CoSM Student Spotlight Vargas Wins Fellowship and Fulbright Award

[Jacqueline Romani Vargas Ulloa](#) is a recipient of a Summer Research Fellowship awarded by the American Society of Pharmacognosy (ASP), one of the world's leading societies in the field of natural products. She also has been notified of her selection to receive a prestigious Fulbright scholarship, awarded by the Fulbright-García Robles Foundation, to the top Mexican candidates who want to pursue graduate studies in the United States.

CoSM Faculty Spotlight

Merten, Student Researchers Publish Studies

Dr. Jonathan Merten, associate professor of chemistry, along with undergraduate researchers **Erin Nicholas, Shawnda Ethridge, Hannah Bariola, Shealyn Chestnut, Anna Anders, Jackie Brees** and **Marybeth Foster** are [co-authors of two recent journal articles](#) published in Spectrochimica Acta Part B. With National Science Foundation funding, their work adapted astronomy techniques to measure the mass and chemical composition of transient laser-ablation plasmas.



CoSM Faculty Spotlight

Sweet Presents Keynote Address to Conference

Dr. Andrew Sweet, assistant professor of evolutionary biology, gave a [keynote](#) address to the International Conference of Phthiraptera, conducted virtually. The conference involves researchers and clinicians working on parasitic lice, and included attendees from every continent except Antarctica. Sweet's presentation highlighted his research on using genetic information to untangle the co-evolutionary history between birds and their feather lice.



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