



7 September 2016

Dear Colleague:

I am writing on behalf of the faculty in the graduate program of the Department of Chemistry at The University of Alabama. The University of Alabama was founded in 1831 and currently serves over 35,000 students. Our beautiful campus is the hub of a vibrant community of more than 100,000 people. A moderate cost of living and a wide range of cultural and recreational facilities make Tuscaloosa a great place to live and work.

The Department of Chemistry currently has 25 research faculty and about 90 graduate students. The Department is growing. Recent additions include Dr. Jack Dunkle, assistant professor, a biochemist with expertise in RNA modification enzymes, and Dr. Jared Allred, assistant professor, whose research interests are novel solid state magnetic materials and fundamental metal-metal bonding.

Our graduate program offers M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. Research and teaching are conducted in all major disciplines of chemistry (analytical, biochemistry, inorganic, organic, and physical). In addition, our faculty actively participates in interdisciplinary research programs involving synthesis, materials science, biological chemistry, and environmental chemistry. The most recent National Research Council ratings of graduate programs in Chemistry reflect the quality of our program. The Department ranks highly not only in the subjective view of faculty surveyed (71st /178 departments, 60th percentile) but also the data-driven dimensional rankings, including both overall research activity (71st percentile) and overall student support and outcomes (76th percentile).

Our graduate students currently receive a stipend of \$24,480/year with a full tuition waiver (a \$25,950/year benefit for out-of-state students).

Our Department's home is the state-of-the-art, interdisciplinary science facility, Shelby Hall. The \$58 million complex has custom-designed laboratories for each research group. New general chemistry teaching laboratories and relocation of colleagues from Biology and Chemical & Biological Engineering to the Science and Engineering Complex attached to Shelby Hall were completed in summer 2009.

The Department's annual Advanced Instrumental Techniques Colloquium is usually held in February at Shelby Hall. We hope that a group from your institution can attend this event. Later in the semester, more information on the Colloquium should be sent to the appropriate faculty in your department. However, anyone from the department who wishes to attend is encouraged to do so. If your department doesn't receive such information, please feel free to contact me directly.

Additional information about our Department can be found at our website: chemistry.ua.edu. Please encourage your faculty and students to contact me if they have any questions about our department or would like to visit. Our faculty are available to present seminars at your institution, usually at our expense. Feel free to contact me if you would like to arrange a seminar. I can be reached either by E-Mail (ssstreet@ua.edu) or by telephone (205)-348-5957. Also, any of our faculty can give a talk on Planning for Graduate Studies in Chemistry, which could be of use to undergraduate students preparing for graduate school.

Thank you for your attention to this letter, we hope to hear from you soon!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane C. Street', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Shane C. Street
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Director of Graduate Recruiting