Isabella Priest

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EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin - Madison ***2022 - 2024***
Master of Science
Chemistry – Organic
Cumulative GPA: 3.6

Texas A&M University ***2018 - 2022***
Bachelor of Science
Major in Chemistry; Minor in Mathematics
Cumulative GPA: 3.8

ADMINISTRATIVE & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Assistant Laboratory Manager
University of North Texas at Dallas, Dallas, Texas ***Sep. 2024 - present***

- Organized and distributed laboratory experiment schedules to STEM instructors to ensure efficient and standardized course operations
- Assisted in the purchase of laboratory supplies, developing experience with ePro, Concur, and purchasing cards
- Managed setup, breakdown, and explanation of experimental components for instructors across all STEM laboratories
- Maintained proper labeling and care of lab materials, including chemicals and specimens, with detailed documentation
- Established the framework for a university-approved laboratory management webpage to centralize resources and streamline instructor access
- Designed and launched a mandatory Canvas module to train undergraduate students on chemical laboratory safety
- Updated the Chemical Hygiene Plan frequently and created complementary Chemical Waste Guidelines

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Texas at Dallas, Dallas, Texas ***Sep. 2024 - present***
Laboratory Instructor – CHEM, GEOG, and BIOL

- Taught Quantitative Analysis, Earth Science, Biology for Educators, and Environmental Science laboratory sections
- Developed experiments and assessments that encouraged students to think critically and establish real-world connections
- Reviewed and evaluated student performance individually, providing personalized feedback to support academic growth
- Employed the use of Canvas for course management, activity organization, and student interaction

University of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, Wisconsin ***Aug. 2022 - May 2023; Jan. 2024 – May 2024***
Teaching Assistant for Organic Chemistry

- Supervised class during wet-lab experiments and graded section assignments
- Facilitated open conversations and presented on current lab topic during discussion sessions
- Guided students towards success in lab reports and tests during office hours
- Created welcoming and accepting environments for undergraduate students to develop scientific skills

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas ***Jan. 2021 - May 2022***
Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) Leader

- Directed weekly mentoring sessions for Physical Chemistry I (quantum mechanics) with two groups of 8-12 students
- Created detailed and relevant practice problems corresponding to the lecture material
- Maintained up-to-date information and facilitated peer-to-peer discussions, leading to problem-solving cooperation

College of Science Peer Mentor ***Aug. 2019 - May 2020***

- Met regularly with first-year chemistry undergraduates to provide advice and support during their acclimation into college
- Attended a weekly SCEN 289 course to implement designed lesson plans focusing on topics related to both success in academia and in social adult environments

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher
Prof. Daniel Weix, Madison, Wisconsin ***Jan. 2023 – present***

- Investigated the capabilities of semiconductor quantum dots for traditional photochemical organic reactions
- Leveraged pre-arrangement of organic molecules for TTET pathways via surface tethering onto nanomaterials
- Tailored nanomaterial catalysts to be effective in metallaphotoredox cross-electrophile coupling reactions
- Synthesized long-chain 4-vinyl benzoate derivatives for dot-mediated [2+2] photocyclizations via carboxylate binding

Undergraduate Research Assistant
Prof. John A. Gladysz, College Station, Texas ***Jan. 2020 – June 2022***
Includes 2021 Student Research Internship Program through the Texas A&M Energy Institute

- Designed and executed the synthesis of bipyrazole ligands for octahedral d^6 coordination complexes with cobalt and rhodium metal centers
- Studied lipophilic salts of Werner complexes as hydrogen-bond-donor catalysts for the enantioselective Michael additions of malonic esters to *β*-nitrostyrenes
- Explored the scope of catalysis by generating a variety of *β*-OTs-oxime ester substrates for the generation of 2*H*-azirines via Neber cyclizations
- Determined the enantiopurity of reaction products using HPLC
- Interpreted 1D NMR and 2D NMR spectra, including HSQC, HMBC, and COSY to identify structures of reaction products

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & LEADERSHIP

Commencement Ceremony, University of North Texas at Dallas ***May 2025***

- Welcomed faculty members with refreshments and directed them to the sign-in sheet for accurate attendance
- Assisted faculty with regalia and verified correct attire for the ceremony
- Maintained the faculty suite before and after the ceremony to support a professional environment

Trailblazer 360 & New Student Orientation, University of North Texas at Dallas ***April 2025 – May 2025***

- Shared information on Department of Natural Sciences resources and degree-specific program requirements
- Discussed career aspirations with incoming students, recommending suitable degree options
- Coordinated table set up and take down to provide a welcoming experience for students and their families

Graduate Recruitment Weekend, University of Wisconsin - Madison ***Feb. 2023 – March 2023; Feb. 2024 – March 2024***

- Assisted four recruits directly in navigating daily activities and in answering their immediate questions
- Attended social events to discuss post-undergraduate opportunities and first-year expectations
- Provided tours of the lab and of the NMR facility to the designated recruits

Aggie Shields, Texas A&M University ***Sep. 2017 – June 2022***

- Provided free textbooks to military college students and dependents through our lending library
- Delegated tasks to committee heads and met with organization advisors to coordinate financial structure of the organization
- Applied for grant funding dedicated to annual textbook purchases
- Scheduled social events and team-bonding experiences to facilitate and maintain member engagement within the organization
- Planned a barbeque fundraiser to support military college students

SKILLS, CREDENTIALS, & CERTIFICATES

Computational Skills: Introductory Gaussian, ORCA, and CFOUR inputs; basic understanding of Python and R in a mathematical/statistical environment
Languages: Entry-level conversational Spanish, basic conversational German
Micro-credentials: Demystifying AI – UNT Dallas (2024), How You Can Use AI – UNT Dallas (2024)
Certifications & Courses: Inbound Marketing – HubSpot Academy (2025), Six Sigma White Belt – Six Sigma Online (2025), Career Essentials in Generative AI – Microsoft and LinkedIn (2025)

PUBLICATIONS

Ehehalt, L. E.; Beleh, O. B.; **Priest, I. C.**; Mouat, J. M.; Olszewski, A. K.; Ahern, B. N.; Cruz, A. R.; Chi, B. K.; Castro, A. J.; Kang, K.; Wang, J.; Weix, D. J. Cross-Electrophile Coupling: Principles, Methods, and Applications in Synthesis. *Chem. Rev.* **2024**, *124* (23), 13397–13569. https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.chemrev.4c00524

AWARDS

ACS Undergraduate Senior Award in Organic Chemistry (2022)
- Awarded to two senior chemistry undergraduates for exhibiting excellence in organic chemistry at the undergraduate level

Dow Aggie Scholarship (2021) - $1,200
- Given to outstanding chemistry majors of junior or senior status; made available by Dow Chemical and its employees

Jaan Laane Academic Achievement Award (2021)
- Granted to two outstanding chemistry juniors, typically obtaining a B.S.

Dr. David W. Lipp ’66 Memorial Endowed Scholarship (2020, 2019) - $2,000
- Awarded to undergraduate students pursuing a degree in chemistry in good standing and enrolled full-time

Outstanding First Year Chemistry Student Award (2019)
- Presented to two exceptional chemistry students after completion of their first year within the chemistry program