MISSION
The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics is committed to the success of our students, the pursuit of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, and continued engagement in community and professional service. The College is dedicated to cultivating an environment of intellectual growth and serving as a leader in innovative research.

DEAN
Dan E. Wells, Ph.D.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS
Biology & Biochemistry
Chemistry
Computer Science
Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
Mathematics
Physics

CORE VALUES
• Dedication to student success through academic excellence
• Outstanding teaching informed by research
• Innovative science and education with global impact
• Dynamic environment that fosters academic freedom and growth
• Diverse community of faculty, staff and students

OUR FACULTY
Tenured or Tenure Track: 210

OUR STUDENTS
Undergraduate Majors: 4,799
Graduate Students: 1,008
Post-Baccalaureate Students: 211

DEGREES AWARDED
Bachelor’s: 879
Master’s: 167
Doctoral: 113

DEMOGRAPHICS
Female: 44%
Male: 56%
African-American: 6%
Asian-American: 33%
Hispanic: 23%
International: 13%
White: 20%
Other: 5%

RECENT STUDENT AWARDS
Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Grant:
Brendon Hillebran (2019); Khalid Sheikh (2018)

Goldwater Scholarships:
Debora Mróczek & Brian Vu (2019)

NSF Graduate Research Fellowships:
Jose Daniel Velazco-Garcia, Stephanie Suarez & Erin Miller (2019); Breyinn Loftin (2018); Anthony Keyes & Khanh Nguyen (2017)

Udall Scholarship:
True Furrh (2019)

RESEARCH EXPENDITURES
$30 Million (Grants & Contracts)

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE FELLOWS:
Olafs Daugulis, Shiv Halasyamani & Allan Jacobson (2018)

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY FELLOW:
Scott Gilbertson (2017)

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Scott Gilbertson (2017)

AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION FELLOW:
John Suppe (2019)

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA FELLOW:
Thomas Lapen (2018)

HUMBOLDT RESEARCH AWARD:
Zhifeng Ren (2018)

HUMBOLDT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP:
Ognjen Miljanic (2018)

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA FELLOW:
Virginia “Jinny” Sisson (2018)

NSF CAREER AWARDS:
Jakoah Brgoch, Richard Meisel, Thomas Teets & Jonny Wu (2019); Loi Do & Judy Wu (2018); Mini Das, Qi Fu, Claudia Ratti & Ding-Shyue “Jerry” Yang (2017)

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY FELLOW:
Ognjen Miljanic (2019)

SOCIÉTÉ CHIMIQUE DE FRANCE FRENCH-AMERICAN PRIZE:
Karl Kadish (2017)

UH TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS:
68 faculty recipients (2010–2019)
INNOVATIVE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Research Opportunities for Students
NSM offers a wide range of research opportunities for undergraduates at all levels. NSM students conduct research all over campus, as well as at the Texas Medical Center, the UH Coastal Center, and in industry labs. From programming computers, to pure and applied mathematics, to extended field work, wet lab experiments, and even marine research in the Galápagos Islands, NSM students gain valuable experiences that prepare them for medical school, graduate school, and their careers. Many NSM students spend multiple years working with a faculty mentor. NSM and the University offer competitive scholarships to support student researchers.

Increasing Student Success in Entry-Level Math and Sciences Classes
A $1.5 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute supports NSM faculty members’ efforts to redesign introductory chemistry, biology, physics, and mathematics courses. Through the program, professors are changing the way the material is presented and increasing the amount of hands-on learning in the classroom. Students also have access to peer-led learning sessions designed to reinforce difficult topics and improve study skills.

Scholar Enrichment Program (SEP)
This program focuses on improving the academic experience and performance of NSM students. Through peer-to-peer workshops that improve learning and problem-solving skills, SEP helps nearly 1,500 students each year succeed in basic science and math courses. SEP also has tutoring programs and funding to assist students with paying for school. SEP also offers a Summer Bridge program annually. Summer Bridge prepares high school students for their first semester of college and beyond.

teachHOUSTON
A partnership between NSM and the College of Education, teachHOUSTON is changing the way future secondary math and science teachers are trained. Students participate in classroom teaching throughout their four years at UH with rotations at local elementary, middle, and high schools. They learn valuable teaching skills from mentor teachers at public schools and master teachers at UH. Ninety percent of the graduates continue as public school teachers beyond two years.

RECENT SIGNIFICANT GRANTS
“Enhancing STEM Teacher Leadership through Equity and Advocacy Development in Houston”
Investigator: Paige Evans, Ed.D.
Funding: $2.8 Million from National Science Foundation

“Changes in Actin Dynamics Regulated by Villin and Gesolin are Determinants of Cell Fate and May Be Key to Gastrointestinal Inflammatory Disease”
Investigator: Seema Khurana, Ph.D.
Funding: $2.3 Million National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

“Clonal Reconstruction and Targeting of the Correa Sequence”
Investigator: Frank McKeon, Ph.D.
Funding: $2.3 Million National Cancer Institute

“Quantitative Cu-Homeostasis in Live Mammalian Cells at the Single-Molecule Level”
Investigator: Tai-Yen Chen, Ph.D.
Funding: $1.9 Million National Institute of General Medical Sciences

“Computational Explorations of Unconventional Approaches to Control Noncovalent Interactions”
Investigator: Judy Wu, Ph.D.
Funding: $1.9 Million National Institute of General Medical Sciences