Brooklyn College
Chemistry Department

Vision Statement

The Department of Chemistry of Brooklyn College will be recognized for excellence in teaching and research in chemistry and biochemistry in the context of a diverse and multicultural student and faculty body. As part of one of the major Colleges of the City University of New York, the Department will continue to offer up-to-date high quality undergraduate and Graduate programs (ACS-approved B.S., B.A.; Masters; and Ph.D. through the Graduate Center), to contribute to excellent pre-professional training in the health sciences and engineering, and to the preparation of elementary and high school science teachers. The Department will offer challenging courses in support of majors in biology, physics and geology and stimulating CORE courses that will provide a sound scientific background for all the students of the College. Through interactions with high school students, their teachers and their families, the Department will aim to attract more students to careers in chemistry and related professions.

The faculty will build strong research programs in a variety of fields with an increasing tendency toward collaborative and interdisciplinary work, supported by growing external funding, postdoctoral associates, well-equipped laboratory facilities and modern instrumentation. Faculty will integrate their research expertise into their courses as much as possible and will engage in mentoring graduate, undergraduate and distinguished high school students as an integral part of their academic activities. The faculty will be committed to periodic curriculum revisions and to the use of a variety of teaching methods including current and emerging pedagogies that address the particular needs of a diverse student body.

We envision our students becoming academically well rounded. They will be skilled in all the basic areas of chemistry (organic, inorganic, analytical, physical and biochemistry) to the highest standards and in safe and sound laboratory practices, including the use of technology and state-of-the-art instrumentation. They will develop critical thinking and the ability to search, read and understand scientific literature and to write reports, make presentations and communicate with individuals and groups. They will relate the acquired knowledge to other courses, to other disciplines, to the world around them, and to their own lives.

We envision our graduates as knowledgeable, successful and responsible citizens, respectful of diversity and of the environment, and aware of the social, economic and ethical impact of their activities. Our B.S/B.A. graduates will be qualified to enter graduate programs in chemistry or biochemistry in top universities or professional schools in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, or engineering. Their skills will allow them to engage in meaningful careers in the chemical, pharmaceutical, food and energy industries, in government agencies related to the sciences, or in science teaching at the elementary and high school level. Our M.S. and Ph.D. graduates will be highly competent for academic or industrial positions.