

Meet the New Director of the Microanalysis Facility

Please join me in welcoming Ashley Blystone to the SCS. Ashley Blystone is taking over as Director of the Microanalysis Facility, and we look forward to her contributions to the SCS. - Danielle Gray



Hi, I'm Ashley! I am from a small-town northeast of Pittsburgh, PA. I received a B.S. in chemistry from Westminister College of New Wilmington, PA in 2012. After undergrad, I enrolled at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA where I received my PhD in Chemistry in 2019. My graduate work focused on the modification of metal oxide surfaces using self-assembled monolayers to improve their utility in biomedical applications. Here, I utilized surface characterization methods (AFM, DRIFT IR, MALDI-TOF, and contact angle) as well as cell culturing techniques (bacterial and mammalian). After graduate school, I was hired as a senior staff scientist for the customer analytical lab of Solenis. During my time there, I was the technical lead for the XRF, TGA, and SEM-EDS instruments.

Outside of work, I manage a small herd of guinea pigs. I also enjoy hockey, and being from Pittsburgh, my favorite team is obviously the Penguins. I look forward to working with all of you in my new role here at UIUC. Please feel free to stop by my office to discuss any ideas you may have for the Microanalysis Facility!

Microanalysis Needs Your Help!

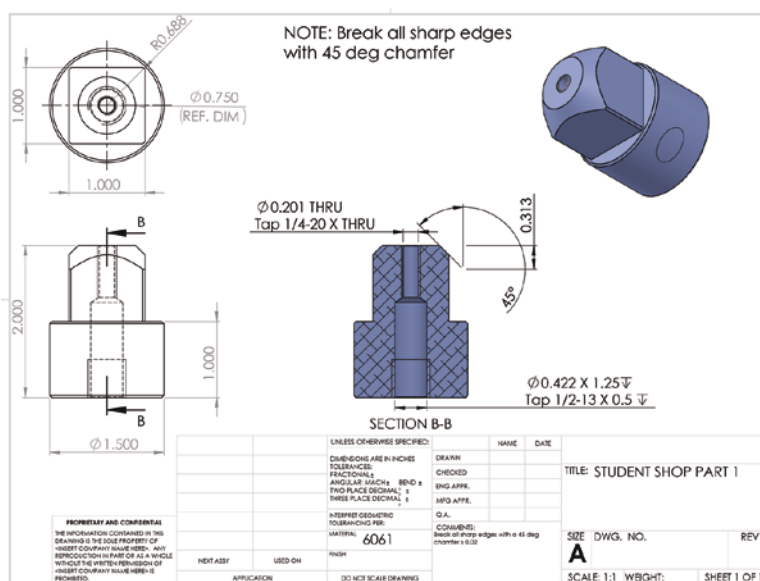


Masks are back!

Please take note of the latest Covid-19 guidelines posted at the entrance of each CORES facility.

Student Machine Shop Training Reopens

The SCS Student Machine Shop is reopening this fall semester for student training! Trained students can use the Student Machine Shop by appointment. The training course will consist of Machine Shop Safety and the use of the lathe & milling machines. Training will be limited to 3 people per course time slot and will require a minimum of five 2-hour sessions. The cost of the course training is \$137.27/student.



If you are interested in taking the training course, please contact David Williams at dwillms@illinois.edu so we can plan course sections.

Sadly the DSC and TGA in the Microanalysis Facility are both broken and are beyond repair. We would like to know your research needs for potential replacement instrumentation.

Please take a minute to complete this survey linked below. If you have any additional comments make sure to choose "Other" as a response to the questions so you can elaborate on your research needs.

<https://surveys.illinois.edu/sec/63972209>