

# Michelle L. Kovarik, PhD

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## EDUCATION

- 2009 **PhD**, Analytical Chemistry, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN  
Dissertation: "Electrokinetic Transport, Trapping, and Sensing in Integrated Micro- and Nanofluidic Devices"
- 2004 **BS**, Chemistry, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO
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## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2013-present **Assistant Professor of Chemistry**  
Trinity College, Hartford, CT
- 2010-2013 **Postdoctoral Scholar**  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND INTERESTS

### Current Research

Interests: microchip electrophoresis with laser-induced fluorescence detection, lipid-based coatings for microfluidics, kinase and peptidase assays in *Dictyostelium discoideum*

- 2010-2013 **Postdoctoral Research**  
Advisor: Prof. Nancy L. Allbritton, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill  
Project: single-cell enzyme assays on a microfluidic platform
- 2004-2009 **Graduate Research**  
Advisor: Prof. Stephen C. Jacobson, Indiana University – Bloomington  
Project: transport in and applications of nanofluidic devices
- 2002-2004 **Undergraduate Research**  
Advisors: Profs. Dana M. Spence and R. Scott Martin, Saint Louis University  
Project: amperometric detection for a microvasculature biomimic
- Advisor: Prof. Michael Jay, University of Kentucky  
Project: optimization of aqueous nanosuspensions for liquid scintillation counting
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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Assistant Professor, Trinity College, Hartford, CT

- Introductory Chemistry I (Fall 2015)
- Introductory Chemistry II (Spring 2014)
- Analytical Chemistry (Fall: 2013, 2014)

## **Michelle L. Kovarik**

- Instrumental Methods of Chemical Analysis (Spring: 2014-2016)
- Biological Chemistry (Spring 2016)
- Independent Study – Chemistry and Chemical Analysis of Wine (Spring: 2014, 2015)
- First Year Seminar – Science: Intersections of Money and Discovery (Fall 2015)

### **Visiting Instructor, North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC**

- Quantitative Analysis II (Fall 2011)
  - General Chemistry VI (Spring 2011)
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## **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MENTORSHIP**

### **Trinity College, Hartford, CT**

- Senior Thesis
  - Lorena Lazo de la Vega '14
- Science Research Apprenticeship
  - Eleanor Clerc '17 (Spring 2014)
- Undergraduate Research
  - Livia Shehaj '15 (Fall 2013-Spring 2015)
  - Berjana Nazarko IDP (Summer 2014)
  - Eleanor Clerc '17 (Fall 2014)
  - Kunwei Yang '17 (Fall 2014-Fall 2015)
  - Allison Tierney '17 (Spring-Fall 2015)
  - Zachary Garber '16 (Summer 2015)
  - Jessica Duong '19 (Spring 2016)
  - Casey Crowley '19 (Spring 2016)
  - Kathy Rodogiannis '17 (Summer 2016)

### **University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC**

- Senior Thesis
  - Ranjit Poonnen (2012-2013)
- Undergraduate Research
  - Uduak Udoeyo (2012) \*while enrolled at Temple University
  - Ronald Smith (2011) \*while enrolled at North Carolina A&T State University
  - Jessie Xiong (2010-2011)

### **Indiana University, Bloomington, IN**

- Undergraduate Research
    - Graham Erwin (2008-2009)
    - Samuel Sudhoff (2006)
    - Noah Herron (2005)
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## **ACADEMIC HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**

2010-2012 SPIRE Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, funded by the National Institutes of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) at NIH

## Michelle L. Kovarik

- 2008 Merck Research Laboratories Fellowship in Analytical/Physical Chemistry  
2<sup>nd</sup> place student poster in materials science, Indiana Microscopy Society Spring Meeting  
1<sup>st</sup> place in natural science, Indiana University Women in Science Research Conference  
Academic Travel Award to attend LabAutomation 2008, ALA
- 2005-2008 Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation
- 2007 Felix Hauowitz Award for outstanding performance through the candidacy exam, Indiana University Chemistry Department  
1<sup>st</sup> place in math/technology, Indiana University Women in Science Research Day
- 2005 Merck Graduate Analytical/Physical Travel Award
- 2004 Women in Science Fellowship, Indiana University-Bloomington  
Outstanding Senior Chemistry Student, American Institute of Chemists  
Coryell Award for Undergraduate Research, ACS Division of Nuclear Chemistry & Technology  
I. M. Kolthoff Award for Undergraduate Research, ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry
- 2003 Saint Louis Rubber Group Scholarship  
Outstanding Junior Chemistry Student, Saint Louis University  
Alpha Sigma Nu (Jesuit Honor Society)  
Phi Beta Kappa
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## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
  - American Chemical Society (ACS)
    - Division of Analytical Chemistry
    - Subdivision of Chromatography and Separations Chemistry
  - Curriculum development team for the Analytical Sciences Digital Library Active Learning site (June 2014-present)
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## SERVICE

### Committee Member

- 2015-present Executive Committee Member of the ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry's Subdivision of Chromatography and Separations Chemistry (SCSC)
- 2015-present Individualized Degree Program (IDP) Council, Trinity College
- 2015-present Faculty Diversity Working Group, Trinity College
- 2012-2013 Scientific Review Committee, North Carolina Science & Engineering Fair

## Michelle L. Kovarik

- 2011 Planning & Budget Committees, Biennial Chemical Sciences Symposium, North Carolina A&T State University
- 2010-2011 Undergraduate Committee, SPIRE Distinguished Scholar Seminar, University of North Carolina

### Panelist

- 2014 Establishing Your Voice in the Classroom, Trinity College  
Winter Institute on Technology and Teaching, Trinity College
- 2013 Finding Teaching Faculty Positions, University of North Carolina
- 2011 Teaching Your First Undergraduate Course, University of North Carolina
- 2010 How to Have a Successful Summer Research Experience, University of North Carolina
- 2009 Introduction to the Postdoc Application Process, Indiana University  
How to Make a Successful Research Poster, Indiana University

### Other Service

- Reviewer for *Analytical Chemistry*, *Lab on a Chip*, *Electrophoresis*, *Analytical Methods*, *Analytica Chimica Acta*, *Journal of Micromechanics and Microengineering*, and *Journal of Applied Polymer Science*
- Judge for 8 science fairs at the local, regional, and state levels since 2009

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### GRANTS FUNDED

- 2016 “RUI: Substrate Reporters and Microelectrophoretic Tools for Lysate and Single-Cell Studies of PKB Activity in *Dictyostelium discoideum*” National Science Foundation, Molecular and Cellular Biosciences, Award No. 1615482, \$212,253.
- 2013 “Analyses of water samples from the Connecticut River watershed: A collaboration between Trinity College instrumental analysis students and 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy,” ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant, \$500.
- 2011 “Pesticide Detection: A Joint Project between NCATSU Instrumental Analysis Students and the Rankin Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class,” ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry International Year of Chemistry Grant, \$500.
- 2010 “Giant Unilamellar Vesicles as Proxy Cells in Microfluidic Analyses,” SPIRE program, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, \$2000.

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### INVITED LECTURES

- 2016 “Using the Primary Literature in Analytical Chemistry Teaching,” Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition (CSC), Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- “Microfluidic and peptide-based tools for biochemical investigations of social amoebae,” Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.
- 2015 “Probing the biochemistry of cellular heterogeneity,” Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY.

## Michelle L. Kovarik

- 2014 “Bringing instrumental analysis into the K-12 classroom: Service learning projects and laboratory coursework,” Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (Pittcon), Chicago, IL.
- 2013 “Small scale for a large audience: Outreach projects on microfabrication and microfluidics,” Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (Pittcon), Philadelphia, PA.
- 2012 “Microfabrication as a tool for biomedical sciences,” Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL.
- 2010 “Understanding cellular heterogeneity through single-cell analyses,” North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC.
- 2009 “Nanofluidic devices for bacterial chemotaxis assays,” DePauw University, Greencastle, IN.
- 2008 “Integrated micro- and nanofluidic systems for chemical analysis,” Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO.
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### SELECTED RECENT PRESENTATIONS

*30 submitted presentations since 2004, including 8 talks and 22 posters at local, regional, national and international meetings.*

- 2016 “Quantitation of kinase activity in a social amoeba using capillary electrophoresis and a peptide substrate reporter” (podium), the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (Pittcon), Atlanta, GA
- 2015 “Implementing a Peptide Reporter Substrate in *Dictyostelium discoideum*” (poster), the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (Pittcon), New Orleans, LA
- 2013 “Signaling in single cancer cells” (podium), Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (Pittcon), Philadelphia, PA.
- “Chemical cytometry of peptidase activity in acute myeloid leukemia cells” (poster), Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (Pittcon), Philadelphia, PA.
- “Microtechnology to interrogate signaling in single cells” (podium), Symposium on Single Cell/Single Molecule Biology, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2012 “Incorporating service learning in a laboratory course: A practical guide” (poster), Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Awards Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- “Characterizing sample injection on a microfluidic device for chemical cytometry” (podium) Biomedical Engineering Department Retreat, Raleigh, NC.

*Additionally, Trinity undergraduate research students have given 12 submitted poster and podium presentations on our work at local, regional, and national meetings since 2014.*

## PUBLICATIONS

Undergraduate co-authors are underlined. Equal contribution indicated by \*.

### Peer-Reviewed Research Articles

13. **ML Kovarik**, AJ Dickinson, P Roy, RA Poonnen, JP Fine, NL Allbritton, “Response of single leukemic cells to peptidase inhibitor therapy across time and dose using a microfluidic device,” *Integrative Biology*, **2014**, *6*, 164-174.
12. **ML Kovarik**, PK Shah, PM Armistead, and NL Allbritton, “Microfluidic chemical cytometry of peptide degradation in single drug-treated acute myeloid leukemia cells,” *Analytical Chemistry*, **2013**, *85*, 4991–4997.
11. **ML Kovarik**, HH Lai, JC Xiong, and NL Allbritton, “Sample transport and electrokinetic injection in a microchip device for chemical cytometry,” *Electrophoresis*, **2011**, *32*, 3180-3187.
10. **ML Kovarik**, PJB Brown, DT Kysela, C Berne, AC Kinsella, YV Brun, and SC Jacobson, “A microchannel-nanopore device for bacterial chemotaxis assays,” *Analytical Chemistry*, **2010**, *82*, 9357–9364.
9. **ML Kovarik**, K Zhou,\* and SC Jacobson, “Effect of conical nanopore diameter on ion current rectification,” *Journal of Physical Chemistry B*, **2009**, *113*, 15960-15966.
8. K Zhou, **ML Kovarik**, and SC Jacobson, “Surface-charge-induced ion depletion and sample stacking near single nanopores in microfluidic devices,” *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, **2008**, *130*, 8614-8616.
7. **ML Kovarik** and SC Jacobson, “Integrated nanopore/microchannel devices for ac electrokinetic trapping of particles,” *Analytical Chemistry*, **2008**, *80*, 657-664.
6. **ML Kovarik** and SC Jacobson, “Attoliter-scale dispensing in nanofluidic channels,” *Analytical Chemistry*, **2007**, *79*, 1655-1660.
5. D Zhu, Z Mu, C Mooty, **M Kovarik**, and M Jay, “Suspensions of fluor-containing nanoparticles for quantifying  $\beta$ -emitting radionuclides in non-hazardous media,” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Innovation*, **2006**, *Sept/Oct*, 76-82.
4. **ML Kovarik** and SC Jacobson, “Fabrication of three-dimensional micro- and nanoscale features with single-exposure photolithography,” *Analytical Chemistry*, **2006**, *78*, 5214-5217.
3. **ML Kovarik**, MW Li, and RS Martin, “Integration of a carbon microelectrode with a fabricated palladium decoupler for use in microchip capillary electrophoresis/electrochemistry,” *Electrophoresis*, **2005**, *26*, 202-210.
2. DM Spence, NJ Torrence, **ML Kovarik**, and RS Martin, “Amperometric determination of nitric oxide derived from pulmonary artery endothelial cells immobilized in a microchip channel,” *Analyst*, **2004**, 995-1000.

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1. **ML Kovarik**, NJ Torrence, DM Spence, and RS Martin, "Fabrication of carbon microelectrodes with a micromolding technique and their use in microchip-based flow analyses," *Analyst*, **2004**, 400-405.

### Review Articles & Book Chapters

7. **ML Kovarik**, "Use of primary literature in the undergraduate analytical class," *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry*, **2016**, 408, 3045-3049.
  6. **L Shehaj**, **L Lazo de la Vega**, **ML Kovarik**, "Microfluidic Chemical Cytometry for Enzyme Assays of Single Cells," Chapter 15 in *Single Cell Protein Analysis: Methods and Protocols*, eds. A Singh and A Chandrasekaran, vol. 1346, Methods in Molecular Biology, Humana Press, 2015.
  5. **ML Kovarik**, "Analytical chemistry research at primarily undergraduate institutions: training tomorrow's investigators," *Analytical Methods*, **2015**, 7, 6960-6966.
  4. **ML Kovarik**, DM Ornoff, AT Melvin, NC Dobes, Y Wang, AJ Dickinson, PG Gach, PK Shah, and NL Allbritton, "Micro total analysis systems: Fundamental advances and applications in the laboratory, clinic, and field," *Analytical Chemistry*, **2013**, 85, 451-472.
  3. **ML Kovarik**, PC Gach, DM Ornoff, Y Wang, J Balowski, L Farrag, and NL Allbritton, "Micro total analysis systems for cell biology and biochemical analysis," *Analytical Chemistry*, **2012**, 84, 516-540.
  2. **ML Kovarik** and NL Allbritton, "Measuring enzyme activity in single cells," *Trends in Biotechnology*, **2011**, 29, 222-230.
  1. **ML Kovarik** and SC Jacobson, "Nanofluidics in lab-on-a-chip devices," *Analytical Chemistry*, **2009**, 81, 7133-7140.
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