Connor Briggs

Statement

Chemistry graduate from Virginia Tech with five years research experience. Motivated to learn. Strong attention to detail, and always with a positive attitude. Energetic personality. My documentation skills are strong from my background in computer programming. Work well in team oriented settings. Self-motivated and good at multi-tasking.

Education

08/2017 - **B.S. in Chemistry, Mathematics Minor**, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and 05/2022 State University (Virginia Tech), Blacksburg, VA, 24060, GPA: 2.75.

Completed a bachelor's degree in chemistry. While taking classes, I also worked with Dr. Daniel Crawford's research group, where I contributed to the publication of one paper, and wrote thousands of lines of code. I also learned the importance of confidentiality in the sciences.

08/2013 - **High School Diploma**, Shippensburg Area Senior High School, Shippensburg, 05/2017 PA, 17257.

Skills

- Polymer and Material Science
- Organic Chemistry
- Purification
- Analytical Chemistry
- Writing Documentation
- Laboratory Housekeeping
- Team-work
- Leadership

- X-Ray Crystallography
- Chromatography (GC, HPLC)
- X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)
- Laboratory Record Keeping
- Instrumentation
- Written Communications
- Individual Work
- Performing Experiments

Work Experience

05/2022 - Student Researcher, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, 24061.

07/2022 Led an individual research project under the supervision of Dr. Joseph Merola. Performed over 20 reactions and investigated the ring-opening reactions of several different substituted thiophenes. The study investigated over 10 different rings, and involved the synthesis of a common iridium catalyst.

05/2018 - Salesperson, Sheetz, Shippensburg, PA, 17257.

07/2021 Worked as a cashier, serving hundreds of customers daily. Also spent some time as a line cook, with high order accuracy and speed, rarely dipping below a success rate of 60%.

Awards

07/2022 ACS Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry, ACS Division of Inorganic Chemistry.

This award is given to undergraduate students who display excellence in inorganic chemistry, especially through research and coursework.

Projects

05/2022 - Thiophene Ring Insertions, Virginia Tech.

07/2022 In this project, I performed experiments to deduce the mechanics of a ring insertion reaction between tris(trimethylphosphine)(1,5-cyclooctadiene)iridium(I) chloride and several thiophene derivatives.

Selected Publications

Benjamin G. Peyton, Connor Briggs, Ruhee D'Cunha, Johannes T. Margraf, and T. Daniel Crawford. Machine-learning coupled cluster properties through a density tensor representation. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A*, 124(23):4861–4871, 2020. PMID: 32412756.