



CWU

CHEMISTRY CAREER TALKS

Monday, February 23

2:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Science 147



Alumni Speakers:

TAYLOR BABCOCK | Selah School District

LINDSAY GROCE | Big Bend Community College

TREVOR SCHULTZ | Confluence Health

ALUMNI SPEAKERS



TAYLOR BABCOCK

Current Title: Science Teacher

Current Employer: Selah School District

Time at Current Job: 4 years

Degrees: BA Chemistry Teaching,
CWU 2017

MS in Secondary Education,
Western Governors University 2021

After graduating from Central Washington University in 2017 with a Bachelor's degree in Education, she entered the field of education, where she has now spent the past nine years. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Secondary Chemistry Education and has since taught a wide range of science courses, including environmental science, geology, astronomy, biology, and her favorite subject, chemistry.

She has worked in the Selah School District for the past four years, following earlier experience in the Yakima School District. Shortly after beginning her career in the Yakima School District, the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically altered the educational landscape. Recognizing the need to continue growing professionally, she applied to Western Governors University in March 2020 and began a Master's program in Secondary

Education with a focus on Earth and Space Science on May 1, 2020.

She was drawn to teaching science because it combines two of her greatest passions: helping people learn and exploring science. While teaching can be challenging, she finds it deeply rewarding to watch students wrestle with new ideas, develop curiosity, and ultimately succeed.

As she reflects on her own career journey, she encourages others to keep an open mind about their future paths. The job one initially imagines may not always be the best fit, and that is okay. Few people remain in the same role for their entire lives. Being willing to try new opportunities, stay curious, take risks, and value hard work can lead to meaningful and unexpected career possibilities.

ALUMNI SPEAKERS



LINDSAY GROCE

Current Title: Chemistry Professor

Current Employer: Big Bend Community College

Time at Current Job: 13 years

Degrees: BA Chemistry CWU 2006
BS Biology CWU 2006
BA Foreign Language - Spanish CWU 2006
MS Chemistry CWU 2012

Lindsay Groce is a Senior Associate Tenured Chemistry Professor at Big Bend Community College in Moses Lake, where she has been teaching since fall 2013. During her time at CWU, Lindsay worked with Dr. Anthony Diaz studying fundamental structure-function relationships in luminescent materials in the europium-doped SrO-Y₂O₃-BrO₃ and SrO-La₂O₃-BrO₃ systems. One of the highlights of her research work was attending the 2011 Phosphor Safari conference in Niigata, Japan with Dr. Diaz where her poster earned the Outstanding Student Poster Award.

Big Bend Community College is a rural, Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) that serves 4 counties in eastern Washington. Lindsay likes to say that she tripped and fell into her position there as a teaching career was never really on her radar. She was a TA in chemistry labs as an undergraduate and a tutor in the Spanish department. Teaching was always a

part of who she was, even if it was not originally part of the chemistry plan. Lindsay's current chemistry interests include luminescent and fluorescent materials, nuclear chemistry, forensic chemistry, and materials science, and she incorporates those interests where she can within the curriculum she teaches. She has taught all levels of chemistry offered at Big Bend, though primarily covers general chemistry.

Her biggest piece of advice is to keep as many doors open for yourself as possible. You never know which parts of your background and experiences will get you a foot in the door, so it is beneficial to have a wide range of them. One of the things she wishes she had known more about prior to graduation was that a career like hers was possible with a master's degree. Lindsay looks forward to talking more about that journey and fielding any questions folks have about a career in higher education.

ALUMNI SPEAKERS



TREVOR SCHULTZ

Current Title: Inpatient Pharmacist

Current Employer: Confluence Health

Time at Current Job: 2.5 years

Degrees: BS Chemistry CWU 2018
PharmD WSU 2022

Trevor has always felt drawn to a career in healthcare. His passion for chemistry was ignited during his first high school chemistry class, thanks to an inspiring teacher who made the subject both enjoyable and engaging.

During his time at CWU, Trevor's interest deepened as he worked in Gil Belofsky's natural products research laboratory. The transition from studying natural products to pursuing a career in pharmacy made sense, given the significant role natural products play in the development of pharmaceutical drugs.

Trevor earned his PharmD from WSU, where he spent three years in rigorous coursework and one year in various rotational on-the-job experiences. Following his graduation, Trevor completed a pharmacy residency with MultiCare in Puyallup, WA, where his professional skills were honed further.

Currently, Trevor serves as an inpatient pharmacist with Confluence Health in Wenatchee, WA. His primary responsibilities include overseeing the safe and accurate delivery of all hospital medications to patients. Pharmacists there collaborate closely with a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals to optimize medication therapies and enhance overall healthcare outcomes.

In his leisure time, Trevor enjoys exploring the stunning outdoor landscapes of the Wenatchee Valley and surrounding areas. He is eager to share his unique insights into a career in pharmacy, particularly the diverse opportunities available beyond the traditional retail or community pharmacy settings.