

PREPARING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS FOR ROLES IN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Virtual Seminar

Monday

February 23, 2026

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Meeting ID:
955 1675 6330

Passcode:
574547



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According to recent American Chemical Society data, most chemistry graduates enter industry after earning their bachelor's degree. However, little is known about how these graduates transition from academia into chemical industry roles. Additionally, previous work has provided evidence of the types of instruments students use in undergraduate chemistry laboratories, with limited evidence on employers' expectations for specific instrument knowledge as chemistry students enter industry. The aim of our work was to determine the frequency of occurrence and value of specific instruments used in industry to help better align undergraduate chemistry laboratory curricula with the needs of industry. Additional data was also collected on the most important skills needed to succeed in industry, as well as the perceptions of the undergraduate courses where these skills are most effectively acquired. This seminar will focus on identifying the instruments most commonly used by industry chemists and the key knowledge and skills required for success in these roles. Additionally, preliminary findings from a qualitative investigation of factors that contribute to a successful transition from undergraduate student to industry professional, via interviews with current industry chemists, will be presented.