KEY FACTS

School of Chemistry and Biochemistry
chembiochem.uwa.edu.au

The School of Chemistry and Biochemistry (SCB) contributes strongly to UWA's international profile and research leadership in the sciences, as evidenced by the University's 2015 ARWU rankings of 1st in Australia and 25th in the world for 'Life and Agriculture Sciences', and 63rd in 'Clinical Medicine and Pharmacy'. UWA is the second-ranked institution in Australia in the research area of “Crystallography”, and sixth in Australia in the research area of ‘Biochemistry and Molecular Biology’, based on publications and citations for the period 2000–2015*.

The Head of School, Professor Mark Spackman, is an eminent crystallographer, winner of the prestigious Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (RSAS) 2013 Gregori Aminoff Prize in Crystallography. He is the first Australian to receive the Nobel Academy’s honour.

The School of Chemistry and Biochemistry (SCB) is internationally renowned for the excellence of our teaching and research, which reflect the rapidly evolving developments of modern science. SCB is located in the Bayliss Building on UWA’s Crawley campus. The Bayliss is a very prominent showcase building and a $65 million investment by the University in state-of-the-art facilities for chemistry, biochemistry and molecular biology. The five-storey building is the largest and most technically complex building on the University campus, with a total building area of 17,000 m2.

SCB is committed to delivering excellent undergraduate teaching of chemistry, biochemistry, molecular biology and molecular genetics. Our teaching is predominantly laboratory-based undergraduate teaching. We deliver 20 undergraduate units per annum to approximately 3,600 enrolled students. Students of the Bachelor of Science (BSc) are offered a number of undergraduate majors with the School:

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major
- Chemistry major
- Genetics major
- Biomedical Science double major

There is a strong demand for science programs from local and international onshore and offshore students at undergraduate and postgraduate coursework levels, particularly as the BSc is an entry point to the postgraduate medical degree.

SCB has well established extensive research activity across broad ranges of chemistry, biochemistry, molecular biology and molecular genetics.

Areas of Research:

- Cell Biology and Regulation
- Computational Chemistry
- Environmental Chemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Lactation Research
- Metabolism
- Molecular Biology
- Nanotechnology
- Organic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Structural Biology
- Synthetic Chemistry
- Biological Chemistry

The School incorporates an industry-funded research centre (Human Lactation Research Group), as well as supporting staff and providing infrastructure services to the co-located ARC Centre of Excellence in Plant Energy Biology.

SCB’s research income has increased steadily from $4.4 million in 2012 to $6.5 million in 2014. SCB's highly-cited researchers publish around 150 peer-reviewed journal articles annually, including papers in premier journals. The School's dedicated academic staff, including six ARC Future Fellows, have international collaborations and networks. On average we have more than 80 enrolled PhD students.

SCB involvement in postgraduate programs includes the Master of Biotechnology and the Master of Biomedical Science.

Faculty of Science

The University of Western Australia
Perth WA 6009 Australia
Tel: +61 8 6488 4414
Email: engagement-sci@uwa.edu.au
chembiochem.uwa.edu.au
Key research areas: chembiochem.uwa.edu.au/research

*Thomson Reuters InCites