

**Dr. Rainer Glaser**  
Professor and Chair

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**Missouri University of  
Science and Technology**

Department of Chemistry  
104B Schrenk Hall  
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Rolla, MO 65409-0010, USA

September 22, 2020

Dear Department Chair,

In the current academic year, **Missouri S&T celebrates its sesquicentennial** (<https://150.mst.edu/>), and Missouri S&T's Department of Chemistry celebrated its quasiquicentennial (125 years) just a year ago! In 1893, chemistry separated from metallurgy, and Dr. William Seamon became the first chair. I assumed my current position as the 17<sup>th</sup> chair on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, and it has been a true privilege to contribute to the department's evolution.

The chemistry department is a strong and modern research unit with 21 full-time faculty, 7 active adjunct faculty, over 60 graduate and post-graduate students, and some 90 undergraduate majors. With our international faculty and diverse student body, we are well positioned to compete internationally in education and research. Extensive renovations of the Schrenk Hall west wing were completed in 2019, progress has been made to refurbish the older Schrenk Hall east wing, and a modern vivarium is set to open by the end of the year. These improvements will catalyze the department to compete at the next level.

Our research addresses the fundamental questions that provide answers to important societal problems. Modern challenges require interdisciplinary approaches, and many of our faculty are leaders of state-of-the-art research centers. The attached **newsletter and materials highlight just a few of our recent accomplishments** and hopefully lets you feel some of the excitement of the scientific discoveries going on in our department.

Also attached is a list of **Topics of Faculty Presentations 2020/21**. Our faculty would be delighted to present on any of their research topics in your seminar or colloquium series. With a view to travel restrictions because of the on-going pandemic, the presentations will have to be via zoom in FS20 but in-person visits might become possible again in SP21. We are aware that some departments do not have a budget to cover the expenses associated with the visit by an external speaker. Hence, S&T's Department of Chemistry will cover all expenses associated with up to ten invited presentations in the AY20/21. If you are interested, please let us know early so that we can plan accordingly.

I encourage you to explore the website of the Department of Chemistry ([chem.mst.edu](http://chem.mst.edu)) to get more information about our faculty, programs and facilities and the many opportunities for our students. If you, a faculty, or students interested in graduate studies would like to visit our department, please call the department at 573-341-4420 or email me directly at [glaserr@mst.edu](mailto:glaserr@mst.edu). We will be happy to arrange for you to tour our newly renovated facilities and meet faculty and students from your areas of interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rainer Glaser".

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Rainer Glaser  
Professor and Chair