



The University of Akron  
**College of Polymer Science  
and Polymer Engineering**

# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

The College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering is proud of the intellectually rich experiential learning environment our faculty provide. Tell us about a faculty member that you want to see in the spotlight by emailing us at [cpspe-alumni@uakron.edu](mailto:cpspe-alumni@uakron.edu).

***Dr. Chunming Liu** is an Assistant Professor of Polymer Science and Chemistry. We recently had the pleasure of speaking with Dr. Liu about his career at The University of Akron's College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering. Read more about his life and career below.*

### **Tell us something about yourself:**

I received my B.S. in Chemistry from Nanjing University in China and my Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Texas A&M University. I moved to Cornell University and worked as a postdoc and research associate. My research is focused on developing single-molecule methods for studying polymer chemistry and physics.

### **What were the driving factors in your decision to join the CPSPE faculty?**

I believe my research will benefit from the excellent research environment in the college, where I can connect with experts in almost all polymer related fields. My expertise in single-molecule techniques can also complement and contribute to the current strength of the college in the polymer characterization field.

### **What's your teaching philosophy or your outlook on higher education?**

I am committed to educating students with fundamental knowledge and skills, as well as delivering research frontiers. My teaching emphasizes logical thinking on top of specific knowledge and skills, which is important for students to solve problems and make discoveries in their own careers.

### **What are some of your favorite things to do when you're not teaching?**

I have fun playing badminton and basketball. I also play saxophone and do Chinese ink painting in my spare time.

### **What do you love most about your job at The University of Akron, and your work through your particular department?**

I love the research environment in the department. Both the department and the college are very supportive of research. And the research facilities and the experienced staff members are very helpful. There are a lot of opportunities to communicate with experts in different fields, which facilitates the exchange of ideas and collaborations.

### **What are your goals for CPSPE and your department?**

I aim to push the border of the understanding of polymer chemistry and polymer physics by single-molecule measurements, and develop new analytical tools and methods for polymer and material research.

### **What is one thing that you hope each of your students learned from you?**

Be patient and open-minded.

