



## Department of Chemistry

TENNESSEE TECH

### 2023 Michael P. Jennings Undergraduate Research Fellowship

The Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Awards Program supports the research and teaching careers of talented young faculty in the chemical sciences at undergraduate institutions. Based on institutional nominations, the program provides discretionary funding to faculty at an early stage in their careers. The award is based on accomplishment in scholarly research with undergraduates, as well as a compelling commitment to teaching.

Prof. Jesse D. Carrick of the TN Tech Chemistry Department won a Henry Dreyfus Teacher Scholar award in 2022 for his research proposal entitled: "Synthetic Approaches to Minor Actinide Separations from Lanthanides Contained within Spent Nuclear Fuel." Prof. Carrick's lab is working on designing, preparing, and testing molecules to specifically bind to select f-elements of the periodic table which are common byproducts of nuclear fission.

A portion of the funds from this award are being utilized to initiate a fellowship in the Department of Chemistry to support experiential research opportunities for students during the academic year. Prof. Carrick chose to name this fellowship in honor of his Ph.D. mentor, Prof. Michael P. Jennings of The University of Alabama, who passed away unexpectedly on January 11, 2022 at the age of 46, leaving behind a wife and three young daughters. Prof. Jennings was a brilliant scientist and wonderful person who was loved by all who had the honor of knowing him.

Any student who meets the following criteria will be eligible to be considered to receive the Michael P. Jennings Undergraduate Research Fellowship:

- **Must be a chemistry major with a science GPA at, or above 3.00**
- **Must be a rising senior with interest in pursuing an advanced degree in chemistry upon completion of the B.S.**
- **Must demonstrate strong personal character**
- **Must have previous research experience**
- **Must have employment experience outside the university**
- **Must be from a rural county**
- **Must have made contributions to university, or external service**

Interested students should submit an application package, including a current resume and an essay which addresses the selection criteria above, as well as the applicant's post-graduate career plans, by **March 10, 2023** electronically as a merged PDF to Prof. J. Carrick ([jcarrick@tntech.edu](mailto:jcarrick@tntech.edu)). Questions can also be referred to Prof. J. Carrick. The successful awardee will be recognized at the annual chemistry department awards banquet.