

Sauk Valley Community College
April 3, 2023

Action Item 4.2

Topic: Faculty Appointment – Chemistry

Mission: Sauk Valley Community College is dedicated to teaching and scholarship while engaging the community in lifelong learning, public service, and economic development.

Presented By: Dr. David Hellmich and Dr. Jon Mandrell

Presentation:

The administration has been in the process of hiring a Chemistry Faculty Instructor. The position was advertised on-line on Sauk Valley Community College's website, *Glassdoor.com*, *higheredsjobs.com*, *Indeed.com*, and in Sauk Valley Media (the *Dixon Telegraph* and the *Daily Gazette*). The College received twenty-five applications, and three candidates were invited to interview on campus. The committee was composed of Cindy Everett, Kathleen Sotelo, and Brad Smith. Dr. Shelley Barkley, Dean of General Education and Transfer Programs, served as Chairperson.

Academic background: Jackson Holcomb graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a Master's Degree in Chemistry and Grinnell College with a Bachelor's Degree in Biochemistry.

Professional background: Jackson has been a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Illinois at Chicago for the past year and a half. He has worked as a Quality Control Chemist for Fresenius-Kabi and as a Quality Control Associate Chemist for Cambrex.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the Board approve the appointment of Jackson Holcomb as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry beginning August 11, 2023, at an annual base salary of \$47,206.26.

Jackson Holcomb

Dear Hiring Faculty,

I am writing to apply for the position of Chemistry Instructor beginning Spring 2023, as advertised on your department website. I am currently a Master's student at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and fully expect to graduate with my Master's degree in Chemistry in December 2022. I am extremely interested in obtaining a faculty position at Sauk Valley Community College, and I am confident my experience and knowledge has provided a strong basis for a successful teaching career.

My academic training and experience in the pharmaceutical industry have prepared me to be an effective instructor in your department. During my graduate education at the University of Illinois at Chicago, I have been fortunate to be a graduate teaching assistant for General Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry classes and labs. I found that my professional experience in the pharmaceutical industry provided me with the necessary outlook and understanding to teach laboratory techniques and concepts and maximize student engagement and learning. My experience as a graduate teaching assistant has elevated both my interest and confidence in chemistry instruction and I am excited for the opportunity to professionally instruct students.

The University of Illinois at Chicago is located in the heart of the multicultural city and attracts a diverse array of students. I have been privileged to teach students from a wide range of backgrounds, and it has been rewarding being a participant in their academic success. At Grinnell College, my undergraduate, the culture was incredibly open-minded and inclusive, and thanks to my time there I am even more committed to equity.

I am very excited about joining the Sauk Valley Community College faculty and I welcome the opportunity to discuss my skills and experience in an interview. My attached resume further details my accomplishments. I believe my passion, knowledge and experience will make me a valuable member of your team. I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Sincerely,

Jackson Holcomb

JACKSON HOLCOMB

EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL 09/2021-12/2022

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Teach chemistry and associated math and statistics courses to undergraduate students in subjects of General Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry
- Guide students in chemistry labs, ensuring their safety and maximizing their learning in a hands-on environment
- Deliver lectures to small class groups, emphasizing participation
- Hold office hours for personalized lessons

Fresenius-Kabi (manufacturer of small molecule APIs), Melrose Park, IL 12/2020-08/2021

Chemist, Quality Control

- Performed analytical techniques including chromatography (HPLC/UPLC) and wet chemistry methods
- Completed data review on in-process and finished products

Cambrex (manufacturer of small molecule APIs), Charles City, IA 03/2019-11/2020

Associate Chemist, Quality Control

- Performed analytical techniques including chromatography (HPLC, UPLC, GC, IC), Karl Fischer, FT-IR, AA, and NMR
- Analyzed experimental data utilizing Empower, Topspin, LabX, SOLAAR, and OMNIC software
- Trained fellow employees on instruments and testing methods
- Implemented first-time method run for review by analytical method developers
- Handled data review on in-process and finished products

Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA 08/2018 - 12/2018

Laboratory Teaching Assistant, Organic Chemistry

- Ensured student safety in laboratory settings
- Honed both theoretical and practical chemistry skills through instructing students

Danfoss (manufacturer of hydraulic and electronic components) Ames, IA 05/2018-08/2018

Production Operations Technician

- Operated assembly line equipment and machinery to make complex subassemblies
- Performed initial Quality Analysis on output
- Collaborated with assembly team in fast paced environment

University of Chicago, Ben May Department for Cancer Research, Chicago, IL 05/2017-08/2017

Research Intern

- Assisted with post-doctorate chemistry research by prepping nano-diamonds for use in experiments, separating viruses via centrifuge, and performing daily cell culture maintenance

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL December 2022

Master of Science in Chemistry

- Education in advanced chemistry subjects, focusing on Analytical Chemistry and instrumentation

Grinnell College Grinnell, IA December 2018

Bachelor of Arts in Biological Chemistry, completed in 3 ½ years

- Emphasis on analytical, organic, and inorganic chemistry with focus on research projects
- Howard Grinnell Choice Merit Scholarship
- Varsity Soccer Team 2015-2016

SKILLS

- Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite, and Minitab