

School of Science

Jeffrey M. Osborn, Dean; Laurel Leonard, Assistant Dean

The School of Science provides a high quality and challenging education for talented undergraduate students, offering studies in the sciences as well as interdisciplinary fields. Students interact with outstanding teacher-scholars as instructors, advisors, and mentors, and have access to modern, well-equipped facilities for hands-on experiences. Faculty members integrate comprehensive undergraduate research experiences into their scholarship, actively preparing students to meet future career or graduate school goals. An array of support programs is designed to provide any student with a desire to study in the School of Science the opportunity to succeed. The liberal arts setting of the College and the balance of theory and practice in the School of Science prepare each student for lifelong learning and for contributing to the field and to society at large.

The School of Science is dedicated to providing students with an outstanding education in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics and statistics, and physics that emphasizes the excitement of scientific exploration and the importance of science to society. Through coursework, faculty mentored research, independent study, and internships, the School aims to foster a deep understanding of the concepts and processes of science. The School of Science is also dedicated to producing exemplary science and math teachers in collaboration with TCNJ's School of Education through elementary education programs and our secondary education programs in biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics. Another opportunity available to students pursuing a degree in the School of Science is to study abroad for a semester or a year. Any student interested in studying abroad should meet with his/her faculty advisor early in his/her college career to develop an academic plan (or discuss possibilities and responsibilities). Students in the School of Science can expect to go on to rewarding careers in a wide variety of fields, including graduate study, professional schools, teaching, high-technology industry, public service, media, or any other area in which a strong science background is important.

The five departments of the School of Science are located in adjacent buildings next to Lake Ceva: the Science Complex (chemistry, mathematics and statistics, and physics), the Biology Building (biology), and Forcina Hall (computer science). These assets will expand further with the completion of our new STEM Building (the new home for computer science) and Chemistry Addition in 2017. Our modern facilities include the kind of high-caliber labs and state-of-the-art instrumentation often found only at much larger universities. For example, a planetarium, astronomical observatory, optics laboratory, nuclear magnetic resonance laboratory, X-ray diffractometer laboratory, spectroscopy and chromatography suite, molecular modeling suite, electron microscopy suite, molecular biology laboratory, greenhouse, Sun/Solaris computing laboratory, Intel/Linux computing laboratory, mathematics education laboratory, and numerous computer classrooms. Individual faculty-student laboratories are designed to allow intensive mentoring and interaction among students and faculty in an undergraduate-focused research environment. In addition to these formal laboratories, our buildings include an abundance of important informal learning spaces, such as student commons and study areas.

The School of Science Office is located in the Science Complex–Physics wing, room P-105. You may contact the Office of the Dean at 609-771-2724, and detailed information is available at science.tcnj.edu/.