

2014 - Dr. Emily Niemeyer

Emily Niemeyer is a Professor of Chemistry and holder of the Herbert and Kate Dishman Chair in Science at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. She graduated from Elida High School in 1989 and received her B.S. in chemistry from Ohio Northern University in 1993. After receiving her Ph.D. in analytical chemistry at the State University of New York at Buffalo, she joined the faculty at Southwestern University as an Assistant Professor in 1998. She received tenure and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 2004 before being appointed as a Professor in 2009. While at Southwestern, she created and directed the Science Training and Education Program at Southwestern (STEPS), a summer science camp for high school students from underrepresented groups. Dr. Niemeyer was instrumental in securing a recent \$1.3 million grant to Southwestern from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) in 2012 and serves as the Program Director for the HHMI-Southwestern Inquiry Initiative, overseeing all grant activities. She recently received the Outstanding Texas Women in STEM Award from the non-profit organization Girl start, and has also received the Exemplary Teaching Award from the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church, and the Southwestern University Excellence in Academic Advising Award. While at Southwestern, she has taught a wide range of courses in analytical, environmental, and introductory chemistry as well as classes for non-science majors. She is an active researcher, having published 19 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals, many with undergraduate student co-authors. Her recent research focuses on the analysis of phytochemicals and antioxidants, particularly how growth conditions can affect the expression of polyphenolic compounds in plants.