



M³S 2025-2026 Newsletter



Happy 2026 M³S members!

In 2025, we had a thrilling year with a highly eventful fall in the Midwest. Our society members organized many events beyond our highly regarded biannual meetings. This fall saw new microscope launches at Northwestern, a cryo-EM event at the University of Chicago, and a new temporary exhibit at the Field Museum of Chicago, curated by members from Northwestern's NUANCE, Hitachi High-Tech, and the University of Chicago in collaboration with the Field Museum.

The exhibit displays the Field Museum's prior SEM and discusses the importance of microscopy in studying artifacts and samples spanning history and multiple scientific fields. It also includes a benchtop SEM from the Hitachi Inspire outreach program, enabling the community to view everyday objects and museum artifacts at the microscale in real time.

Highlights from the 2025 M³S Fall and Spring Meetings

The **M³S Spring Meeting**, held on **March 28, 2025**, took place at Northwestern University's NUANCE facility in Evanston, Illinois. The event featured a full day of scientific talks, lively discussion, and opportunities to connect with colleagues and vendors. Invited speakers **Akshay Murthy** (Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory) and **Yanqi (Grace) Luo** (Argonne National Laboratory) spoke on the use of advanced microscopy and X-ray techniques to study superconducting qubits and next-generation perovskite solar cells. Additional presentations covered topics spanning quantum materials, energy storage, and functional nanomaterials. The day concluded with an MMMS business session and an optional tour of NUANCE facilities.

The **Fall Meeting**, *CryoEM and Pharma*, was held on **November 21, 2025**, at Baxter Healthcare Headquarters in Deerfield, Illinois. With a strong mix of academic and industry participation, the program focused on recent advances in cryo-electron microscopy and its applications in pharmaceutical research and structural biology. Keynote speakers **Wei Liu** (Medical College of Wisconsin) and **Xiaojing Yang** (University of Illinois Chicago) highlighted developments ranging from drug discovery to light-driven signaling. The meeting also featured talks on beam-induced damage in MOFs, new cryo-EM detector technologies, a student paper award, and an MMMS business meeting.

*Our annual Spring Meeting will be held at Northwestern University on March 27, 2026, with the theme **Emerging Opportunities and Challenges in In-Situ Microscopy**. We are still accepting abstracts and strongly encourage students and postdoctoral researchers to submit their work.*

As an important note for the society, 2026 M³S officer elections are currently underway and will conclude ahead of this year's Spring Meeting. We encourage members to participate by casting their vote or by volunteering to serve in a leadership role.

Remember that this year, **Microscopy and Microanalysis** will be in our neck of the woods in Milwaukee! The M&M dates are August 2nd–6th, with the **10th Annual Student Pre-Meeting Congress x60** on Saturday, August 1st. **Abstract submission for the annual meeting is due February 10th**. At the meeting, be sure to say hello to our LAS officers at the MSA megabooth, or stop by the LAS social (details pending).



Visit M³S website:

www.midwestmicroscopy.org



From your Student Liaisons,

Thomas S. Marchese and Danial Zangeneh