Senior Mason Kitchens (R) explains his research on rovibrational astrochemistry to GSU Alum and current C Kelley (L) at the 249th National ACS Meeting.
Senior Ashley Johns (R) is detailing her work done on organic materials on March 23, 2015.

by Ryan C. Fortenberry, Ph.D. 4/1/15

Sixteen students and four faculty members from Georgia Southern University traveled to Denver, CO, largest trade meeting in the world, the semi-annual national American Chemical Society meeting. At event, these representatives gave talks and presented posters about the high-level of research being department at GSU.

The presentations spanned the breadth of chemistry from analytical to physical chemistry, polymer sc research. Junior organic chemistry researcher David Van Leuven stated, “I thought it was great to int fellow students from other schools from around the country in order to see what they were doing and doing. It made the hard work I’ve been doing in the lab worth it.” Additionally, Van Leuven said, “The see the technology available and to get an idea of the future employment opportunities while network around the world.”

Oral presentations from students and faculty in the astrochemistry symposium entitled “Carbon in the theoretical chemistry models may be used to more deeply understand the chemistry of the interstellar
baccalaureate student, Mallory Theis described the opportunity to present her findings on polycyclic ar
in this forum as “an absolutely nerve-wracking experience.” She went on to say, “However, the oppor
research to the top scholars in the field gave me a chance to more deeply understand how my work fi
community.”

The undergraduate students presented their posters on the second-day of the meeting at noon in a s
specifically for researchers at this stage in their careers. Over 1000 participants took part in this even
supplied over 1% of the total number of undergraduate research posters. The student presenters in t
Theis, Ashley Johns, Hannah Corinne Cade, Mason Kitchens, Grant Barnett, Jacob Jay, Mark Blocke
Patel, Russell Lewis, Joel Page, and Cameron Feriante.

Students, Shamaya Whitby and Julia Heimberger, from the new Master’s of Science in Applied Physi
housed within the chemistry department gave their posters in subdivisional sessions with a more targ
research areas of biological and organic chemistry, respectively. Fellow master’s student, W. James
presentation as part of the astrochemistry symposium.

Prof. Rafael Quirino gave a talk in the materials chemistry symposium highlighting his work in carbon
Jonathan Arambula presented a poster in the medicinal chemistry session regarding inhibition of canc
Fortenberry gave talks in the astrochemistry symposium and in computational chemistry education. F
and presented a poster within the computers in chemistry division and was a judge for the physical ch
session. Prof. and Chair John DiCesare took part in the Minority Affairs committee meeting.

The meeting took place between March 22 and March 26 at the Colorado Convention Center in down
meeting will be held in Boston, MA from August 16 through August 20.

Senior Mark Blocker (L) and Sophomore Hannah Corinne Cade (R) in front of their poster in th
session at the Colorado Convention Center.