



The Department of Chemical Engineering Presents



Dr. Christopher DeRosa
Scientist

Danimer Catalytic Technologies

“Synthetic and Biodegradable Poly(propiolactone) ”

Abstract: The demand for biodegradable plastics has grown in recent decades. Poly(hydroxy alkananoates) (PHAs) are biosynthetic and biodegradable alternatives to conventional polyolefin-derived plastics. One type of PHA is poly(propiolactone) (PPL); a synthetic PHA prepared from ethylene oxide and carbon dioxide. This talk will be a broad overview of biodegradable plastics in the market today and new and exciting opportunities for PPL.

Wednesday November 9, 2022
The Gowen Room, 10:30-11:30 am



Bio: Chris DeRosa is a scientist at Danimer Catalytic Technologies, a division of Danimer Scientific and formerly known as Novomer, in Rochester, NY. He completed his BS in Chemistry from Alderson-Broaddus College in Philippi, WV in 2012. He received his Ph. D. in Chemistry under the guidance of Prof. Cassandra L. Fraser at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA in 2017. After his graduate work, he was an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at West Virginia Wesleyan College (2018) and a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities under the guidance of Prof. Marc Hillmyer and Prof. Frank Bates (2020). His work at Danimer Catalytic Technologies is focused on the synthesis, characterization, and application of poly(propiolactone); a synthetic and biodegradable PHA.