



## Tao Xu

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## Education & Employment History

- 1995 Bachelor Degree, East China University of Science and Technology (ECUST), Shanghai
- 1995-1998, Research Assistant, Institute of Fine Chemicals, ECUST, Shanghai, China
- 1999-2003, Ph.D. Department of Chemistry, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA
- 2003-2004, Post-doc, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University, USA
- 2004-2006, Post-doc, Materials Science Division, Argonne National Laboratory, USA
- 2006-Present, Assistant, Associate(2012) and Full Professor(2017), Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Northern Illinois University (NIU), USA

## Honors and Activities

- R&D 100 Award for “Ultrafast and ultrasensitive hydrogen sensors based on self-assembly monolayer promoted 2-dimensional palladium nanoclusters”, **2006**
- National Science Foundation CAREER Award, **2012**
- Best Presentation Award in Energy and Fuel Session, 252<sup>nd</sup> American Chemical Society National Meeting in Philadelphia, PA August **2016**
- NIU Presidential Research Professorship **2019** and elevated to Distinguished Professor in **2023**
- R&D 100 Award for “Versatile Method for Preparing Highly Effective Electro-catalyst for CO<sub>2</sub> to Chemical Conversion”, **2020**
- Highlighted as *Researchers to Know 2020* by Illinois Science and Technology Coalition, **2020**
- National Science Foundation Special Creativity Award, **2022**
- Highlighted as *Innovator to Know 2023* by Illinois Innovation Network, **2023**
- NIU Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award, **2023**
- NIU Board of Trustee Professorship, **2024**
- Session organizer for Photocatalysis and Photoelectrocatalysis, Division of Energy and Fuel, Spring 2024 American Chemical Society, New Orleans, Louisiana March 17-21, **2024**
- Member of User Executive Committee for Argonne's Center for Nanoscale Materials **2023**
- Representing Northern Illinois University on *Congressional Energy and Environment Innovation Showcase* on Capital Hill, Washington D.C. USA, Dec. 9-10, **2019**
- NIU forum with Congressman Adam Kinzinger to exemplify the importance of federal investment in world-class scientific facilities such as Argonne’s Advanced Photon Source and its impact on our students. As quoted by news media, we “made it clear during this visit that national labs remain important to local and federal education and research.” July 31, **2018**
- Session Chair of “Physical properties and characterization of perovskite PV” at 2016 IEEE 43rd Photovoltaic Specialists Conference (PVSC), Portland, OR, USA, June 5-10, **2016**.

**Interests:** Inventions, yard work, community engagement

## Ideas for Advocacy for the User Community

- Encouraging users from industry ranging from startup to large-cap;
- Maximize the awareness of APS in general public, media and legislature from users’ perspective;
- Bridge the gap between APS and students from emerging research universities and minority serving institutions (MSI) identified by Department of Energy under Chips and Science Act;