Michael Mara

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Current Position

- Assistant Chemist, Argonne National Laboratory: 2022-Present

Education & Employment History

- Northwestern University, PhD, Physical Chemistry, Advisor: Lin X. Chen   2014
- Stanford University, Postdoctoral Scholar, Advisor: Edward Solomon   2014 - 2016
- U.C. Berkeley, Postdoctoral Researcher, Advisor: Kenneth Raymond   2017 - 2018
- Northwestern University, Research Assistant Professor   2019 - 2022

Honors & Activities

- SSRL User Executive Committee   2024 – Present
- NSLS-II Proposal Review Panel   2023 – Present
- Argonne National Laboratory CSE Colloquium Committee   2022 – Present

Interests

- Ultrafast X-ray spectroscopy
- Solar Photochemistry

Ideas for Advocacy for the User Community

While many current and potential users are excited to return to the APS, many are likely unaware of the new capabilities provided by the upgraded facility. Now is an excellent time for outreach with the community. It is important that we foster communication between the user community and beamline scientists; while this is a particularly busy time for beamline scientists, as many are still involved in commissioning work, they can most adequately express the new capabilities

offered by their beamlines. Locally, we can encourage more beamline staff to present their work in colloquia in other departments outside those focused primarily on X-ray science. This would be an excellent way to encourage fresh collaborations between Argonne's scientists and beamline staff. Members of the UEC can also engage in direct outreach with users. APS proposals are now handled through the UPS, where users specify their area of research, review panel, additional keywords that describe their proposed research, and of course their proposed beamline. This information should facilitate UEC members contacting targeted sections of the user community with similar research interests, keeping them up-to-date with new developments at specific beamlines, published studies, etc.