

Meet the Presenter...

Dr. Amy E. Hixon

Dr. Amy E. Hixon is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering & Earth Science at the University of Notre Dame, where she teaches courses in environmental and aquatic chemistry, actinide chemistry, and nuclear forensic analyses. She received her Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering & Earth Science from Clemson University under the direction of Dr. Brian Powell and her M.S. from the same institution and department under the direction of Dr. Timothy DeVol. Dr. Hixon's research integrates analytical chemistry, instrumental analysis, and modeling techniques to gain a fundamental understanding of the behavior of the actinide elements in natural and engineered systems. She currently supports three undergraduate students and five graduate students on three funded projects. Two projects are independently funded by the Department of Homeland Security to support studies on the environmental aging of nuclear materials and surrogate materials development in support of post-detonation nuclear forensics. The third is an Energy Frontier Research Center (EFRC), Materials Science of Actinides, funded by the Department of Energy and led by Dr. Peter Burns, which funds Dr. Hixon's group as part of a much larger project (~\$12M for four years). Her work under the EFRC focuses on understanding interactions between uranyl peroxide cage clusters and solid phases in order to develop nanoscale control of actinides in an advanced fuel cycle.



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