



Heterocyclic Compounds

Gordon Research Conference

June 22 - 27, 2025

Salve Regina University, Newport, RI, United States

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In June 2025, I had the incredible honor of chairing the Gordon Research Conference on Heterocyclic Compounds in Newport, RI. The five-day conference brought together leading scientists from around the world for lively discussions, poster sessions, and collaborative brainstorming. Looking back, three lessons stand out:

TOP 3 THINGS I LEARNED AS GRC CHAIR

1 COMMUNITY IS EVERYTHING

Science thrives when minds come together, share ideas openly, and challenge each other to think bigger. The connections formed at GRC remind us that collaboration is at the heart of discovery.

2 GREAT CHEMISTRY IS EVERYWHERE

All sorts of people are doing amazing chemistry around the world—at small schools, large institutions, government agencies, and industries big and small. Inspiration can come from any place, any lab, or any conversation, and it reminds us that science is a truly global, diverse, and vibrant community.

3 LEADERSHIP TRANSFORMS YOU

Chairing taught me how to create space, lift others up, and watch ideas grow in real time. It was rewarding both professionally and personally.

And of course, chemistry friends are friends for life. Reconnecting with old graduate school friends, meeting new collaborators, and sharing laughs and inspiration in Newport made this experience unforgettable. I'm grateful to everyone who made this conference possible and inspired me to keep pushing the boundaries of science.



♥ ANITA