



Maxwell Robb

Graduate Institution: University of California-Santa Barbara

Graduate Discipline: Materials Chemistry

Hometown: Aurora, CO

Relevant SC Research: Basic Energy Sciences

Research Interest:

Max has led many diverse research projects in the area of organic and macromolecular materials synthesis. He began his graduate career developing new synthetic methodologies using thiol-ene and copper catalyzed azide-alkyne cycloaddition (CuAAC) chemistries for applications in the synthesis and self-assembly of functional, degradable block copolymers and dendrimers. His current research focuses on the design and synthesis of novel semiconducting polymers for organic solar cells.

About Me:

Maxwell graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.S. in Chemistry from the Colorado School of Mines in May 2009. As an undergraduate student, Max worked with Prof. Daniel M. Knauss investigating the synthesis of high temperature materials by step-growth polymerization techniques. Specifically, his research focused on the development of non-traditional activating groups for nucleophilic aromatic substitution (SNAr)

reactions. Max left Mines and began his doctoral work in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of California, Santa Barbara under the direction of Prof. Craig J. Hawker in the fall of 2009. Max is involved with the Graduate Students for Diversity in Science – a graduate student group at UCSB that organizes outreach events and guest lectures that aim to promote diversity and encourage scientific careers for people in underrepresented groups. After obtaining his Ph.D. and completing postdoctoral training, Max will pursue a career in teaching and academic research. Aside from science, his passions include scuba diving and traveling.



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