

# Chemistry Reconnected

Thursday Oct. 16, 2025 123 Mackinaw Room – University Center		
1:25 - 1:30	Welcome	
1:30 to 2:10	<b>Andre Argenton</b> 	The risks and opportunities for scientists in a disconnected world
2:15 to 2:55	<b>Deboleena Chakraborty</b> 	Bridging the Gap: Empowering Scientific Collaboration in a Fragmented Global Landscape
3:00 - 3:10	Break	
3:15 to 3:55	<b>Ramani Narayan</b> 	Developing Biodegradable & Biobased Polymer Materials to address microplastics persistence and accumulation in the environment

## The risks and opportunities for scientists in a disconnected world

Andre B. Argenton

Chief Sustainability Officer and Vice President of EH&S

Dow

## Presentation Title: Bridging the Gap: Empowering Scientific Collaboration in a Fragmented Global Landscape

Deboleena (Leena) Chakraborty

R&D Life Cycle Assessment Center of Expertise

Dow

This talk addresses the challenges of fragmented scientific efforts and the need for unified action on climate, materials, and inclusion. Dow envisions a future where inclusive innovation thrives at the intersection of sustainability and science, driven by key initiatives in climate protection, circular economy, safer materials, and community engagement. Join

us as we explore Dow's strategic partnerships and collaborative efforts that aim to bridge the gap and pave the way for a more circular, sustainable future.

Developing Biodegradable & Biobased Polymer Materials to address microplastics persistence and accumulation in the environment

Ramani Narayan

University Distinguished Professor, Chemical Engineering and Materials Sciences

Michigan State University

He is an internationally acclaimed thought leader and expert in bioplastics, focusing on the manufacture of biobased and compostable plastics. His research encompasses design and manufacture of biofiber composites for auto and industrial applications. He is involved with measurements and reporting of biobased carbon and environmental footprint using LCA tools.