## Northwestern McCORMICK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

## Surfaces & Interfaces in Quantum Materials





Formation of

using windowless

liquid-cell TEM

# Dravid Research Group Atomic and Nanoscale Phenomena in Advanced Materials



Magnetic Nanostructures & MNS-Soft Interfaces Dr. Vikas Nandwana, Cesar Villa, Chamille Lescott, Stephanie Ribet, Dr. Sonali Dhindwal, Eric Roth, Dr. Reiner Bleher Collaborator: Profs E. Scott, T. Meade, C. Mirkin





Analytical microscopy on polymer-MNS composites: EDS mapping confirms association of Sulfur-based polymer & MNS



## **Materials for Energy & the Environment**

#### Environmental Remediation

Dr. Vikas Nandwana, Stephanie Ribet, Benjamin Shindel, Yash More, Caroline Harms Collaborators: A. Packman, W. Dichtel, O. Farha





The OHM sponge (oleophilic, hydrophobic, magnetic), a novel nanocomposite material developed by our group, can separate oil and water for **oil spill cleanup**. This platform technology can be used to address a multitude of other environmental problems, such as **nutrient recovery** and **heavy metal remediation**, with potential in many related areas.





Multimodal characterization of the sponge nanocomposites can provide insight into soft/hard interfaces, adsorption mechanisms, hydrophobicity, and hierarchical pores.



Figures showing the versatility of the smart sponge, as well as an adsorption isotherm for phosphate remediation.

### Soft Microscopy

Kelly Parker, Chamille Lescott, Eric Roth, Dr. Reiner Bleher, Dr. Roberto dos Reis, Dr. Sonali Dhindwal Collaborators: Profs M. Mrksich, C. Mirkin, L. Drummy, M. Jewett, R. Leapman, O. Farha, W. Dichtel



**SEM/STEM** imaging of tetracutinase protein construct. Negative staining and low-voltage EM enhance contrast and stabilize BF STEM, 20 KV — macromolecules. a) Traditional STEM at 200 kV, b-f) STEM 📕 from 30 kV – 5 kV in an SEM with STEM detection, very high-throughput compared to traditional EM. Scale bars 50 nm and 10 nm (insert)

#### **STEM** image simulations demonstrate improved contrast but reduced resolution with lower electron energy.

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