Bio

Prof. Sarah L. Keller
Department of Chemistry
University of Washington, Seattle

Short version:
Professor Sarah Keller is a biophysicist at the University of Washington in Seattle. She investigates self-assembly, complex fluids, and soft matter systems. Her research group’s primary focus concerns how simple lipid mixtures within bilayer membranes give rise to complex phase behavior. She is an elected member of the Washington State Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Physical Society. Her most recent international honor was the 2019 Cottrell STAR Award.

Longer version:
Sarah Keller is the Duane and Barbara LaViolette Professor of Chemistry at the University of Washington. Professor Keller is a biophysicist who investigates self-assembling soft condensed matter systems. Her group’s primary research focus concerns how simple lipid mixtures within bilayer membranes give rise to complex phase behavior, and how this behavior is manifested in biological membranes. Some of the awards that have recognized Prof. Keller’s research accomplishments include the Biophysical Society's Avanti Award, Tom Thompson Award and Dayhoff Award; the Research Corporation's Cottrell Scholar Award and STAR Award; the ASBMB’s Avanti Award; and the National Science Foundation's CAREER Award. She is an elected member of the Washington State Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Physical Society. She joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Washington in 2000 after earning her Ph.D. from Princeton University and completing postdoctoral research as a Presidential Fellow at UC Santa Barbara and as an NIH NRSA Fellow at Stanford University. She is a recipient of UW’s Distinguished Teaching Award and the UW Postdoctoral Association’s Mentor Award. From 2010 to 2014 she served as the Associate Dean for Research Activities for the UW College of Arts and Sciences.