

# JEFFREY I. ZINK INORGANIC CHEMISTRY SEMINAR SERIES



## Prof. Caroline M. Ajo-Franklin

Department of Biosciences, Rice University

### “Engineering Real-Time Sensors and Sustainable Materials for a Healthier Planet”

**Abstract:** Caroline Ajo-Franklin earned a B.S. in chemistry from Emory University in Atlanta, GA in 1997 and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA in 2004. She trained as Postdoctoral Fellow with Prof. Pam Silver in the Department of Systems Biology at Harvard Medical School from 2005-2007, where she was one of first group members working in synthetic biology. She then started her independent career as a Staff Scientist within the Molecular Foundry at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, CA. During this time, she developed a deep appreciation and interest in materials. In 2019, she joined the faculty of Rice University in Houston, TX as a Professor of BioSciences. At Rice, she has joint appointments in the Department of Bioengineering, the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, and the Baker Institute of Public Policy. In 2023, she was named as the Founding Director of the Rice Synthetic Biology Institute and in 2025, she was named as a Ralph & Dorothy Looney Professor of BioSciences.

**Meet the Speaker**  
11:45 a.m. | YH 3096

**Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026**  
4:00 p.m. | YH4222 - Collaboratory  
Dongwon Yoo Seminar & Conference Hall

**UCLA** College | Physical Sciences  
**Chemistry & Biochemistry**

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