

THE DEPARTMENT OF MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PRESENTS

# 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Hilliard Symposium

## Thursday, May 19 • 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Ford Motor Company Engineering Design Center  
Evanston Campus

Morning Sessions: ITW Auditorium (Rm 1-350)

Afternoon Sessions: The Hive (Rm 2-350)

**RSVP by May 11**

The day-long symposium will feature presentations highlighting the original research of our students. Friends and alumni of the department are welcome; attendance is free.

Questions? Please contact Sarah Jane at [sarahjane.baker@northwestern.edu](mailto:sarahjane.baker@northwestern.edu).

### Hilliard Keynote Speaker • Dr. Amber Genau, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**"Dendrites and Diversity: One Academic's Experience  
Navigating Complex Structures"**



Dr. Amber Genau is an Associate Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She received her BS and MS in materials engineering from Iowa State University in 2004 and her PhD in materials science and engineering from Northwestern University in 2008. Before joining the faculty at UAB, Dr. Genau spent two years as a guest scientist at the German Aerospace Center (DLR) in Cologne. Her research focuses on the solidification behavior of metal alloys and quantifying complex microstructures. Dr. Genau received an NSF CAREER award in 2016. She is a past recipient of the ASM International Bradley Stoughton Award for Young Teachers and the UAB President's Award for

Excellence in Teaching. Most recently, she was awarded the 2022 Acta Materialia Mary Fortune Global Diversity Metal.