



KRISTEN KRUSZEWSKI '08, PH.D.

Senior Research Chemist | Automotive OEM Coatings | PPG Industries Inc.

Kristen Kruszewski is an award-winning scientist, innovator and leader within the Pittsburgh community.

Currently Dr. Kruszewski works for PPG Industries as a Senior Research Chemist, where she identifies new growth opportunities that align with the Automotive Coatings business and designs experiments to show proof of concept capabilities.

“The best part is collaboration,” Dr. Kruszewski said of her role at PPG. “I get to connect with many different people, both in the company and outside, about a number of different research areas. I’m always learning about new technology or figuring out how existing technology in one area could solve challenges in a different area.”

Dr. Kruszewski’s career in industry began when she served as an intern in the Polymer Physics Lab at Bayer Material Science. Her experience there set the stage for continuing her education; she later obtained a Ph.D. in chemistry from Duquesne University.

In addition to her professional responsibilities at PPG, Dr. Kruszewski leads the Research and Development Diversity Council (RDDC), which focuses on helping associates find opportunities for career development, facilitates networking across the organization and provides resources for achieving work-life balance.

“My experience at La Roche taught me to value diversity of thought and seek to be a mentor to others,” she said. “It also showed me that if you put your heart into something and are patient, people will notice your work.”