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Dr. Catalano studies biogeochemical processes that control major and trace element in soil, sedimentary, and aquatic systems. Past and ongoing research projects have investigated uranium fate in contaminated subsurface sediments, mineral transformations and trace element availability during biogeochemical iron and manganese cycling, molecular interactions of water and adsorbates at mineral surfaces, heavy metal release during aging of coal fly ash, and the origin of clays and other secondary minerals on Mars. Catalano has used EMSL resources for XPS, FIB/SEM, TEM, and LIFS measurements in multiple projects; he is also a long-time user of DOE-supported synchrotron lightsource facilities. Catalano completed his undergraduate work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, graduate study at Stanford University, and a postdoctoral fellowship at Argonne National Laboratory before joining the faculty at Washington University in St. Louis in 2007, where he is currently an associate professor.