

## ***New positions news***

The Department has been hosting visitors who are applicants for one of two tenure track positions. Some candidates are applicants for the medicinal chemistry position with joint appointments in CDDI.

Six candidates were finalists for the bioanalytical/biophysical faculty position in chemistry.

Dr. Ioannis Gelis accepted the University's offer of employment and will join the Department later this year. At present, he is a post-doctoral research scientist in the J.W.-Goethe University of Frankfurt, Ribosome Crystallography Group.

## ***News***

It was announced by Dr. Eric Eisenberg (Dean, College of Arts and Sciences) on December 2<sup>nd</sup> that **Professor Michael Zawortko** was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. "Two other faculty members within our Department have achieved this: **Professor Dean Martin** in 1983 and **Professor George Newkome** in 1992. Congratulations to Professor Zawortko! (From the Department Web page, December 2011)

**Ms. Nina Oliver** joined the Department Advising Team in December. She completed her Master of Education at the University of North Florida. While at UNF, she worked in graduate admissions where she assisted students through the graduate application process. Following her time at UNF, she worked as an Admissions Evaluator in the Office of Admissions at USF prior to joining our team

## ***Campus News***

The University of South Florida has renamed its medical college the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine in honor of the philanthropic commitment of Frank and Carol Morsani. In total, the Morsanis have given \$37 million to USF Health and a total of \$43 million to the university.



President Genshaft, Mr. and Mrs Morsani  
[Photo credit: Eric Youngmans | USF Health]

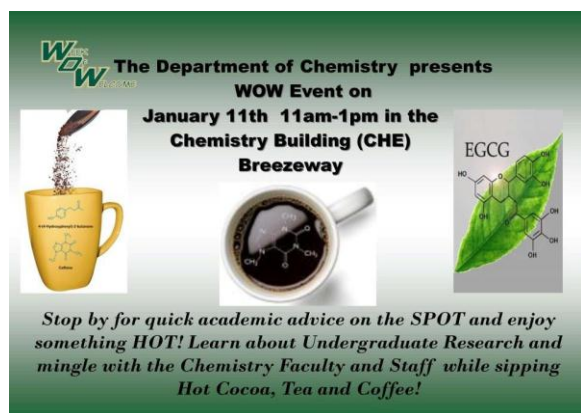
On December 8th, the Morsanis announced a new gift of \$20 million to USF Health, the largest individual donation ever received by the university, to reach the total of \$37 million. (From USF News)

## Fall Graduates

Four persons completed all requirements for their PhD degree in chemistry. Their names and their advisors are:

**Dr. Michelle Cortes-Salva (Dr. Jon Antilla) Dr. Wai Ma (Dr. Bill Baker), Dr. Sebastian Gutmann (Dr. Rudy Schlaf) Dr. Carissa Vetromile (Dr. Randy Larsen)**

## WOW events -I



The Department of Chemistry presents  
**WOW Event on  
January 11th 11am-1pm in the  
Chemistry Building (CHE)  
Breezeway**

EGCG

*Stop by for quick academic advice on the SPOT and enjoy something HOT! Learn about Undergraduate Research and mingle with the Chemistry Faculty and Staff while sipping Hot Cocoa, Tea and Coffee!*

(Announcement by Ms. Christina Nelson)

A **WOW** (Week of Welcome) event was held by the Department of Chemistry Advising cadre. Credit goes to the organizer, **Ms. Brittany Sheehy**, and the academic services Administrator (**Ms. Christina Nelson** who designed the announcement) and members of the cadre who participated in the two-hour event,

The event brought together students and mingling faculty for hot cocoa, coffee, and an abundance of cookies, plus useful information in the Chemistry' building breezeway.



Advisors facing students: Ms. Brittany Sheehy (left), Ms. Nina Oliver, Ms. Kristi Kocher, MS. Kelly Pearson, and standing beyond the table, Ms. Kristin Tocci .

WOW events are held during the first week of classes as a successful way of welcoming students and providing useful information.

Last information available indicated that 10% of undergraduate students doing research at the Tampa campus were working with chemists.

## WOW events – II

The Martin Travel recipients for the Spring term were given certificates of awards on Thursday, January 12, at a gathering of all graduate students in CHE 100.

The awards support travel to scientific meetings, and the process is highly competitive.



Ms. Karolak, Mr. Gatlin, The Martins, Mr. Cioce, Mr. Van Horn (l to r)

The recipients and information about them is listed below:

Three will be attending the ACS Spring 2012 National Meeting, in San Diego, CA.

**Mr. Kurt Van Horn** will present an oral paper (“2, 3 Diaminoquinazolines as Anti-Leishmanials”) in the Medicinal Chemistry Division. He is the advisee of **Dr. Roman Manetsch**.

**Mr. Todd Gatlin** talked in the Chemical Education Division on “Learning from Teaching: Chemistry Graduate Student Teaching Assistant’s Epistemological Development.” His advisor is **Dr. Santiago**.

**Mr. Christian Cioce** will speak in the Computers in Chemistry Division on the topic “Precision Modeling of Methane and Nitrogen Using A Transferable Potential Energy Function.” His advisor is **Dr. Brian Space**.

**Ms. Aleksandra Karolak** will contribute a poster at the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Biophysical Society Meeting, San Diego, CA (Chemistry Division) entitled “Importance of Local Interactions for the Stability of Inhibitory Helix 1 of ETS-1 in the Apo State.” Her advisor is **Dr. Ajan van der Vaart**.

## ***More about Chemistry...***

Some data may be interesting to those who have seen the progress of the Department of Chemistry over the years.

Last year there were 24 entering graduate students (9 in the spring, 15 in the fall); all are with us in the 2012 spring term.

In the fall of 1965, the first entering class and entire graduate enrollment in chemistry was six students. All were masters candidates. Now, we have about 135 graduate students, mostly doctoral candidates, according to **Ms. Adrienne McCain**, Graduate Secretary.

And alumni? We received some information from **Ms. LaToya Lee** of the Chemistry Advising Team:

Some “5780 students (graduate and undergraduate) have earned a degree from the Department of Chemistry with majors in MET - Medical Technology, INS - Interdisciplinary Natural Science, CHC - Clinical Chemistry, BMS - Biomedical Sciences, CHA - Chemistry, CHM - Chemistry, or CHS - Chemistry.”

Some “2207 students (both graduate and undergraduate)...have earned a Chemistry degree from the Department of Chemistry with a major of CHA - Chemistry, CHM - Chemistry, or CHS - Chemistry.”

## ***25<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration***

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship and Alumni Celebration was held February 21<sup>st</sup>. [Background on the first may be found in the Department History]. There were some additional changes that were made this year.



Dr. Paul Dosal, Vice Provost, Office of Student Success

One was an appearance by Vice Provost Paul J. Dosal, who provided the message of welcome and comfort.

Others changes included presentation of award medallions and award trophies. Dr. Eric Eisenberg, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences presented medallions to Honor Roll recipients.



Dr. Eric Eisenberg presenting an award medallion to an honor Roll recipient

Honor roll recipients received a certificate and a medallion.

There are now about 20 named awards or scholarships, e.g., the Dr. Jesse S. Binford General Chemistry Award. Recipients received an appropriate book, as well a trophy and a scholarship (\$200 or 250).



Close-up of medallions given to Peer Leaders or Honor Roll recipients



Trophies that were presented for the first time this year to scholarship and award recipients.

The Outstanding Alumnus Award was presented to David Bode M.D., Capt. (P), MC, U.S. Army, a member of the class of 2002. He was accompanied by his wife and his mother.



Capt. David Bode, M.D. and Dr. David Merkler

Arrangements were made by Ms. Kimberly Read, Manager, Fiscal and Business Administration with staff assistance. She was also responsible for the design of the trophies and the medallions. Pictures were provided courtesy of Ms. Victoria Mothershed, Unit Research administrator.

## ***News and updates***

**Amy Cairns** (Ph.D. '10) stopped by on a visit from KAUST in Saudi Arabia where she is a post-doctoral associate with Dr. **Mohamed Eddaoudi** (Professor of Chemistry on a split appointment with KAUST).

**Dr. Charles Asowata**, Lt Col, U.S. Army (B.A. 1980) is Director, CBRNE Analytical And Remediation Activity, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Col. Asowata was the Department's 2011 outstanding alumni Awardee

**Matt Cross** (Ph.D.'11) is a post-doctoral researcher with Dr. Dale Borger at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA.

**Kim Fields** (Ph.D. '10) is a visiting professor at Florida Southern College, Lakeland. She was also co-organizer for the 2012 Organic Faculty of Florida (OFF) Conference scheduled there for March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Sebastian Gutmann** (Ph.D. '11) has taken a position with SolvayGmbH in Hannover, Germany.

**Wai Ma** (Ph.D.'11) is a Senior research Scientist at HerblScience Group LLC.

**Duke D. Pooré**, Major U. S. Army (Ph.D. '96) is Deputy Commander, Forensic Drug Testing Laboratory, Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii.

**Carissa Vetromile** (Ph.D. '11) is a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Hawaii-Manoa working with Dr. David Jameson. She is using fluorescence to study the structure and dynamics of biotulism toxin.

## ***What did they do after?***

We are asked from time to time about the activities of our chemistry alumni. [Most recently, Florida Gov. Rick Scott asked.]

For over 15 years, we have been trying to keep track of our chemistry alumni in what we call the "Tracking Project," and the results may be found on our web page. Look for "Directory" and find either "Graduate Alumni" or "Undergraduate Alumni." It is

far from complete, but we lack the necessary resources to be as good as we would like to be.

Some examples follow from the first few pages of the undergraduate and master's listings show the range of activities.

**Curtis L. Alliston, III** (B.A.'84) Product specialist, Siemens Corp., Odessa, Florida

**Christine Alt** (B.A.'83) Chemist, Wiltech, Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

**Christopher J. Angello, D.C.** (B.A. '97) earned the D.O degree from Life University (2001). Clinical Director of the Spine & Injury Center., Grand Junction, Colorado.

**Colin G. Brown, M.D.** (B.A.'01) Anesthesiologist, Gainesville.

**Depew Chauncey** (M.S. '68) Associate Prof. New England College of Optometry, Boston

**David E. Caruthers** (B.A. '73) Computer Engr. Support, Nucore Co., Portland, TN

**Daniel W. Davis (B.A. '76)** earned DMD (U. of Florida). Ret. Dentist, practice in Clearwater.

**Daniel A. Deranemie, Jr.** (B.A.'75) JD (Mass. School of Law), attorney in Worcester, MA

**Clifford B. Frost** (B.A. '82) President, Uninetworks, Inc., Germantown, MD.

**Christopher George, M.D.** (M.S. '73) Practicing physician, Tampa.

**David G. Helsing** (B.A. '76) Optometrist with practice in Tampa.

**Charles M. Hodges, M.D.** (B.A.'79) Earned his M.D. from the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine (1984). Subsequently, at Duke Raleigh Hospital (Raleigh, NC): Chair, Utilization Management, Director of the Hospital medical program, and Physician Champion, Electronic Medical Record Implementation.

**Christopher Llenes** (M.S. '92) Assoc. Prof. Collins College, Frisco, TX.

**Daniel A. Mayer** (B. A '80), Acct. Graybar Electric, Tampa.

**Charles M. McCurdy, Jr., M.D.** (B.A.'80) Practice in fetal medicine and maternal medicine, obstetrics' and gynecology, Ft. Myers.

**Gary Nelson** (M.S.'76) Owner, Athena Consulting, Greensboro, NC.

**David G. Priest** (B.A.'64) earned a Ph.D.( '69) from Florida State; became Professor of Biochemistry at Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston.

**Jeffrey Thorn** (M.S. '68) Sr. Research Chemist, Du Pont, Kinston, NC.

## **Donors**

The following is a list of those who made gifts to the Department of Chemistry, July 1 ---December 31 2011, as obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences office of Development. We are grateful for the special support of the alumni, faculty and staff, friends, and corporate/foundation donors listed here.

Dr. Heather Ahlborn and Mr. Jeffrey Ahlborn  
Mr. Mark Alldredge  
Dr. Jon Antilla

Mr. Roberto Avergonzado  
Dr. Bill Baker  
Dr. Abdul Malik and Ms. Afroza Begum  
Dr. Rafael Blanco and  
Mrs. Maria Azorin-Blanco  
Dr. William Brown, Jr. and Dr. Ellen Brown  
Dr. Jianfang Cai  
Dr. Ken Caswell  
Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Girgenti  
Ms. Cheryl Graham  
Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Guida  
Dr. Milton Johnston, Jr. and  
Mrs. Maureen Johnston  
Ms. Robin Jones  
Ms. Kristi Kocher  
Dr. Mohanraja Kumar and  
Ms. Amudha Athiyappen  
Dr. Randy Larsen  
Mr. and Mrs. Altony Lee  
Dr. Jennifer Lewis  
Dr. Sheryl Li  
Ms. Linda Lowe  
Dr. Shengqian Ma  
Dr. Roman Manetsch  
Dr. and Mrs. Dean Martin  
Ms. Adrienne McCain  
Dr. Mark L. McLaughlin  
Mr. Mark A. McLaughlin  
Dr. and Mrs. Gerhard Meisels  
Dr. and Mrs. David Merkler  
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Moon  
Mrs. Victoria Mothershed  
Dr. Patricia Muisener  
Mr. Thomas Nelson, Jr. and  
Mrs. Christina Nelson  
Ms Nina Oliver  
Dr. Rebecca O'Malley  
Mr. Thomas Omundson  
Mrs. Venice Osteen  
Mr. Wally Pagan  
Ms. Kelly Pearson  
Dr. Robert Potter and Mrs. Suzanne Moore  
Ms. A. N. Sarala Rao  
Mrs. Kimberly Read  
Dr. Edwin Rivera  
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Salo

Dr. Santiago Sandi-Urena  
Ms. Samantha Santos-Dasilva  
Mr. John Seals  
Mrs. Brittany Sheehy  
Dr. and Mrs. Brian Space  
Dr. Joseph Stanko  
Dr. Edward Turos  
Ms. Kristin Tocci  
Dr. Solomon Weldegirma  
and Ms. Sara Tewolde  
Dr. Peter Zhang

*Corporate/Foundation donors*  
Agilent Technologies, Inc.  
Shirley W. and William L. Griffin  
Charitable Foundation  
Marvel S. Platoff Foundation  
Sapphire Foundation for  
Prostate Cancer Inc.

## ***News and feedback***

### ***Chair's Address:***

Dr. Randy Larsen  
Department of Chemistry-CHE 205  
University of South Florida  
4202 East Fowler Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33620-5205  
rlarsen@cas.usf.edu

### ***Web page:***

<http://chemistry.usf.edu>

### ***Photography***

Ms. Victoria Mothershed

***Webmaster:*** Mr. Christian Cioce

### ***News:***

For past issues you may have missed, please see the departmental Web page.

*News for us or comments?*

Please write to: [dmartin@cas.usf.edu](mailto:dmartin@cas.usf.edu)  
or share with the Webpage or with the  
Facebook.