

Recognition...

Dr. Leon Mandell, Professor Emeritus, was recognized in April as having been a 50-year member of the American Chemical Society. He served as a faculty member in Chemistry (1984-2000) and was Dean of the College of Natural Science and Mathematics (1984-1990).

Ms. Laura Anderson, doctoral candidate in Chemistry and advisee of **Dr. Mark McLaughlin**, has received a Grace Allen Scholarship (\$2500). The scholarships come from funds raised by the USF Women's Club in honor of Mrs. Grace Allen (now 99), the wife of USF's founding president.

Daniel Warrensford (M.S. '03), a doctoral candidate working with **Dr. Mike Zaworotko**, was recently promoted to Major, U.S. Air Force.

Dr. Roman Manetsch (Assistant Professor) recently received a three-year New Investigator research grant (\$375,000) from the King Program of the Florida Department of Health. The project is concerned with development of "small molecules, which modulate the activity of Bcl-xL in cancer cells and which can initiate the apoptosis pathway." Dr. Manetsch paid tribute to **Dr. Hong-Gang Wang** and **Dr. Wayne Guida** of Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute for collaborative efforts and cooperation. **Dr. Guida** will soon join our Department as Professor of Chemistry.

C&EN feature

Dr. Mike Zaworotko, Professor and Chair, was interviewed for the Cover Story ("Form and Function") in *Chemical & Engineering News* about the [importance of crystalline forms to the pharmaceutical industry](#) [please see C&EN, June 18, pp. 17-30; or online at www.CEN-online.org]. He was extensively interviewed, and the article featured a quote "With cocrystals, there's a bit more crystal engineering or design possible." The interview also covered his approach to finding suitable cocrystals and his views on patent coverage.

Changes...

Dr. Robert Potter, Professor of Chemistry, has been named Associate Dean for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies for the College of Arts and Sciences, **Dean John Skvoretz** announced recently, and added, "He brings a wealth of connections across campus, an unparalleled breadth about programs and departments, and a passion for doing the best we possibly can in the classroom."

Dr. Potter joined the chemistry faculty in 1984. He has been coordinator for the Division of Biochemistry and served as Interim Chair (1998-99). He has had an active research program in biochemistry as well as serving as a widely recognized

leader in advancing innovative chemical education.



Dr. Robert L. Potter outside BSF

He has collaborated with **Dr. Gerry Meisels** in the activities of the Coalition for Science Literacy, serving as Associate Director.

How some of us spent Earth Day...

Dr. Bill Baker, Associate Professor, was among those who were pictured on the NSF Web page as having picked up trash in Antarctica on Earth Day.



Fellow Earth Day celebrants (**Dr. Baker**

lower-right, front row) Picture courtesy NSF Web page.

Out and about...

Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi, Assistant Professor, gave two invited lectures in Japan:

“Building block approach for the assembly of functional microporous materials” 2nd IAM Forum for Young Scientists & ICYS Workshop 2007, February 19-22, **2007**, NIMS, Tsukuba.

“Building block approach for the assembly of functional microporous materials” Department of Chemistry, University of Tokyo, February 23, **2007**, Tokyo,

Dr. Dean Martin was an invited lecturer for the ACS Presidential Symposium, “Going with the Flow: Water Sustainability Past, Present, Future” at the Chicago ACS meeting March 27: “Arsenic, nitrate, and perchlorate in water: Dangers, distribution, and removal.”

Dr. Edward Turos, Professor, gave a seminar on May 4 at Principe Felipe Centro de Investigacion at the Universidad de Valencia, in Valencia, Spain: “Nanobiotics: Novel Polyacrylate Nanoparticle Antibiotics for MRSA Infections.”

Graduate Student Awards

The following awards were presented on April 26 by **Dr. Brian Space**, Professor of Chemistry, and **Dr. Delcie Durham**, Associate Provost for Research and Graduate Dean, USF Graduate School.

Theodore and Venette Askounes Ashford Doctoral fellowship in Chemistry:

Mr. Jarrod F. Eubank

The Alexiou Award in Environmental Chemistry:

Mr. Harish Kumar Maleh

The George Bursa Award:

Mr. Pasha M. Khan

Background information and list of past recipients may be found on our department Web page (Chemistry.usf.edu) under "Awards." Our congratulations to all recipients.



Dr. Space, Mr. Maleh, Dean Durham,
Mr. Khan, Mr. Eubank (l-r)

Twentieth Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet...

This was held on April 18 in the Gibbons Alumni Center. Some 75 students were named to the honor roll. **David Daughdrill**, Lt.Col. U.S.A. (ret) (BA. '66; M.S. 68) was given the Outstanding Alumni Award. Pictures and selected award recipients may be found on the departmental Web page.



Some of the 75 Honor Roll Students (photo courtesy **Mr. John Connaughton**)

Ms. Nina Jackson-Goode, Office Manager, coordinated the affair, assisted by **Ms. Sheila Graham**, and members of the Undergraduate Council, **Dr. Robert Potter**, Chair.

The First Annual Awards Banquet was held on April 18, 1988 at the Holiday Inn on Fowler Avenue. **Dr. S.W. Schneller** was Chairman, and **Mrs. Dyane Chapman** coordinated the affair. **Dr. W. Karl Olander** (B.A. '66, M.S. 68) was the first recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award.

REU News

REU is a research experience for undergraduates and was initiated as an NSF-supported summer program with a three-year grant, as noted in previous issues of *News*. The program was adapted to the fall and spring semesters starting with the fall of 2005 and some 70 students.

A poster session was held in May to summarize the research that these students did, and was held in CHE 201 and in the adjacent hallway.

Recognition...

The College of Arts and Sciences announced that **Dr. Alfredo Cardenas**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, was recognized for *Outstanding Faculty Research Achievement*

The Winter Issue of *USF Magazine* has a picture of **Dr. Edward Turos**, Professor of Chemistry as one of the five Principal Investigators for the new Center of Excellence in the Florida Center of Biomolecular Identification and Tagged Therapeutics (FCoW-BITT). The Center of Excellence was established with a \$8 million grant from the State of Florida.

The article described his excitement over the prospects of enhanced research capability for him and his colleagues in their research on the discovery and synthesis of new antibiotics and drug delivery systems.

Memorial fund established

Friends and colleagues of the late Dr. Jay H. Worrell (Faculty member, 1967-2002) have established a memorial fund, and donations are welcomed to support current students.

His epitaph noted, "In his lifetime, he was a listener as well as a teacher. He enjoyed teaching chemistry to his students. However, Jay also taught others how to live life to its fullest by exemplifying the way he lived his own life – righteously, lovingly and with respect to his family, friends and colleagues."

Dr. Mike Zaworotko, Professor and Chair wrote earlier this year "Jay was also a productive and respect researcher. He published 40 papers in highly regarded journals, including several in his last few years at USF. Jay also served as secretary to

the Board of 'Inorganic Syntheses' for many years. It was a measure of the respect leaders in the field of inorganic chemistry had for him. He was responsible for reviewing proposed syntheses, arranging for two checkers for each synthesis, and dealing with the editor of each volume, and providing volume-to-volume continuity for the series."

"Jay was a devoted husband and father. He and his wife, Louise, were married when they were both 16, and celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 2004."

"Jay will be missed but not forgotten by the many people he influenced during his long and distinguished career. As one colleague said, 'He made quite a sweep in the Department'."

Funds raised will be used to support worthy students.

Donations may be made to The USF Foundation, Inc., Account 42-1900-001, and sent to the Department of Chemistry CHE 205, USF, 4202 East Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL 33620.

FAME 2007...

Participation in FAME 2007 (Orlando, May 10-12) continued a long standing tradition for our faculty members. Those attending, contributing, or presenting included **Drs. Mildred Acevedo-Duncan, Jon Antilla, Kirpal S. Bisht, Alfredo E. Cardenas, Mohamed Eddaoudi, Julie P. Harmon, Randy W. Larsen, V. Lytkourinou, Abdul Malik, Roman Manetsch Dean F. Martin, Li-June Ming, Brian Space, Mike Zaworotko, and X. P. Zhang.**

Xlth International Seminar on Inclusion Compounds

The conference was held June 10-15 in Kyiv, Ukraine. Papers included **Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi**, “Building Block Approach to the Assembly of Zeolite-like Metal-organic Frameworks (ZMOFs) with Extra-large Cavities” and **Dr. Mike Zaworotko**, “The Role of Co-crystals in Solid-state Chemistry,” and **Dr. Brian Moulton** (‘03) “Amorphous Coordination Polymers...By Design”.

Campus changes --- past and future...

A new **parking garage** is being started at the corner of Alumni Drive and Walnut. This will be the fourth on campus with more expected. This should help the parking situation and limit “trolling,” the experience of cars going up and down parking aisles trolling for a space and watching for someone leaving.

A “signature building” and will be placed in front of the John and Grace Allen Administration Building (really). It is scheduled to be eight stories high and will have 380,000 square feet for the Honors College, classrooms, and support services. Considering the tallest building at present is six stories...

Faculty you should know

Spotlight on **Dr. Gerry G. Meisels**, Professor of Chemistry, Professor of Chemistry and Director, Coalition for Science Literacy.

Dr. Meisels is the founding director of the Coalition for Science Literacy at the University of South Florida. Until 1994, he served as USF's Provost and Chief Operating Officer. From 1982 to 1988, he was Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, and chair of the Department of Chemistry from 1975 to 1982. He was on the faculty of the University of Houston from 1965 to 1975, the last three as department chair.



Dr. Meisels in his office, CHE 304C

Meisels began his professional career as a chemist and later group leader in industry, working for Gulf Oil Corporation and then Union Carbide Corporation.

Meisels is the author of over 100 scientific publications; his research on reactions of gas phase ions and radiation chemistry was supported by the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation. He chaired the Gordon Conference on Radiation Chemistry, and was Vice President for Programs and President of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry. He was on the Council of Scientific Society Presidents for eight years and its chair in 1992.

Since 1994 Meisels has led projects to improve science and mathematics education, and advocated for systemic, large-scale change. He has secured \$13,500,000 in grants from NSF, US DOE, and the Florida DOE. He co-lead a statewide professional development program for elementary school teachers. Projects also include marketing science and mathematics teaching to professionals and induction, and research on teacher resignations that revealed the importance of personal factors such as family concerns in teachers' decision to leave the profession than previously thought. He led the formation of the statewide Coalition for Improving Mathematics and Science Education and has served as its chair since inception. He organized two statewide Summits on Mathematics and Science Education in 2005; these led to 2006 legislation that establishes and funds a Florida Center for Mathematics and Science Education Research.

Meisels is a native of Vienna, Austria, and is a graduate of the Austrian Gymnasium. He attended the University of Vienna, and was a Fulbright and Smith-Mundt Fellow at the University of Notre Dame, from which he received the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees.

His recent relevant publications include:

“Science That Matters V.I.” (2nd ed.). R. Potter and G. Meisels, Eds., Kendall/Hunt (2003)

“Science That Matters V.II”. R. L. Potter and G. G. Meisels, Eds, Kendall-Hunt (2004).

“Enhancing Teacher Preparation and Improving Faculty Teaching Skills.” R.Potter and G. Meisels, *J. Sci. Educ. Tech.* **2005**, *14* (2), , 191-204

“Why Teachers Leave: Factors that Influence Retention or Resignation”, G. Kersaint, J. Lewis, R. Potter and G. G. Meisels, *Teaching And Teacher Education* (2006) in press., **2007**,.

The joy of our present, the hope of our future...

[a continuing series on current graduate students]

Mr. Pasha Khan wrote, “I was born in 1981 in New Delhi, India where I spent the first 22 years of my life before coming to USF. My middle name (which actually nobody knows here) comes from the sufi saint “Moeenuddin” Chishti.



Mr. Pasha Kahn in Dr. Kirpal Bisht's Laboratory

“After graduating from high school in 1998, I obtained my bachelor's degree with honors in chemistry from St Stephen's College, Delhi. Then I joined the masters program in chemistry at University of Delhi. As a “normal” undergraduate student I wasn't so much attracted to chemistry and still remember memorizing all the reagents, physical chemistry equations. But the advanced organic chemistry course during the masters program at Delhi University gave me great impetus to come so far. The “curved” arrow mechanisms and named reactions made me more interested in chemistry and inspired me to join grad school.”

“I came to USF in Fall 2003 and joined **Dr.Kirpal Bisht's** research group. Initially, I worked on biocatalysis and its application

to synthetic organic chemistry. Currently I'm working on palladium catalysis and trying to study its various aspects."

"Apart from the lab work I have also made many presentations at various local and national meetings. I presented at Third Annual Meeting-In-Miniature, held at USF - St. Petersburg, where I won the first prize. I also participated in conferences and symposia on various topics as microwave synthesis (CEM Corporation- Orlando), combinatorial chemistry (Miami University, Oxford, OH). I have published some of my results and am still working on few other manuscripts for publication."

"Another aspect of chemistry which is not so related to my research but always intrigues me is its application in forensic sciences. Even though I have not taken any course in forensic chemistry but would love to learn more about this field."

"Outside the lab, my extracurricular activities involve movies, music, and coffee! I have to get a caffeine shot between 4-5 pm everyday (thanks to Starbucks at University Library). I like to watch cricket, soccer, and play chess."

"So far, graduate school at USF has been a great rewarding experience. I feel blessed by the guidance, love and help of everybody in the chemistry department and thank you all."

Out and about...

Dr. Bill Baker also sent a picture of a leopard seal with a gentoo penguin. Dr. Baker reports having seen such seals in the water when he was collecting samples for isolation of natural products.



Photo (23 March) showing leopard seal with gentoo (courtesy Dr. Bill Baker)

We get letters and visitors...

Altan Ercan (Ph.D. '03) served as Chair of the doctoral defense committee for **Giordano Da Silva** on May. **Dr. Altan** is a research associate at Scripps Florida in Jupiter.

Brian Moulton (Ph.D. '03), Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Brown University, stopped by on a visit. He went directly from USF to Brown without the typical post-doctoral experience.

Eileen Perez (Ph.D. '99) was named Professor of Chemistry at Valencia Community College.

Beth Rather Healey (Ph.D. '04) is with Thar Pharmaceuticals in the USF Incubator building in the USF Research Park.

Charles D. Norris (B.S. '89, M.S.'91, Ph.D. '95) has been promoted to A&P status in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Central Florida

Jerome K. Williams (Ph.D. '97) is a tenured faculty member at St. Leo University, St. Leo Florida.

Dr. George Wenzinger (faculty member 1963-1999) stopped by and made a donation to the Worrell Fund.

What are they up to?

Please look at our web page (“Graduate Alumni”) and see if you (and or your friends and fellow alumni) are accurately listed. It is hard to keep up with the growing list of alumni (would you believe over 275 graduate alumni). We would be grateful if you could bring us up-to-date on what you or some of your friends are doing.

News and feedback

For additional information on faculty, staff, students, and programs, please look at our Department Home Page:
<http://www.cas.usf.edu/chemistry>

For past issues you may have missed, please see the Home Page.

News for us or comments? Please write to dmartin@cas.usf.edu