

Research support record

Dr. Mike Zaworotko noted in early July that he had received word that seven external grants with a total value of ca. \$4 million had been awarded in the previous four-week period, surely a departmental record.

Three of the awards were made to **Dr. Roman Manetsch**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry.

Subsequently, **Dr. Randy Larsen** wrote that **Dr. Jon Antilla** (Assistant Professor) just had a NIH-R01 grant funded for over \$920K, which brought the two month (July/August) funding total to over \$4.5 million. Dr. Antilla's project deals with chiral Brønsted-acid catalyzed methods of synthesis.

CMD5 --- Malaria research

"The College of Public Health is pleased to announce that the following two proposals have been selected for funding by the Gates supported Medicines for Malaria Venture, Geneva, Switzerland."

"Niche Microbial Biodiversity as Sources for Malarial Drug Lead." PI: **Dr. Bill Baker**, Professor of Chemistry; Co-PI: **Dr. Dennis E. Kyle**, USF Health, College of Public health (COPH). "Quinolinols and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-acridinols Chemotypes for Malaria Drug Discovery" PI: **Dr. Roman Manetsch** Assistant Professor of

Chemistry; Co-PI: **Dr. Dennis E. Kyle**, USF Health, COPH.

Dr. John Adams and **Dr. Alberto Van Olphen** are co-investigators from USF Health COPH.

Dr. Wilbur K. Milhous, Professor and Associate Dean for Research, USF COPH noted, "These highly competitive interdisciplinary proposals were the result of strong collaborative ties between the Global Health Infectious Diseases Research (GHIDR) Program and the Center for Molecular Diversity in Drug Design, Discovery, and Delivery (CMD5)."

"This infrastructure creates synergy between scientists from multiple disciplines who use advances in molecular science and medicinal chemistry to understand the causes of human disease, to develop novel methods for its prevention and to devise novel treatments."

In July a note from **Dr. Randy Larsen**: "More good news for chemistry! We just received our \$2.3 Million Department of Defense-Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DOD-DTRA) contract entitled "Functionalized Photocatalytic Materials for Threat Decontamination and Degradation." The project involves using novel metal-organic materials for the development of chemical and biological weapons decontamination systems. I am the P.I. with Eddaoudi, Harmon, Zaworotko and Zhang as Co-P.I.s. This project is part of USF-SMMARTT."

He added: "The amount of extramural funding received by the department this month alone is remarkable and is a testament to the department's high quality research and outstanding faculty."

REU News

We have about 50 students registered and placed with mentors this semester, according to **Dr. Patricia Muisener**, Associate Chair. This is about ten percent of the undergraduate research students on the Tampa campus. **Mr. Jason Cuce** is the student assistant.

Campus changes --- past and future...

President John Allen once noted that USF was the campus where the concrete never set. Building continues apace.

The New Marshall Center (230,000 sq.ft) overshadows the old one, and opened on time and on budget in August.

[see: <http://ctr.usf.edu/mc/default.htm>]

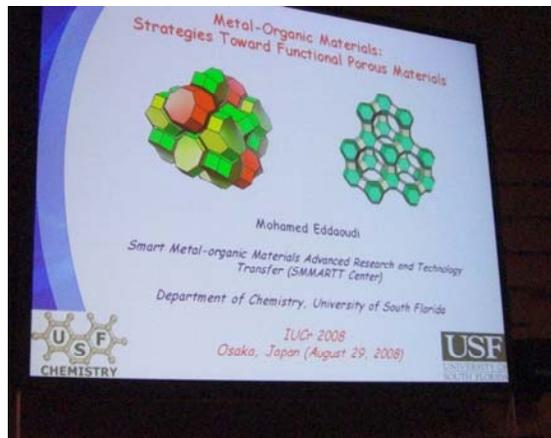
Faculty you should know about...

Dr. Abdul Malik (Associate Professor) received a patent August 5 entitled: "Method of using Sol-Gel Coatings for On-Line Preconcentration of Amino Acids in Capillary Electrophoresis" (US Patent 7,407,568 B1).

International Conference

Dr. Mike Zaworotko and **Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi** served as keynote lecturers at the 21st Congress of the International Union of Crystallography, a congress that meets only every 3 years. The congress was held in Osaka, Japan on August 23-31.

"Its scientific program in 7 days, which has been prepared by the International Program Committee formed by 26 experts covering a wide field of crystallography, is very rich and exciting with 2 Plenary Lectures and 36 Keynote Lectures. As many as 98 micro-symposia will highlight topically hot as well as basically important crystallographic subjects with about 500 selected speakers. A special attention for programming has been paid to promote interdisciplinary fields in crystallography" [<http://www.iucr2008.jp>]



Opening slide of **Dr. Eddaoudi's** lecture (photo courtesy of **Dr. Zaworotko**)

Only six of the 36 keynote lectures were presented by US speakers.

Administrative changes

Dr. Michael J. Zaworotko, Professor of Chemistry, ended a nine-year term as Chairman on August 6th. His was the second longest term as Chair, second only to **Dr. P. Calvin Maybury** (Faculty, 1961-87), who served as chair 1963-1974. A surprise brunch, organized by Chemistry Staff members, was held on his last day of service. The cake, provided by Ms. Lorene Hall-Jennings, said it all.

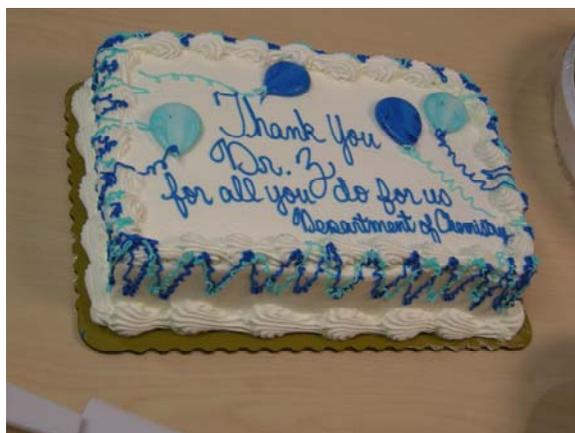


Photo courtesy **Mr. John Connaughton**, M.B.A.

Dr. Zaworotko has also assumed the position of Director for USF-SMMARTT (Smart Metal-organic Materials Advanced Research and Technology Transfer) that was created earlier this year.

Its mission statement is: *To discover and develop new 'smart' metal-organic material (MOM) platforms for energy sustainability and enhancement of human health.* (Further information is on our Web page.)

Dr. Randy Larsen, Professor of Chemistry, is now serving as Chairman. (For a biography, please see *News*, 3(3).)

In the news...

The USF-SMMARTT group was featured in an article in the *Oracle* of September 3 [see: <http://www.usforacle.com/>]. Research by faculty members **Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi**, **Dr. Randy Larsen**, and **Dr. Mike Zaworotko** was summarized.

“**Ship-in-a-Bottle Catalysis**” is the title of an article in *Chemical & Engineering News* (Sept 15; see www.cen-online.org) that features recent research by **Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi** and graduate student **Mr. Mohamed H. Alkordi**. The original research is described in more detail elsewhere (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* DOI: 10.1021/ja804703w)

The Faculty/Staff Fund Drive...

The 2007-2008 drive for support for university funds (including the Chemistry operating Fund) sought funds from faculty and staff as in previous years.

This year, the amount raised was \$3,755,847, which was a new record, and the number of participants also set a new record.

Persons we have heard about...

Frank (Francisco) Adamo (B.S. 1966; M.S. `68) is the author of *31 Tips to Becoming an Effective Presenter*. The release date for the book is Oct. 7, 2008 though it is available at the moment on the publisher's web site: www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore/...

Dr. Reynaldo Bareto (B.S. '81), who received his Ph.D. from Notre Dame in 1988, has been a faculty member at Purdue University - North Central (Northfield, IN), where he is an associate professor of Chemistry.



Dr. Bareto

Craig Bowe (Ph.D. '03) is an assistant professor of organic chemistry at the College of the Bahamas.

Kathleen Carvalho-Knighton (Ph.D. '00) and her husband **Anthony Knighton** are parents of **Alexandria Nicole Knighton**, born July 15, 2008. Her older brother is **James**, whose birthday is July 12. Alex's mother is an assistant professor of chemistry at USF - St. Petersburg.

Lyle Castle (Ph.D. '92), Idaho State University professor of chemistry, has been named dean of academic programs for ISU-Idaho Falls, at the Idaho Falls Center for Higher Education at University Place. Dr. Castle previously had been interim director.

“The decision to name Dr. Castle as dean resulted from extensive dialog and consultation with faculty, staff, and administration, and other stakeholders associated with ISU - Idaho Falls” said Robert A. Wharton, Ph.D., ISU provost and vice president for academic affairs.

“The students, faculty and staff at Idaho State University - Idaho Falls will be well

served by this outstanding professional as he continues working to bring growth, direction and sound leadership to higher education in the Upper Snake River Valley,” said Wharton.

Joanne Castle (Ph.D. '93) is a chemistry professor at BYU - Idaho at Rexburg. Her and **Dr. Lyle Castle's** eldest son is a freshman at ISU.

Dr. Jeff C. Davis, Professor Emeritus (Faculty 1964-1998; Chair: 1978-82; 1995-98), wrote, “We seem to be busy, despite retirement. Sylvia is active in the local Art Association and doing some watercolor work as well and is involved with an active philanthropic women's group. I've become quite active in a local Kiwanis Club which puts its emphasis on helping children in various ways.”

Gregory J. McManus (Ph.D. '08) is an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Mathematics of Florida Gulf Coast University.

Charles D. Norris (B.S. '88; M.S. '91; Ph.D. '95) is now an assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Findlay in Findlay, OH.

Departmental Funds...

This is the list provided by Dr. Zaworotko in December.

Chemistry Operating Fund for general use (acct. # 42-0550)

Chemistry Scholarship Undergraduate Awards (42-0700)

Barbara and Dean Martin Seminar Series Fund (42-6014)

George Bursa Award in Chemistry for outstanding graduate students (42-6013)

Barbara B. Martin Endowed Fellowship

(42-6046)

Martin Travel Endowment to support travel for graduate students to national and international meetings (42-6039)

Owen Chemistry Undergraduate Research Fund (42-3030)

Worrell Memorial Scholarship (42-1900001)

Wenzinger Memorial Scholarship (42-0043005).

We are grateful to anonymous donors for their donations to the funds.

Details about awards may be found under “Awards” on the departmental Web page.

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:

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

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