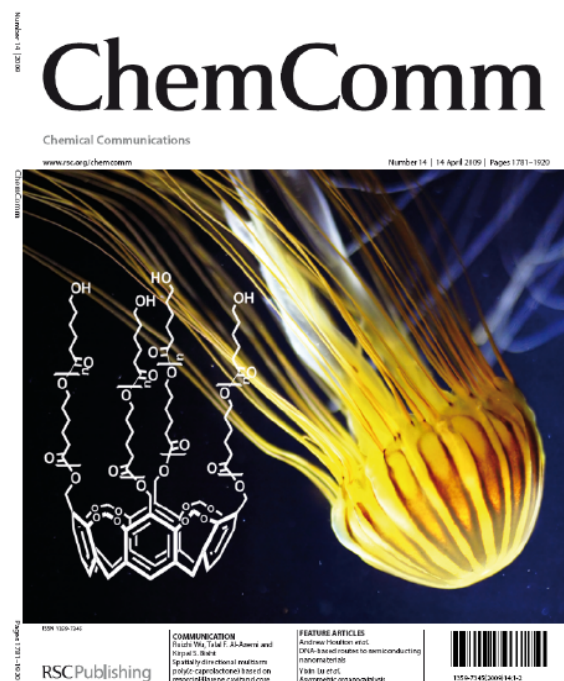


**On the cover...**



From **Dr. Randy Larsen** (18 March): “Congratulations to Prof. Bisht, whose article in *Chemical Communications* has secured the cover page for the April 14 issue! The impact factor for *Chem. Comm.* is 5.14 (2007).

The communication was authored by **Ruizhi Wu, Talal F. Al-Azemi** and **Dr. Kirpal Bisht** (Associate Professor of Chemistry).

**Dr. Bisht**, who was responsible for preparation of the cover, said that the

molecule reminded him of a jelly fish, so he found a picture of a jelly fish (San Diego Aquarium) and got the photographer’s permission to use it.

The cover was featured on the USF Provost’s Webpage in early April.

**A historical note...**

**Dr. Bisht** has commendably continued a proud history of cover appearances of departmental research. Figures from **Dr. Abdul Malik’s** research papers appeared on the cover of *Analytical Chemistry* (November 15, 1997) and on the dust jacket of *Quantitative Chemical Analysis* by D. C. Harris (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Structures of compounds made by **Dr. Mike Zaworotko’s** group appeared on the covers of *Chemical Communications* (7 February 2001 and 7 September 2004) as well as on the cover of *Crystal Growth Design* (Jan/Feb 2004). **Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi’s** research made the cover of *Chemical Communications* (14 April 2006).

**International recognition...**

Twelve plenary lecturers were invited to the Taibah University International Chemistry meeting that was held at Al Madinah, Saudi Arabia in March. Two were **Dr. Mike Zaworotko** (Professor of Chemistry) and **Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi** (Associate Professor of Chemistry). Daily proceedings were published in a local newspaper, and the

opening included a procession of government officials and members of the Ministry of education led by the Minister of Education (the CD of the meeting was made available).

Pictures were obtained from the newspaper.



Dr. Zaworotko and Dr. Eddaoudi



البروفيسور مايك زوروتكو أثناء محاضرته بمؤتمر طيبة للكيمياء.

Dr. Zaworotko giving his plenary lecture.

## USF Chemistry Society

The Society's advisor, **Dr. Ken Caswell**, wrote that Society members joined with the USF Pre-Pharmacy Society to raise money for "Relay for Life" in support of the

American Cancer Society. The theme for this year was "Relaywood," which was held on the USF Soccer Field on April 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 6:00 p.m., and running all night. Members actually reached their goal of \$1000 before the start of the relay.

The Chemistry Society's theme within the "Relaywood" theme was "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," and the Chemistry Society raised over \$1300. Exceeding the goal was due to generous sponsorship and events/sales centered around the society's fighting cancer with candy (homemade baked-goods) theme.

## Campus changes --- past and future...

Construction of Magnolia dorms (located due west of the Science center) are coming along. What we can't decide is what the final color will be. The USF building colors seem to be rose and beige. And clearly you see the rose, but you also have the choice of



Magnolia dorms in early February

five other colors as well (primer, more primer?). No prizes will be given for deciding the final color, however.



Magnolia dorms in early May

Opening is still scheduled for Autumn, 2009.

## **REU News**

REU is 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. There are currently ~50 students in the program and a total of ~70 undergraduates doing research in Chemistry. According to **Mr. Jason Cuce**, the REU graduate assistant, about 500 undergraduates are doing research at USF.

We are grateful for the financial assistance from the Honors College, through **Dr. Naomi Yavneh**, Director, Office of Undergraduate research.

## **Martin Lecturer**

**Brian Moulton** (Ph.D. '03), Vertex Pharmaceuticals, was the 2009 Martin lecturer on April 16<sup>th</sup>. His presentation was entitled "Translational Product Development in the

Pharmaceutical Industry: Discovery and Development."

## **On Crescent Hill these days...**



Mascot topiary on Crescent Hill, up close and personal (Courtesy Oracle, February 4, 2009).

## **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scholarship and Alumni Celebration...**

This was held April 7 in Traditions Hall of Gibbons Alumni Center. Organization was led by **Ms. Kimberly Read** (Manager, Fiscal and Business administration) with the support and assistance of Ms. Lorene Hall-Jennings (Coordinator, Academic Support Services), and Ms. Cheryl Graham (Office Assistant).

Decisions with regard to award winners were based on recommendations of appropriate faculty members or by the Undergraduate Council. The names of a number of the award recipients are listed under Department Awards on the departmental Web page.

The 2009 Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to **Dr. Julia Burdge** (B.S. '87, M.S. '90). **Dr. Burdge** received her doctorate from the University of Idaho, became a tenured associate professor of chemistry at the University of Akron, before joining the Honors College of Florida Atlantic. Subsequently she pursued her passion for chemical education, and became a full-time author [Please see *News* 6 (3)].



**Dr. Joseph A. Stanko** presenting the Outstanding Alumna Award to **Dr. Julia Burdge**.

## **Castle Conference...**

The Castle Student Research was held Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Organizing Committee consisted of **Jason Cuce** (Chair), **Michelle Cortes de Salva**, **Sumit Handa**, **Chung Sik Kim**, **Xai Ma**, **William Maza**, **Rosemary Persaud**,

**Meagan Small**, **Carissa Vetromile**, and **Christi Young**. **Dr. Jon Antilla**, Assistant Professor, and **Dr. Patricia Muisener**, Assistant Chair, served as advisors.

The group agreed to collaborate with the Tampa Bay Section of the American Chemical Society, which has sponsored an annual Meeting-in-Miniature. **Eric Steimle** (Ph.D. '99), Chair of the Local Section, was present and provided ACS souvenirs, and Dr. Eric Ballard (University of Tampa, Section Secretary) was also present.

Some 18 oral presentations and 19 posters were presented by graduate students and 54 posters were contributed by undergraduate researchers.

The Plenary Speaker was **Dr. John Shelnutt** from Sandia National Laboratories.

**Dr. Randy Larsen** (Professor and Chair) wrote, "This weekend's Department of Chemistry Castle Conference was a resounding success. It was a wonderful showcase of our department's undergraduate and graduate research efforts. Our Keynote Speaker, **Dr. John Shelnutt**... gave a wonderful presentation on novel nanomaterials being developed for solar energy applications. He was quite impressed with our faculty and students. This was a fantastic way to highlight the strengths of USF!"

## **Graduate student awards...**

Traditionally at the last seminar of the academic year (April 22 this year), outstanding graduate students are recognized with plaques and financial rewards. Decisions are made by selected members of the departmental Graduate Council. The awards and awardees are:

***Theodore and Venette Askounas Graduate Fellowship in chemistry:***

**Ms. Kimberly B. Fields**

**Advisor: Dr. Zhang**

***The Alexiou Award in Environmental Chemistry:***

**Ms. Dorina F. Sava**

**Advisor: Dr. Eddaoudi**

***The George Bursa Award:***

**Mr. Jason Perman**

**Advisor: Dr. Zaworotko**

***The Barbara B. Martin Fellowship:***

**Ms. Teresa M. Eckart**

**Advisor: Dr. Lewis**

Details of the awards are available on our Webpage.

### ***More good news...***

From **Dr. Randy Larsen** (April 21): "I am pleased to report that the Department of Chemistry has received one of only two Draper URAD (University Research and Development) grants awarded to USF for the 2009-2010 cycle. This was a prestigious competition involving grant proposals from MIT, Harvard, UC-Santa Barbara and the University of Illinois. The funded project entitled "Development of Novel Porphyrin Based Chemical/Biological Threat Agent Sensors" is supported for one year at ~\$100K with an additional 1:1 Florida High Tech Corridor match. The P.I.s are myself (P.I.), **Brian Space** (Co. P.I.) and **Peter Zhang** (Co.P.I.)."

### ***Still more good news...***

Dr. Larson wrote (May 20): "**Jon Antilla** has been awarded a grant entitled "Synthesis and Screening of Sigma Ligands for Stroke Treatment at Delayed Time Points" from the James and Ester King Foundation. This is a Team Science Grant involving four

investigators. The grant is funded to ~\$1 Mil over two years including Florida High Tech Corridor support with **Prof. Antilla's** funding at ~\$100K per year for two years in direct costs."

### ***Additional Recognition...***

**Dr. Terence C. Owen** (Faculty 1964-98) was acknowledged with appreciation in the March 2009 issue of *The Caroler*, a monthly publication of the (Original) Carrollwood Civic Association.

The article paid tribute to his ten-years of efforts as a volunteer for the Florida Lakewatch program. Dr. Owen, and his wife, Betty, have lived on Lake Carroll since 1964. He has checked the water clarity (Secchi disk) and submitted samples to the University of Florida Lakewatch program.

"Our gratitude goes out to Terry for all his hard work over the years in helping us build a nice database for the lake..." the article said.

**Dr. Owen** was pictured with his replacements.

### ***Persons we have heard from or about...***



**Dr. Akins**

**Dr. Daniel Akins** (Faculty, 1970-77) was pictured in an ad for the City University of New York (NY Times, March 15<sup>th</sup>), where he is Distinguished Service Professor of Physical Chemistry and Professor of Chemical Engineering. He also serves as Director, Center for Analysis of Structures and Interfaces.

**Kathleen Carvalho-Knighton** (Ph.D. '00), Assistant Professor of Chemistry, USF-St. Petersburg, was chosen as one of this year's six recipients of the **USF Women's Leadership Awards**. These awards are sponsored each year by the Women's Status Committee (WSC), a university-wide advisory committee to President Judy Genshaft.

President Genshaft initiated these awards in 2004 to recognize women who have made outstanding contributions in research, service, and mentoring to women and girls at USF and throughout our community.

The notification noted "Your mentoring of women students, detailed in [your] nomination..., is exemplary of the efforts that President Genshaft and members of the WSC seek to honor each year. "

The award reception was held on **Tuesday, March 24** in the Marshall Center on the Tampa campus.

**Steve Hendrix** (Ph.D. '90), Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Tampa, is featured in *UT Journal* (Spring 2009). He and a collaborator are shown adjusting a water quality monitor for the Hillsborough River in cooperation with the USF College of Marine Science.

**Dr. P. Calvin Maybury** (Faculty 1961-1987; Chair, 1963-74) and **Mrs. Anne**

**Maybury** were guests at the 22nd Annual Scholarship & Alumni Award celebration.

**Dr. Matt McKenzie** (B.S. '03) recently earned a Ph.D. in Chemistry from LSU and is employed at the LSU High Performing Computing center, part of the TeraGrid, in which he is an Allocations Reviewer.

It was a pleasure to see **Professor Emeritus Terence C. Owen** (Faculty, 1964-1998; Chair, 1974-1978) walking in the Chemistry Building atrium in May. He has been recovering from surgery.

**Dr. Laura Schroder** (*nee* Miller, B.S. '01) received her Ph.D. (December 2007) in Molecular Cell Biology from the University of Florida, Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology, College of Medicine. Her advisor was Dr. William A. Dunn, Jr., and she studied autophagy in the organism *Pichia pastoris*.

Subsequently she served as a postdoctoral researcher in Dr Dunn's laboratory until July 2008.

She was able to attend a Gordon Research Conference (Ventura, CA) on "Autophagy in Stress, Development and Disease" last July.

**Dr. Joseph A. Stanko** (Faculty 1973-2003) and **Ms. Joan Stanko** were guests at the 22 Annual Scholarship & alumni Award celebration. Dr. Stanko introduced the recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award.

**Eric T. Steimle** (Ph.D. '99) organized the co-participation of Tampa Bay Section, ACS with the annual meeting of the Florida Academy of Sciences March 20, and presided at the Environmental Chemistry/Chemical Sciences Sections.

We saw **Jerome K. Williams** (Ph.D. '97) at the annual meeting of the Florida Academy of Sciences at St Leo University, where he is an Associate Professor. He presented a paper describing viability of biodiesel in comparison with petroleum diesel.

**Jeffrey A. Zimmerman** (Ph.D. '89) took his doctoral mentor **Dr. Rebecca O'Malley** (Professor of Chemistry) to lunch April 9. He is a material scientist with British Aerospace working in Virginia.

## ***New Fund***

The Department of Chemistry Named Award Fund (42-3049) was created with a donation of \$6,000 by anonymous supporters. The purpose of the fund is to provide money for outstanding students in five areas of chemistry at the annual Scholarship & Alumni Award celebration

Additional funding will be provided by interest from an endowment created by a department supporter, who took advantage of PPA 2007 opportunity that allows retired persons to transfer funds from their IRA accounts in 2008-2009.

The first annual gathering was organized by **Dr. Stewart W. Schneller** (Faculty, 1970-1994; Chair 1986-94) in April 1988 with the assistance of **Ms. Dyane Chapman**.

## ***"Giving"***

This is the title of a new secure link on the departmental Web page. (Box is top center). Clicking on the link allows a donor to make a gift to one of the accounts that the Department is emphasizing. Both are related to the annual Scholarship & Alumni Award celebration each spring.

**The Chemistry Operating Fund** provides support for special guests to attend, a worthy cause that can not be supported by State funds. It also provides for food for seminars and related needs.

**The Chemistry Named Awards** endowment provides cash awards to outstanding students in six areas of chemistry. (This was the first year that \$200 awards were given in addition to a book in the subject area). In addition, the awards are named in honor of six pioneering faculty members all retired: **Drs. Binford, Braman, Davis, Fernandez, Owen, and Stanko**.

Two additional awards (in cash) are named after two past department chairs: **Drs. Maybury and Zaworotko**.

We hope to build up the funds so the amount of the awards can be increased.

## ***Departmental Funds...***

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

***Chemistry Scholarship Undergraduate Awards*** (42-0700)

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

***Department of Chemistry Named Award Endowment*** (42-3049)

***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 these funds.

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

## **Commencement - 2009**

Information on the electronic bulletin boards:

**USF buildings:** 1957 (3), 2009 (>390)

**USF Budget:** 1960 (\$2.4 million),  
2009 (\$1.3 billion)

**Students:** 1960 (1,997), 2009 (>44,000)

## **News and feedback**

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### *Web page:*

<http://chemistry.usf.edu>

*Webmaster:* Mr. Tony Green

### *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)