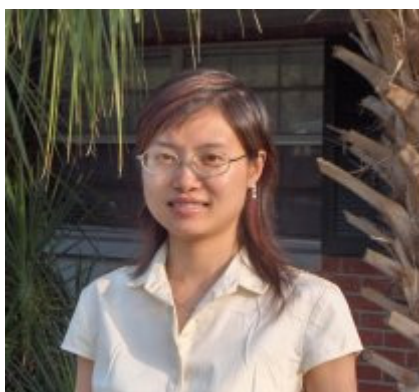


Grants of interest:

Dr. Randy Larsen wrote: "I am very excited to announce that **Dr. Sheryl Li**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, has been



Dr. Li

awarded a James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program grant for a project entitled 'A Rapid and Sensitive Optical Spectroscopic Method for Simultaneous Determination of Cotinine, Trans-3'-hydroxycotinine and Thiocyanate In Vitro. The award is \$398,994 beginning July 1, 2010.'

Promotions...

The following promotions were approved:

Dr. Peter Zhang to full professor,



Dr. Zhang

Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi to full professor,



Dr. Eddaoudi

and **Dr. Jon Antilla** to associate professor with tenure.



Dr. Antilla

Campus changes --- past and future...

A “Topping-Out” Celebration of the USF ISA Project was held on Friday June 4th by Skanska USA Building, Inc.

We asked about a notable tradition, i.e., a tree placed at the top of the building to signify a “topping out”.

Mr. Peter Mazur, Senior Project Manager (USF Interdisciplinary Science Teaching and Research Facility) kindly provided the answer:

“The tradition of having a tree placed on top originated in Scandinavia when everything was timber built. The tree was in honor of the trees that were used to make the home or building. This carried over to the Americas by carpenters who migrated, but somehow it became a stronger tradition for steel erectors on steel buildings in the 1900s. Unfortunately, none of the topping out parties I’ve ever attended, since 1995, have had one.”

This building is located adjacent to Chemistry, Natural and Environmental Sciences, Bioscience Facility buildings and just west of the Administration Building.

It will be BIG. It will be the largest and the tallest (nine stories) on the Tampa Campus.



ISA Building, mid- July (floors 2-9)

Pres. Genshaft recognized...

A *St. Petersburg Times* front page article featured President Genshaft’s tenth anniversary and praised her academic and business acumen (July 5th; for photos see links.tampabay.com). “Thousands of students now live in traditional dorms. Campus construction on her watch tops a half a billion dollars. Football is celebrated. So is science.”

In the past ten years the budget changed from \$873 million to \$1.8 billion, research funding from \$186 million to \$380.4 million. Student enrollment went from 35,728 to 47,341 (fall, 2009).

New Graduate Alumni...

August Commencement included the following graduate alumni:

Ph.D. Graduates:

Amy J. Cairns (Advisor: **Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi**), who will hold a post-doctoral appointment at KAUST in Saudi Arabia.



Dr. Cairns

Carmen A. Garcia (Advisor: **Dr. Jennifer Lewis**).

Anthony J. Green (Advisor: **Dr. Brian Space**), who has served several years as Webmaster.

Abraham C. Stern (Advisor: **Dr. Brian Space**)



Dr. Stern

Melissa E. Topper (Advisor: **Dr. Mark McLaughlin**)

Mingzhou Zhou (Mentor **Dr. McLaughlin**)

Masters Graduate:

Meagan Small (Advisor: **Dr. Larsen**)

Faculty on the move...

Dr. Jon Antilla, Associate Professor visited China in June to present seminars and to recruit outstanding graduate students.

Seminars were given at Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Jiao Tong University in Shanghai, Sun Yat Sen University in Guangzhou, South China University of Science and Technology in Guangzhou, and Peking University in Beijing.

In addition, he attended the Organic Reactions and Processes section of a Gordon Conference (July).

Dr. Bill Baker, Professor of Chemistry, wrote: "My group will be giving talks/posters at the American Society of Pharmacognosy meeting in St. Petersburg (Florida) this summer, July 10-14."

“Bioactive compounds from Florida harmful algal blooms.” C. L. Bursleson, B. J. Baker and T. Van Vleet (Poster).

“Malaria screening and the chemical investigation of endophytic fungal extracts.” Wai S. Ma, Tina Mutka, Dennis E. Kyle, Lilian Vrijmoed and Bill J. Baker (Poster).

“Anti-MRSA compounds from mangrove endophytes.” Jeremy Beau, Matt Lebar, Wai Ma, Raymond Chow, Lilian Vrijmoed, Linsey Shaw and Bill J. Baker (Poster).

“Isolation and synthesis of *meridianin A*, synthesis and structure reassessment of *psammopemmin A*.” M. D. Lebar, S. Ankiset, C. D. Amsler, J. B. McClintock and B. J. Baker (Oral presentation).

“Natural products drug discovery for malaria and leishmaniasis: obstacles and opportunities.” Dennis E. Kyle, Tina S. Mutka, Anuradha Srivastava, Fabian Saenz, Alexis N. Lacrue and Bill J. Baker (Oral presentation)

“Further chemical investigation of the Antarctic marine invertebrate *Synoicum adareanum*.” Laurent Calcul, Charles A. Amsler, Jim B. McClintock and Bill J. Baker (Poster).

“Antimalarial constituents of microorganisms.” Ryan Baker, Anthony Nguyen, Jacqueline Salm, Charles Harter, Matt Lebar, Raymond Chow, Tina Mutka, Dennis Kyle, Cedric Pearce, Lilian Vrijmoed, Ka-Lai Pang, Bill Baker (Poster).

Dr. Baker is a past president of the Society.

Dr. Jennifer Lewis, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Acting Chair, Women’s Studies, attended the POGIL Meeting

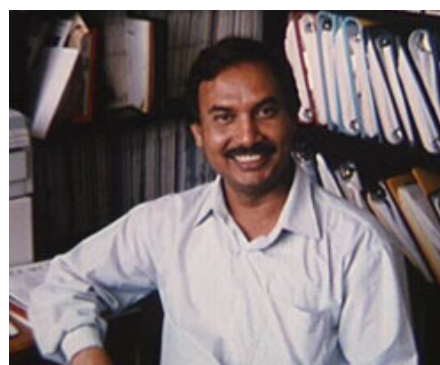
(Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning; Website: pogil.org) in St Louis in June. While there, she led two half-day workshops, one on writing POGIL activities and one on improving classroom facilitation.



Dr. Lewis

Dr. Abdul Malik, Associate Professor, was a plenary lecturer at the 34th International Symposium on Capillary Chromatography held in Riva del Garda, Italy (May 30 – June 4). His presentation was “Germania-based Sol-Gel Coatings and Monolithic Beds in Separation Science.”

He told us, “This is a new direction in the development of chromatographic stationary phases and extraction media. The presentation was primarily based on our recent publication (S.S. Segro, J. Triplett, A. Malik, *Anal. Chem.* **2010**, *82*, 4107-4113),



Dr. Malik

where we demonstrated exceptional pH stability of sol-gel germania-based hybrid organic-inorganic materials (from pH 0 to pH 14).”

Dr. Dean F. Martin (Faculty: 1964-Emeritus, 1996-) attended the 50th Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society (July 11-14), and was recognized as past president and honorary member.

Dr. Mike Zaworotko. Professor, and Director of USF - SMMARTT visited China in May to present invited seminars in



Dr. Zaworotko

China (in May) and, and in Europe (in June). The total distance traveled in the two months was over 24,000 miles (equivalent to a round-the-world trip).

Dr. Arjan van der Vaart, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, served as an invited speaker at the following meetings:

1. Telluride Science Research Center workshop "Algorithmic development on enhanced sampling", June 14-18 in Telluride, CO;
2. Telluride Science Research Center workshop "Protein and peptide interactions in cellular environments", July 19-23 in Telluride, CO;

3. CHARMM meeting, Harvard University, July 23-25;
4. ACS National Meeting, Boston, August 22-26.

Mr. Bill Gates visited a USF Chemistry laboratory...

Members of **Dr. Bill Baker's** research group on location at Palmer Station in Antarctica, “welcomed a delightful surprise recently. Bill Gates, along with his son, visited the research station while on a pleasure trip to Antarctica.”

“**Bill Gates** is an American business magnate, philanthropist, and chairman of Microsoft, the software company he founded with Paul Allen. Mr. Gates was traveling through Antarctica with his son, **Rory John Gates**. The trip is in celebration of the young Gates' birthday on May 23.”

”One of Professor Baker's graduate students, **Mr. Alan Maschek**, was able to show Mr. Gates the sorting table where they prepare their marine invertebrates and algae for storage, as well as point out some samples that were of interest to the MMV [Medicines in Malaria Venture] project.” (Information from the Newsletter of the VP. for Research and Innovation, Vol. 2, Ed. 9).

Faculty Recognition

Dr. Arjan van der Vaart, was awarded an American Chemical Society HP Outstanding Junior Faculty Award. This prestigious award is given by the Division of Computers in Chemistry of the American Chemical Society, with financial sponsorship from

Hewlett Packard. The division receives applications from across the country and the award is highly competitive, with submissions by many excellent tenure-track faculty members. Winners are selected from among this group of applicants based in part on the department's enthusiasm, along with the novelty and potential impact of the applicant's research program.

The award will be presented at the Fall 2010 ACS National Meeting in Boston. Dr. van der Vaart will receive the award and \$1000 at a ceremony during the COMP Division poster session, and will be highlighted in *C&E News*. **Dr. van der Vaart** was also invited to give an oral presentation in one of the meeting symposia, with recognition as one of the best young researchers working in the field of computational chemistry.

Out and About...

Mohamed Alkordi (Ph.D. '10) accepted a postdoctoral position at KAUST (King

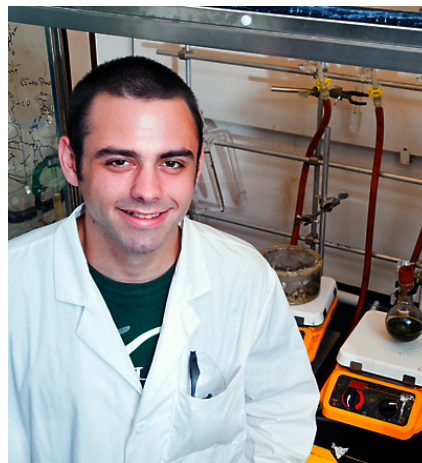


Dr. Alkordi

Abdullah University of Science and Technology), Saudia Arabia.

Mr. Juan Baso, a senior Chemistry major, and a Goldwater Scholarship recipient

(News Spring '10) who works with **Dr. Jon Antilla** was cited in *USF News* (<http://usfweb3.usf.edu/absoluteNM/templates/?a=2428&z=127>).



Mr. Juan Baso

The article describes his remarkable background and his impressive achievements.

Kathleen Carvalho-Knighton (Ph.D. '00), USF St. Petersburg, Environmental Sciences and Policy, was promoted to associate professor with tenure in June.



Dr. Carvalho-Knighton

Emma K. Farrell (Ph.D. '10) is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Biochemistry, University of Missouri-Columbia, where her mentor is Dr. Peter A. Tipton. She will be working on “the roles of AlgJ and AlgF in acetylation of alginate, a biofilm that causes great distress in the lungs of children with cystic fibrosis.”



Dr. Ferrell

Her mentors here were **Dr. David Merkler** (Professor of Chemistry) and **Dr. James Garey** (Professor and Chair, Department of Cell Biology, Microbiology, and Molecular Biology).

Farid Nouar (Ph.D. '10) is now a member of the Dr. Christian Sere Group at Universite de Versailles, Versailles, France.



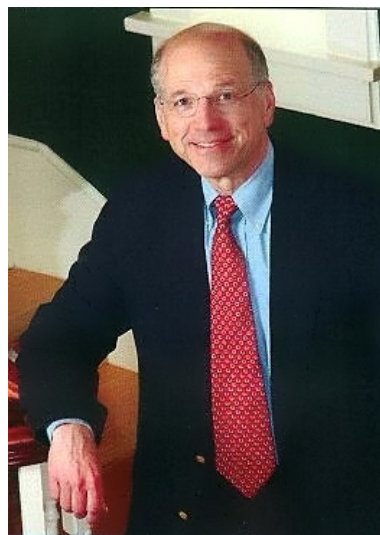
Dr. Nouar

Dorina Sava (Ph.D. '09) is living in Albuquerque, NM while holding a postdoctoral position at Sandia National Laboratory.

[N.B. **Dr. Eddaoudi** served as doctoral advisor to **Drs. Alkordi, Cairns, Nouar, and Sava.**]

Dr. Stewart W. Schneller (Faculty, 1971-1994; Chair, 1986-1994) Professor of Chemistry and Dean, College of Science and Mathematics (COSAM) at Auburn University will soon “leave his leadership role and return to faculty ranks,” according to a letter from that university. He has served for nearly 17 years.

Information received noted that the COSAM “enrollment has increased by 68% during the last eight years, alone... nearly half [of the students] graduate with honors. The faculty are bestowed with teaching’s highest honors and their expertise is in high demand.”



Dr. Schneller

Anne M. Shearrow (Ph.D. '09) has joined METROHM, the French chromatography firm, as an ion chromatography specialist at the US office in Florida. **Dr. Abdul Malik** was her doctoral advisor.

Ms. Xiaoying Xu (M.S. '10) is enrolled in the doctoral program in educational chemistry doing funded research with **Dr. Jennifer Lewis**.

R. I. P.

Dr. Frank Mayo Dudley, December 20, 1920 – July 11, 2010. Dr. Dudley was a charter faculty member, initially in the College of Basic Studies until a reorganization that made him a member of the Department of Chemistry in 1970. He taught and advised students until his retirement in 1981. Dr. Dudley had received undergraduate degrees from Oglethorpe Medical School and the University of Georgia, as well as a Ph.D. from the Ohio State University. He had a remarkable varied career, serving as a clinical chemist in the U. S. Army and Army reserve retiring as a major after 20 years, teaching at various institutions, and serving as a missionary in five nations.

Giving... "Make a Gift"

This is the title of a secure link on the departmental Web page. (Link is on the left-hand side of the Home page). 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. 2009 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.

Donors January 1 - June 30, 2010

Donors who generously supported the Department of Chemistry included the following individuals and organizations. We gratefully acknowledge their support and encouragement.

In these economically challenging times, private philanthropy is essential for support of academic programs, so we are especially grateful for the support these donors provided to our programs. [The list of those who donated during the first half of our fiscal year may be found in the winter issue [8(1)].

Mildred Acevedo-Duncan, Ph.D.
Mr. Roy Kaplan
Mrs. Leila Amiri
Jon Antilla, Ph.D.
Ms. Lerissa Antonio
Mr. Roberto Avergonzado
Ms. Ashlee Bangari
Kirpal Bisht, Ph.D.
Ken Caswell, Ph.D.
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Mrs. Suzy Tate
Edward Turos, Ph.D.
Arjan Van Der Vaart, Ph.D.
Solomon Weldegirma, Ph.D.
H. Lee Woodcock, Ph.D.
Mr. Farhad Zafarianian
Michael Zaworotko, Ph.D.

News and feedback

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rwlarsen@usf.edu

Web page:

<http://chemistry.usf.edu>

Webmaster: Dr. Tony Green

News:

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

News for us or comments?

Please write to: dfmartin@usf.edu
or share with the Webpage or with the [Facebook](#) page.