

USF Chemistry NEWS

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News of Interest to
Friends of the Department of Chemistry
University of South Florida



Away we go ...

This is an effort to bring alumni, retirees, and other friends of the Department up to date.

How up to date depends upon when you left, but let's take the past four years as a start. If you want additional information, please contact us, and we'll try to go back further in a future issue.

The Chairman

Michael J. Zaworotko, Ph.D. was appointed Chairman in September 1999. Prior to that he had served as Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Winnipeg. (For more information, please see our web page.)



Michel J. Zaworotko, Ph.D

Retirees

Until 1998, comparatively few faculty had retired from the Department of Chemistry since it received departmental status in the fall of 1964.

Those who had included: **Drs. Theodore Askounes Ashford** (dec), **Raymond Castle** (dec.), **Frank Dudley**, **Jack E. Fernandez** (charter faculty member), **W. Conard Fernelius**, **P. Calvin Maybury**, **Eugene D. Olsen**, **T. W. Graham Solomons**, and **Robert D. Whitaker**.

Three more retired in 1998: **Drs. Jefferson C. Davis, Jr.**, **George Jurch**, and **Terence C. Owen**.

In May 1999, **Dr. Brian Stevens** and **Dr. George Wenzinger** retired. **Dr. Leon Mandell** retired in May 2000.

This academic year, four faculty will have retired: **Dr. Jay H. Worrell** (December 2002), **Dr. Joseph A. Stanko** (May), **Dr. Jesse S. Binford Jr.**, (August), and **Dr. Robert S. Braman** (August). Continuing a tradition, retirement receptions have been held for those retiring this year. What's new is that pictures are available; see the new Department web site. The combined years of service of the four exceeded 140 years.

Other Departures

Dr. Stewart W. Schneller became Dean, College of Science and Mathematics at Auburn. **Dr. Douglas J. Raber** joined the National Academy of Sciences. **Dr George R. Newkome** became a vice president at University of Akron.

Deaths

Dr. Raymond N. Castle died suddenly in the summer of 1999. He joined USF as a Distinguished Research Professor in 1981. He was founder (1964) and editor of *Journal of Heterocyclic Chemistry* that was published here for many years. He was an active researcher, and a valued lecturer, and made presentations throughout the world. He and his wife, Ada, supported the Castle Lectures for several years prior to his retirement. The annual student symposium at USF is named in his memory.



Dr Raymond N. Castle

New Faculty

Faculty have retired, but we have been fortunate that new faculty have joined - ten, in fact, in the past four years.



Conceptual drawing of proposed NES building.

The future seems in good hands.

These include: **Drs. Bill Baker, Kirpal Bisht, Randy Larsen, Jennifer Lewis, David Merkler, Brian Space, Mark McLaughlin, Ellen Verdel, M. Acevedo-Duncan, and Mike Zaworotko,**

All faculty, their research areas, and more information may be found on their web pages, hopefully with fairly up-to-date photos.

New Buildings

New buildings include Engineering III, PCD (Psychology, Communication Sciences & Disorders), and a research building for Moffitt.

A thorough renovation of the Science Center was completed in 1998. The NES building, and renovation of Chemistry

Building will provide teaching, office, and research space for an expanding chemistry program. The two buildings are scheduled to be worked on at the same time, which will result in efficiency and savings. Pictures of the two building will be found on our web page. (The smaller building on the left is a depiction of the proposed Chemistry Building (renovated).

Other

For the second time, an Ashford was present at the awarding of the Ashford Fellowship. In an earlier time, it was Dr. Theodore Askounas Ashford. Last spring his son, Robert Ashford, J.D., Ph.D., visited the Department in April to present a seminar ("Binary Economics") and awarded the Ashford Fellowship, which his parents had endowed.

New Equipment

The howls of joy some may have heard were associated with some much-needed equipment that appeared in the past four years. This included a Bruker APEX CCD X-ray diffractometer with an Oxford Coldstream low temperature accessory and a full suite of crystallographic software on 10 PCs (associated with Dr. Zaworotko), a MS-GC, and an Azur Toxic Analyzer. The latest acquisitions include a Varian ANOVA 500 MHz NMR, which will compliment the Brooker AMX 360 MHz and DPX 250 MMz NMRs. A Peptide Synthesis Laboratory is being created and is equipped with an Applied Biosystems 433A peptide synthesizer, an AVIV Model 215 circular dichroism spectrometer, Brooker Mald mass spectrometer, a Unity Inova 500 MHz NMR, and Dionex Summit analytical and preparative HPLC systems.

Honors

Dr. Joanna S. Fowler, B.A., 1964, Brookhaven National Laboratory, was just elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences. She is believed to be the first chemistry



Ron Federspiel hard at work in front of the new Varian ANOVA 500 MHz NMR

graduate to receive this honor. In 1994, she and her husband **Dr. Frank Fowler**, were named outstanding Chemistry Alumni.

Staff Members

Ms. Diane Chase serves as Department Coordinator, and has responsibility for Staff and Office Operations. **Mr. Roberto Avergonzando** is concerned with course scheduling and management, **Ms. Beth Jennett**, Office Assistant, Serves as Assistant to Graduate Coordinator, **Ms. Venice Osteen**, serves as a receptionist, **Mr. John Connaughton** is responsible for invoice processing, **Mr. Jason Hair**, is the Department Webmaster, and

Ms. Amy Heldrith is the senior Word Processor. An Accountant is being sought. All staff members have additional duties and responsibilities beyond those listed here, and all are valued for their contributions to the Department.

News

If you have a news item you would like placed in a future newsletter, please contact **Dr. Dean Martin** at: dmartin@chumal.cas.usf.edu



For more information, please visit our web site at:
<http://www.cas.usf.edu/chemistry/>