

In the News...

A note from **Dr. Randy Larsen**, Chair: "The Fall 2008 issue of the USF Magazine has a very nice article entitled 'Connecting Disciplines' which discusses interdisciplinary research at USF. On page 23 is our own **Dave Merkler** and his student **Emma Ferrell** who are engaged in an interdisciplinary project with Biology (**Jim Garey**). This is exactly the type of graduate/undergraduate efforts we are building in the new School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics through our interdisciplinary research clusters."

Dr. Merkler is Professor of Chemistry; **Dr. Garey** is Professor and Co-Chair of Biology.

Awards list...

Drs. Jon Antilla, Mohamed Eddaoudi, Jennifer Lewis, Roman Manetsch and Peter Zhang received University Research Merit Awards this year.

Dr. Randy Larsen, Professor and Chair, noted, "Each department was requested to submit up to five names (i.e., ~20% of their faculty) to be considered for these awards. After consultation with the Associate Chair (**Dr. Brian Space**), we felt that, since the number of awards was limited, our outstanding young faculty should be put forward for this round of awards. I am hopeful that the Office of the Provost will continue this award program at

which time our outstanding senior faculty would be moved forward."

He added, "My understanding is that these young faculty members were among the top rated in the college!"

Caswell recognition...

From **Dr. Randy Larsen**: "I would like to congratulate Dr. Ken Caswell for receiving one of the Outstanding University Teaching Awards! Ken received his award today (Nov. 5) from **Dr. Genshaft** during his class this afternoon (see photo)."



President Judy Genshaft and Dr. Caswell
(Photo by Ms. Lorene Hall-Jennings)

He continued, "Ken is a shining example of the high quality and extremely dedicated faculty we have in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and demonstrates that our research efforts are only one part of our academic mission!"

Happy anniversary...

2008 is the 35th anniversary of the awarding of Chemistry Ph.D. degrees to four persons: Drs. **Ural Akbulut, Marion T. Doig, III, Craig C. Foreback, and Steven R. Perez.** Our congratulations to each and all.

What are they doing? Please turn to our Web page, upper right-hand corner, and click on [Graduate Alumni](#).

Recognition...

Ms. Kimberly Read, M.B.A., Department of Chemistry, Manager of Fiscal & Business Administration, was appointed to USF TRAIN (The Research Administration Improvement Network) by Dr. Karen Holbrook, the USF VP for Research and Innovation.

The Mission of TRAIN is to improve research support infrastructure through achievement of four goals identified by Dr. Holbrook.

Four workgroups have been established, and Ms. Read is a member of the Reporting Workgroup.

[For a short biography, please see *News* 5(4), p. 4]

Saying "Goodbye"...

A ceremony saying farewell to the old Marshall Center was held Wednesday, September 24th before its demolition, which is scheduled to be completed before year's end.

In addition to speeches by President Judy Genshaft and the Student Body President, Greg Morgan, others shared memories of the Center.

Following disassembly, a new plaza (to the south of the Marshall center) will be constructed, and will include a grassy amphitheater for Movies on the Lawn.

BITT

The Florida Center of Excellence in Biomolecular Identification and Targeted Therapeutics ([FCoE-BITT](#)) Symposium on Detection, Diagnostics and Therapeutics was held on October 15-17 at the Blaise Alfano Center (next to the Wingate Hotel on Fowler Avenue).

A tour of the BITT Facility occurred the afternoon of October 15, before the Welcome Reception. On Thursday and Friday, October 16-17, there were four lecture sessions on Detection, Diagnostics, Therapeutics and Translational Research, including invited speakers, a poster/networking happy hour, lunches and a dinner with Plenary Speaker, Dr. Barbara Alving, Director of the National Center for Research Resources, NIH.

Some 23 of 47 papers involved Chemistry students and faculty, according to Dr. Ed Turos, Professor of Chemistry, who chaired the "Translational Research" session.

[*Background? See: News: 4(5), p. 1*]

Who's who on Chemistry Staff...

An organizational chart, created by **Ms. Kimberly Read**, for the departmental Staff, is available on the Webpage ([Staff](#)). When you click on the person's box, you are connected to that person's Web page.

What are we up to?

A section on the Department Web page called "Recent Highlights" provides some information about Chemistry Faculty activities:

<http://chemistry.usf.edu/faculty/highlights/>

Persons we have heard about...

Charles A. Asowata, Lt. Col., US Army (B.A. '80), successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at George Mason University on December 5th. Members of his committee included **John A. Schreifels** (B.S. '75; Ph.D. '79) *vide infra* and **Dean F. Martin** (faculty '64 - '06).

Kiran Avancha (Ph. D. '06) is a Research Pharmacist at the University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center, where he is currently involved in maintaining clinical trials. **Dr. Mark McLaughlin** was his doctoral advisor.

Pat Benz (Ph.D. '76), President of Benz Associates in Sarasota, FL, was the 2008 Outstanding Alumnus Awardee. He was honored at a luncheon October 17, when we had a chance to meet his family. He was also recognized at the half-time ceremony on October 18.

Greg Buczynski (Ph.D. '93) is currently the Section Head of Viral Validation in the Pathogen Safety group at Talecris Biotherapeutics, Inc. His company produces biotherapeutics from human plasma, which includes IgG, hyperimmunes, alpha1 proteinase inhibitor, and Factor VIII.

Lyle Castle (Ph.D. '92), Professor of Chemistry at Idaho State University, is Editor of the *Journal of Heterocyclic Chemistry*. [For additional information, please see *News* 6(4)].

Brian Moulton (Ph.D. '03) is a Research Fellow at Vertex Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, MA, and visited the department in November.

Angela Perry (Ph.D. '05) is Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Tampa. She and her husband are parents of a son, Carson, born in April.

John A. Schreifels (B.S. '75; Ph.D. '79), Associate Professor of Chemistry at George Mason University, received an outstanding teaching award last spring, and used the award money to start an endowment for undergraduates.

Dongxin Wang (Ph.D. '00) is a faculty member at Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing, PRC.

Departmental Funds...

This is the list provided by Dr. Zaworotko in December, 2007.

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 these funds.

It is a pleasure to note that The Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation has made a donation in the amount of \$5,627 to the **Owen Chemistry Undergraduate Research Fund**.

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>

Webmaster:

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