In the Department

Promotions & Tenure news

The Chair, Dr. Wayne Guida, and the Department of Chemistry are pleased to announce:

Dr. Jianfeng Cai and Dr. Shengqian Ma were promoted to the rank of full Professor.

And subsequently, Dr. Wayne Guida announced promotions of four colleagues to the rank of Instructor II:

Dr. Laura Anderson
Dr. Daniel Cruz-Ramirez de Arellano
Dr. Kenyon Daniel
Dr. Kimberly Fields
Tenure news

Two Department of Chemistry faculty members were granted tenure.

Professor James Leahy (B.S.’84; Ph.D.’90) joined the USF faculty in 2012. He is also a member of CDDI (The Florida Center of Excellence for Drug Discovery and Innovation), and he has a courtesy appointment in the Department of Molecular Medicine in the Morsani College of Medicine.

Associate professor Juan Del Valle joined the Department in 2015 having previously been at Moffitt Cancer Center and research Institute (2010-2015).

Cover honors

Until comparatively recently, major journals such as the Journal of the American Chemical Society had covers that were a dull gray.

Then, covers became colorful featuring a portion of a significant paper from inside the journal. This year Department faculty had covers on issues of four significant journals.

Drs. Jianfeng Cai, Shengqian Ma, and Arjan van der Vaart had a cover featuring their paper in Journal of the American Chemical Society (below).

Dr. Shengqian Ma had a cover in Chemical Communications.
Dr. Abdul Malik had a paper in Separation Science that was featured on a cover.

Dr. Arjan van der Vaart saw a cover on an issue of Nature Reviews Materials that featured a paper of his.

Chemistry Grad Students Spring 2018 Graduates

In May, ten graduate students received advanced degrees. The graduates (and their advisors in parentheses) are listed below:

Doctoral graduates

Garrett Craft (Dr. Julie Harmon)
Benjamin Eduful (Dr. James Leahy)
Geoffrey Gray (Dr. Arjan van der Vaart)
Tamalia Julien (Dr. Julie Harmon)

Ankush Kanwar (Dr. James Leahy)
Matthew Knestrick (Dr. Bill Baker)

Chavis Stackhouse (Dr. Shengqian Ma)

Masters Graduates
Mussie Gide (MS) (Dr. Jianfeng Cai)
William Motsch (MA) (Dr. Juan Del Valle)

Dr. Gray  Dr. Julien
Dr. Kanwar  Dr. Knestrick
Dr. Stackhouse

Elizabeth Yancy (MA) (Dr. Jennifer Lewis)

Mr. Gide  Mr. Motsch

Mr. Yancy

Chemistry Grad Students
Summer 2018 Graduates
Doctoral Graduates

Olapeju Bolarinwa (Dr. Jiangfeng Cai)
Rebecca Gibbons (Dr. Jeffrey Raker)

Chengliang Jiang (Dr. Abdul Malik)

Dr. Bolarinwa  Dr. Gibbons
Dr. Jiang
Masters Graduates

Selam Hagos (Dr. Bill Baker)
Allison Mercer (Dr. Jennifer Lewis)

Deno Shuniak (Dr. Scott Lewis)
Caitlin Zumalt (Dr. Jeffrey Raker)

Out and About...

FAME Meeting.
The annual meeting of the FAME was held at Innisbrook Resort May 3-5. This is an annual gathering of Florida chemists and others to give and hear professional papers and view posters.

Five students received best poster awards for their area of chemistry. Two were from USF.

Mr. Filosa (2nd from left)
Ms. Le (far right)
Mr. Alexander Filosa is an undergraduate working in Dr. Xiaoping Li’s research group. Ms. Ying Le is a member of Dr. Xiadong (Michael) Shi’s research group.

Tampa Bay ACS Awards Banquet

The banquet was held on Wednesday, May 8th, on the 7th floor of the Interdisciplinary Science Center at USF.

The dinner honored both outstanding middle school and high school students who performed well at their county STEM Fair earlier this year, national qualifiers for the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad, top undergraduate student projects from the USF Castle Conference and the University of Tampa, and 50- and 60- year members.

Persons you may know

Sameh Elsaidi (Ph.D., 2014) is a postdoctoral research fellow at NETL Pittsburgh. His research advisors were Dr. Mike Zaworotko and Dr. Brian Space.

Melissa Derby (Ph.D. ’02) is with “Under the Campus Purdue University Global,” She was a professor with Kaplan University that was integrated into Purdue university as an online university.
As Purdue University President Mitch Daniels noted in a news release, “The name proved appealing to our various stakeholders—most importantly prospective students.”

Craig C. Foreback (Ph.D. ’73) died May 14th. He had retired to Sarasota after retiring from his position as senior lecturer, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. James Leahy (please see above) USF professor of Chemistry was appointed Chemistry’s Director of Graduate Studies and Chair, of the Graduate Council.

Dr. Richard Pierce (M.S. ’69) is Assoc. VP, Directorate of Environmental Health and Ocean Technology; Sr. Scientist and Program Manager Ecotoxicology, Mote Marine Lab, Sarasota, FL

Dr. Kimberly Read (formerly Department Manager) and Dr. Dean F. Martin (Faculty 1964- ) were quoted in an article about retirement activities [Dance, A. Nature, 2018, 55, 429-431]

Dr. Read is assistant director for the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities at USF. She researched retirement and emeritus issues for her Ph.D. dissertation in 2016.

USF Chemistry in Florence

Dr. David Merkler, professor of chemistry, coordinated chemistry offerings in Florence, Italy for the fifth time.

He was joined by Dr. Kimberly Fields for the third time and Dr. Kirpal Bisht for the second time.

Course offerings for term B (June 25-August 4) include:

BCH 3053 - General Biochemistry
CHM 2211 - Organic Chemistry II
CHM 4070 - Historical Perspectives of Chemistry, Science in the Day of a Florentine Life

The Science in Florence Program is hosted by the Education Abroad Office of USF World.

Donors to the Department
Donations made January 1 to June 30, 2018

Individual Donors
Mildred E. Acevedo-Duncan, Ph.D.
Laura Anderson, Ph.D.
Bill J. Baker, Ph.D.
Kirpal S. Bisht, Ph.D.
Leigh Anne Blackwell
We are most grateful for the support that the Department of Chemistry has received.

**About USF**

**114th Commencement Convocation**

System President Dr. Judy Genshaft presided at 11 commencement ceremonies on May 4-6. A total of about 7,000 degrees were conferred.

All 50 states and 150 nations were represented, as well as 27 commissioned officers and 240 veterans.

**Creativity**

Paul Sanberg, M.D., Ph.D., Senior VP for Research, Innovation, and knowledge enterprise shared information about trends in
universities who credit faculty members who patent inventions and create startups.

The information appeared in Science [vol 360, issue 6388 p.570]. USF senior leadership has updated promotion and tenure guidelines to credit faculty members who attain these special achievements.

**Maymester**

This academic term lasted May 7-25. It was an opportunity to obtain 3 Credit hours by taking completely online classes “anytime anywhere.” Also doing so would help satisfy a State of Florida summer course requirement.

**Patents**

USF is the nation’s fifth leading public university in generating new U.S. utility patents and ranks 12th among universities worldwide, according to information released June 5th by NAI and the intellectual Property Owners Association.

In 2017, USF earned 116 2016 utility patents, two more than the previous record set in 2016.

**Preeminence**

USF was named a *Preeminent University*, by the Florida Board of Governors on June 28th. It is now one of three, along with the University of Florida and The Florida State University, which have been in operation for about 100 years longer than USF.

System President Dr. Judy Genshaft noted “This critical designation comes with additional State resources and special privileges, which will have an exponential impact on our continued efforts to grow our research enterprise, provide the highest-quality education to our students, strengthen our partnership and help us make an even bigger difference in our community.”

She added, “While we celebrate being recognized as Preeminent by our state leaders, this is not the end of our journey. It is a new beginning. We will continue our quest to move up in national higher education rankings so we can attract even more of the best and brightest students and world-class scholars and researchers.”

**Phi Beta Kappa**

On Friday, August 3rd, USF was awarded a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the prestigious national honor society. USF was subjected to a three-year rigorous review. The response was spearheaded by Honors College Dean Charles Adams and a committee of USF Faculty members who were graduated as Phi Beta Kappa members. Six other Florida colleges and universities also have chapters.

The average member school was founded in 1860 or 100 years before USF started classes.

USF Provost Ralph Wilcox termed the society “reserved for the crème de la crème of private and public universities across the United States.”
Abbreviations

ACS (American Chemical Society)

CAS College of Arts and Sciences

FAME (Florida Annual Meeting and Exposition)

NAI (National Academy of Inventors)

PLTL (Peer-Led Team Learning)

STEER (Systemic Transformation of Education through Evidence-Based Reforms)

FAME (Florida Annual Meeting and Exposition)

Acknowledgments

Office staff member Kaitlyn Kroner for helpful information.

Ms. Leigh Anne Blackwell, for lists of chemistry graduates.

Dr. Christina Nelson for helpful information and copy-checking help.

Ms. Laura Henchley Tampa Bay section, ACS Newsletter (June 2018) for Banquet information.

Barbara Martin and Dr. Wayne Guida for helpful advice.

For helpful data, Dr. Elizabeth Amanda CAS Associate Dean for Communication, Community and Global Engagement

System President Judy Genshaft for Preeminent information (e-mail June 28).


Mr. Justin Trombly, Tampa Bay Times staff writer for news article, “New USF honor role: It’s in Phi Beta Kappa,” August 4th

Web page:
http://chemistry.usf.edu

Chair’s Address:

Dr. Wayne Guida
Professor and Chair
Department of Chemistry-CHE 205
University of South Florida
4202 East Fowler Avenue
Tampa, FL 33620-5205

Webmasters:
Mr. Brant Tudor & Mr. Douglas Franz

Mr. Tudor                      Mr. Franz
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.