

# **USF Chemistry NEWS**

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

Volume 15, No 5 Late Autumn, 2017

### News and feedback

The stellar NF support reported in the last issue continued:

#### Research support-I

Dr. **Julie Harmon** (Co-PI with Dr. Jing Wang, Engineering): MRI: Acquisition of a Multi-Material Additive Manufacturing Platform for Multi-Disciplinary Research and Education (NSF MRI) \$420,980 (9/18/2017 -)



Dr. Harmon

#### Research support-II

Dr. Scott Lewis was awarded a NSF grant titled "Collaborative Research: Longitudinal Impact of Peer-Led Team Teaching on Retention of Chemistry Concepts and Attitudes Towards Chemistry" The total award is for \$291 k with \$169k

coming to USF as the lead institution.

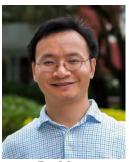


Dr. Lewis

# Faculty recognition -I

Dr. Shengqian Ma (assoc. prof.) was named a 2017 Clarivarte Highly Cited Researcher because during the past decade he produced multiple highly cited papers "ranking in the top 1% by citations, considering both year and field of publication.

The honor was reported to faculty and staff by Dr. **Wayne Guida** September 18.



Dr. Ma

This is the second year for such an honor for Dr. Ma as was noted in the *News* last year.

Dr. Ma also serves as Director of SMAARTT.

# Faculty recognition -II

Dr. Solomon Weldegirma and Dr. Kimberly Fields were named GCP Global Faculty Fellows for the Fall 2017. Both will be associated on a project involving Organic Chemistry laboratory (I and II). Both are instructors and each will receive a bonus for working on their individual laboratory project.





Dr. Weldegirma

Dr. Fields

# STEM Awardee Faculty recognition –III

Dr. **Wayne Guida** announced that "Anandamide" from Dr. **David Merkler**'s laboratory was cited in *Wikipedia*, e.g., <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anandamide">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anandamide</a> (ref 16).



Dr Merkler

# Faculty recognition -/V

Laura Anderson (Ph.D. '09), permanent instructor, was a recipient of a 2017 Fulbright medal in recognition of service given as a Fulbright scholar in Columbia earlier this year.



She is pictured with Dr. Wayne Guida, professor and chair, at the ceremony.

# Obituary



Ms. Graham

Ms. Cheryl Graham, fiscal and business assistant and a department member since August 2004, passed away in late September from cancer.

For 2010, Cheryl was the recipient of a USF Outstanding Staff Award presented to her by President Genshaft and Provost Wilcox on September 20, 2011.

#### Nominators wrote:

"Cheryl is absolutely a team player. She is always willing to pitch in and help with Cheryl congenial anything. is approachable. Her commitment to supporting the members of our department – student, faculty and staff - makes her a goto person by everyone who needs help with purchasing. And because she always takes the initiative to find solutions and answers to any questions asked of her, many people seek her advice. She never shuffles people to another person or phone number."

She was "a glowing example of USF's value of discovery, creativity and intellectual attainment," and she will be missed by many for many reasons.

### Persons you may know

Dr. Carl A. Luer (M.A. alum) is senior scientist & program manager, Marine Biomedical Research, at Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium, Sarasota, FL.

**Ralph N. Salvatore** (Ph.D. '01 ) professor of chemistry, Southeastern University , Lakeland, FL spoke to the USF Chemistry Society ((October 9<sup>th</sup>). His presentation was crafted on "the Chemistry behind chemistry weapons and their destruction."

# What did they do later?

Information became available for recent doctoral alumni, as well as some not-so recent.

**Craig Bowe** ('03) Director, Environmental Engineering Technology, Campus Liaison, Chemistry; Ohio University Southern Campus

Advisor: Dr. Martin

**Wenyang Gao** ('17) Postdoc.in Chemistry, Texas A&M Univ.

Advisor: Dr. Ma

**Alaa Hashim** ('14). Adj. lecturer at UCF Chemistry Dept since 2014 *Advisor*: Dr. Ming

**Seyedmortez Hosseyni** ('17) Postdoc..in chemistry, Harvard *Advisor*: Dr. Shi

**Ali Hussain** ('16) Faculty member, Univ of Kuwait

Advisor: Dr. Bisht

**Augusto Ibay** ('83) Lion Copolymer Geismer, Baton Rouge, LA, inventor; cf https://patrents.justia.com/inventor/arthur-j-fontenot-iii

Advisor: Dr. Schneller

**Yanqiong Li** ('16) Faculty member Contra Costa College, San Pablo,CA *Advisor:*Dr. Lewis

**Andrii Monastryskyi** ('14) Postdoc in the Roush Research Lab of Scripps Research Institute-Florida

Advisor: Dr. Manetsch

**Sreya Mukherjee** ('16) Postdoc. Res Fellow Univ. of Maryland School of Medicine

Advisor: Dr. Zaworotko

**Sri Nimmagadda** ('17) Postdoc. Res. Assoc. with Dr.Keary Engle at Scripps-San Diego,

Advisor: Dr. Antilla

**Sreya Mukherjee** ('16) Postdoc. Res Fellow Univ. of Maryland School of Medicine

Advisor: Dr. Zaworotko

**Brianne (Weber) O'Leary** ('07) Research Specialist, Univ of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics

Advisor: Dr. Grossman

**Emre Seyyal** ('17) Postdoc.with Dr.Evans-Nguyen, USF Dept. of Chemistry *Advisor*:Dr. Malik

**Li Ye** ('17) Assist. prof.chem. education, Cal State U-Northridge. *Advisor:* Dr. Scott Lewis

# On Campus

Phase One of the Village Located at the north end of the campus opened on time this term, as Beacon Hall and Summit Hall opened to residents. *The Oracle* described the \$135 million project as "well received by most residents."

Enough activities and resources are available that some students recognize there is no need to leave campus.

Phase Two will include three additional residence halls, providing a total of 2,000 beds and leading to 6,000 residents on campus out of 40,000 students.

To obtain financial support to enhance the quality of campus living, the resident rates have increased for the past two years, and a third increase is anticipated.

#### About USF

#### USF Status

President **Judy Genshaft** noted in her fall address a number of accomplishments, but one that received a "wow" from the audience and sustained applause: The Times Higher Education World Summit Series selected USF as the first U.S. site for its Young Universities Summit this June. Last years was held at Brisbane.



Dr. Genshaft

Preeminent status achieved

USF-Tampa has achieved **Preeminent Status** based on the achievement of appropriate metrics. Thus approved, USF joins UF and FSU. Apart from prestige, the change means significantly enhanced funding from the State of Florida.

One metric is endowment. USF endowment has now reached \$441 million, the greatest it has ever been. Only two U.S. universities founded after 1950 have endowments greater than USF's noted Dr. Judy Genshaft.

#### Unstoppable Campaign update

The goal to raise \$1 billion in donations was exceeded a year early and with more money, \$1.035 billion.

The Celebration was held November 11<sup>th</sup> at Amalie Arena, Channelside Drive, with about 800 guests. Funds for the occasion came from donations and table charges. Past and current Campaign chairs (2006-2017) were recognized as were the significant donors.

Entertainment was provided by KC and thye Sunshine Band. Over the past 40 years their songs have ben heard in over 200 movies and commercials. They have a star on the Hollywood Walk of famer

A new donation of \$15 million by Pam and Les Muma was announced.

#### About Irma

USF was closed for six days because of Hurricane Irma. Students were allowed to remain in the residence halls and food service was provided.

Those who were unable to return home including students and staff from USF-SP and USF-SM, were housed and fed in the residence halls where President Judy Genshaft and Provost Ralph Wilcox visited regularly.

USF also housed at the Sundome Corral more than 400 utility workers from other states and as far as Canada who were deployed to assist TECO after the storm passed.



Dr. Wilcox

The Sundome was also used as a special needs facility for Hillsborough Count y, providing space in which more than 800 persons were served. Pets of those staying in the Sun Dome were housed in a separate area so that families did not have to leave them behind.

Pizzo Elementary on campus was used as a general shelter and was at full capacity.

President Genshaft roamed the campus each day thanking the faculty and staff who worked through the closure And she also visited with students who chose to remain on campus to reinforce their safety.

Despite the disruption the remainder of the term remained as scheduled.

**Paul Sanberg**, M.D., Ph.D., Senior VP for Research and Innovation, was co-author of an eLetter in *Science*.

The letter was co-authored with NYU president Andrew Hamilton, both NAI fellows. The letter, "Basic Research's ROI: New patents, new products, companies, and jobs."



Dr.Sanberg

The eletter was written in response to Science article, "The dual frontier: Patented inventions and prior scientific inventions." By Mohammad Ahmadpoor and Benjamin F. Jones. The article notes that most cited research articles (80%) link forward to a future patent ... most patents (61%) link backward to a prior research article.'

# USF-Tampa Campus statistics

Students 43,502 Faculty and Staff 15,378 Instructional Faculty 1,806 Buildings

System 256

**Student: Faculty ratio** 24:1 (2015)

21:1 (2016, fall)

**Operating Budget** \$1.7 B (2017-18)

# Acknowledgments

Useful housing information appeared in *The Oracle*'s September 5 issue.

Obituary information from a nomination written by then Chair Dr. Randy Larsen.

Thanks to Dr. Christina Nelson (academic services administrator) for some helpful information concerning chemistry alumni.

Special thanks to Ms. **Erin Ives** (unit research administrator) for finding activities of additional dozen alumni

USF Data from "USF System Facts 2017-2017," provided by Provost Wilcox.

#### **Abbreviations**

GCP: Global Citizen's Project

**SMMARTT:** Smart Metal-organic Materials Advanced Research & Technology Transfer

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

#### Chair's Address:



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### Webmaster: Mr. Brant Tudor



Mr. Tudor

#### News:

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

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# News for us or comments?

Please write to: <a href="mailto:dfmartin@usf.edu">dfmartin@usf.edu</a>
or share with the Webpage or with the Facebook.