

## ***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**.



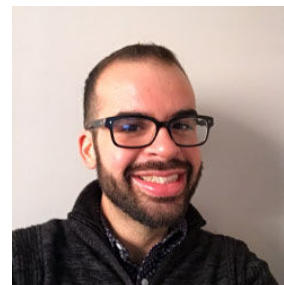
Dr. Cai



Dr. Ma



Dr. Anderson



Dr. Cruz-Ramirez de Arellano



Dr. Daniel



Dr. Fields

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



Dr. Leahy



Dr. Del Valle

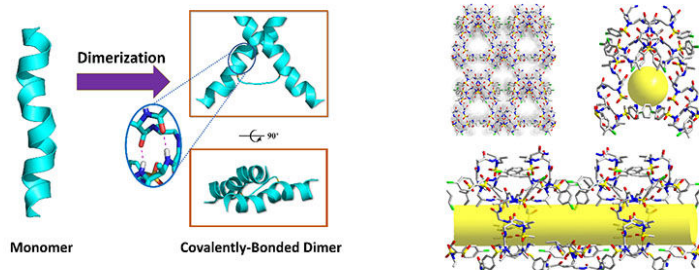
the Department in 2015 having previously been at Moffitt Cancer Center and research Institute (2010-2015).

## 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).



Portion of cover featuring Cai et al. article

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)

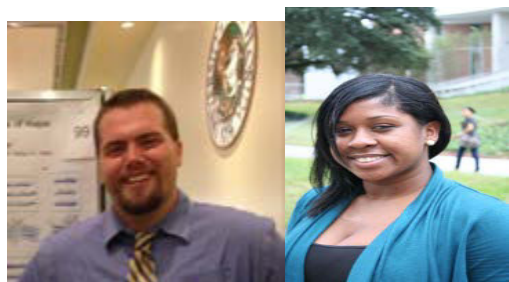


Dr. Craft



Dr. Eduful

**Geoffrey Gray** (Dr. Arjan van der Vaart)  
**Tamalia Julien** (Dr. Julie Harmon)



Dr. Gray

Dr. Julien

**Ankush Kanwar** (Dr. James Leahy)  
**Matthew Knestruck** (Dr. Bill Baker)



Dr. Kanwar

Dr. Knestruck

**Chavis Stackhouse** (Dr. Shengqian Ma)



Dr. Stackhouse

***Masters Graduates***

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



Mr. Gide

Mr. Motsch

**Elizabeth Yancy** (MA) (Dr. Jennifer Lewis)



Ms. Yancy

***Chemistry Grad Students***  
***Summer 2018 Graduates***  
***Doctoral Graduates***

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



Dr. Bolarinwa



Dr. Gibbons

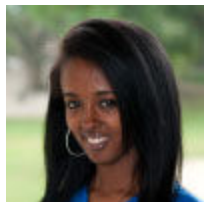
**Chengliang Jiang** (Dr. Abdul Malik)



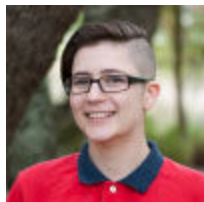
Dr. Jiang

## *Masters Graduates*

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

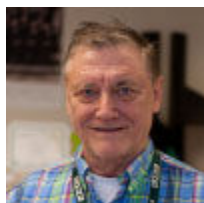


Ms. Hagos



Ms. Mercer

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



Mr. Shuniak



Ms. Zumalt

## ***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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.



Dr. Merkler

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



Dr. Fields



Dr. Bisht

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.  
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Leigh Anne Blackwell

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Matthew Ray Casto  
Daniel Cruz-Ramirez de Arellano, Ph.D.  
Juan R. Del Valle, Ph.D.  
Theresa Evans-Nguyen, Ph.D.

Kimberly Bliss Fields, Ph.D.  
Jhon Figueroa, Ph.D.  
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Xiaopeng Li, Ph.D.  
Abdul Malik, Ph.D.  
Barbara B. and Dean F. Martin, Ph.D.  
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Li-June Ming Ph.D.  
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Jeffrey Robert Raker, Ph.D.  
David M. Rogers, Ph.D.  
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We are most grateful for the support that the  
Department of Chemistry has received.

## ***About USF***

### **114<sup>th</sup> 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.



Dr. Judy Genshaft

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.



Dr.Sanberg

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 12<sup>th</sup> among universities worldwide, according to information released June 5<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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).

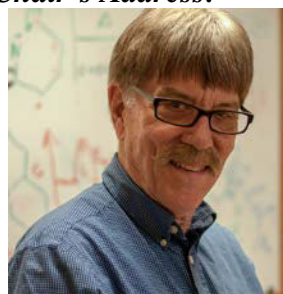
Ms. **Ann Serota**, Development Specialist, CAS office of Development for donor information.

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>

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Tampa, FL 33620-5205

**Webmasters:**

Mr. Brant Tudor & Mr. Douglas Franz



Mr. Tudor



Mr. Franz



*News:*

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*News for us or comments?*

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