

## **REU News**

REU is a research experience for undergraduates and was initiated as an NSF-supported summer program with a three-year grant, as noted in previous issues of *News*. The program was adapted to the fall and spring semesters starting with the fall of 2005 and some 70 students.

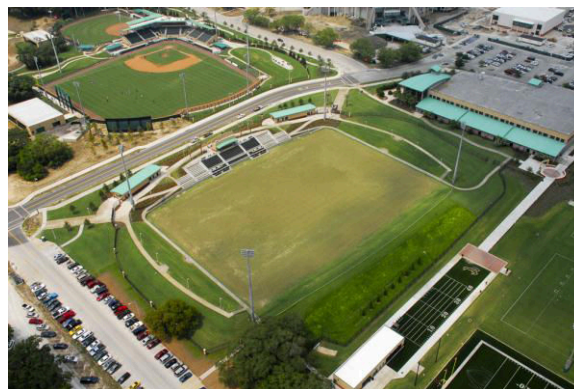
## **Campus changes --- past and future...**

A Chemistry faculty member attended a recent "Experience the Transformation" – presentation and was given this special t-shirt that commemorates the transformations occurring on the USF Tampa campus. The picture below reminds us that they are many and significant.



They include the IDRB (Interdisciplinary Research building), the 7-9 story ISB building, the new additions to the Sun Dome, the renovation of the Sun Dome, the expansion of the Recreation Center, the new Music Building, and so on.

The new soccer stadium (picture below) will be named the Corbett Soccer Stadium after a donation from Cornelia and Dick Corbett.



A portion of the new USF Athletic facilities (Courtesy **Mr. Jim Neighbors** and **Mr. Ray Gonzalez**)

It is located directly east of the Athletics Building and the Baseball/Softball Complex (left in picture) and the Frank Morsani Football Practice Center (not shown).

The stadium (south side of field) will hold 1,000 fans in folding seats (a great

improvement for those of us fans with older backs). Notice room for an extra 2,000 fans on grass berms on two other sides, as shown in the picture.

A nice feature is the lack of a running track so that the furthest seat in the Corbett Stadium is closer than the nearest was in the old one. (information from **Michael Manganello**, *Oracle*, June 16)

As President Allen, USF's founding president used to say, "At USF, the concrete never sets."

## ***Out and About...***

Chemists go to meetings, and the Department was well represented at the FAME 2011 (Florida Annual Meeting and Exposition) Held at Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club May 12-14.

Faculty attending or contributing included **Drs. Wayne Guida, Randy Larsen, Jennifer Lewis, Vasiliki Lykourinou, Roman Manetsch, Dean Martin, David Merkler, Li-June Ming, Santiago Sandi-Urena, Arjan van Der Vaart, and Lee Woodcock.**

**Dr. Santiago Sandi-Urena** (Assistant Professor of Chemistry) was the co-organizer of the Chemical education morning and afternoon sessions. Pictured below are some of the persons who spoke, including **Dr. José Chamizo**, Invited Lecturer, who spoke on "Heuristic Diagrams as a Tool to Teach History of Chemistry"

Some of those present are pictured (below)



Ms. Villafaña-Garcia, Dr. Lykourinou, Ms. Lopez, Mr. Gatlin, Ms. Heredia, Ms. Arjoon, Dr. Sandi-Urena, Dr. Chamizo

## ***Netherlands defense...***

**Dr. Mike Zaworotko** (Professor of Chemistry) served on the thesis defense examination committee of Jan Harms Urbanus at Technical University of Delft in the Netherlands. Two interesting features:

- (1) The attire for members of the examination committee was: dark suit, black shoes, and grey tie;
- (2) The student was required to be prepared to defend ten propositions approved by his advisor. Three were based on the thesis, seven were not, including "Revolution is the democratic response to dictatorship."

A notable faculty member there was J. H. van't Hoff, recipient of the first Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and one of two persons who first proposed the tetrahedral arrangement of organic carbon compounds.

## ***In the News...***

### *Feature article*

Undergraduate student researchers advised by **Dr. Santiago Sandi-Urena** were featured in a USF News article by Daylina Miller (May 27, 2011) entitled "Researchers Rate RateMyProfessor.com". The research was briefly described in the last issue *News*

9(2). A link provided (below) gives more detail.

<http://news.usf.edu/article/templates/?a=3457&z=119>

### *CDDI Feature article*

**Dr. Bill Baker** (Professor of Chemistry) was appointed Director of CDDI (Center for Drug Discovery and Innovation). This center succeeds BITT.

### *2011 Reaxys Ph.D. Prize.*

One of **Dr. Jon Antilla's** (Associate Professor) graduate students, **Pankaj Jain** (a second year student) has been selected as a finalist for the 2011 Reaxys Ph.D. Prize.

The Reaxys Ph.D. Prize is open to all students studying for a Ph.D. in Chemistry, and recognizes research and publication excellence in organic, inorganic, and organometallic chemistry.

Submissions consisted of a representative peer-reviewed piece of published research, a Ph.D. Supervisor's letter of recommendation and a CV.

Submissions were reviewed by a board of over 70 leading international chemists and judged for originality, innovation, importance to the field, applicability, rigor of approach and publication quality. All finalists are invited to attend the Reaxys PhD Prize Symposium and present a poster describing their research. The Symposium and Poster Session will be held at the 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Chemical Congress, September 7th, in Bangkok.

### *New Patent*

US Patent 7,947,174 B2 was issued (May 24<sup>th</sup>) to **Drs. Abdul Malik** (Associate

Professor) and **James D. Hayes** (Ph.D. 2000) and is entitled "Sol-gel Monolithic Columns with Optical Window and Method of Making".

### *New Grant*

**Dr. Roman Manetsch** recently received word of the funding of a NIH –RO1 grant, "Drugs targeting erythrocyte and exoerythrocytic stages of malaria." His project is funded at ~\$1.3 million over 5 years.

In note congratulating him, **Dr. Randy Larsen** added "included in this interdisciplinary effort are the CDDI, the College of Public Health, and Chemistry's CMD5 Center."

### *And more good news*

**Dr. Manetsch** was notified that he has been promoted to associate professor and granted tenure!

## ***On the Move***

The Interdisciplinary NMR Facility folks undertook an extraordinary move in July and August, after highly detailed planning.

The inova600, inova500, and inova400 spectrometers were successfully (and successfully moved to ISA (Interdisciplinary Science...). In addition, the newest direct drive Varian spectrometer was shifted to ISA for installation.

The location will be "bring proximity to the center of research activities and enhance security at night," Facility Director **Dr. Edwin Rivera** announced.

The new laboratory was designed with the requirements needed in a modern NMR

laboratory, **Dr. Rivera** wrote: “Minimum outside interference for the most demanding NMR experiments, better training and teaching facilities, better infrastructure including a nitrogen generator..., and a power generator backup for all three spectrometers and even oxygen sensors in the event of a quench.”

## **Summer Graduates**

Ten graduate students were graduated at the Summer, 2011 ceremonies, which were held August 6<sup>th</sup> at the St. Petersburg Times Forum in downtown Tampa. The Sundome was not available because of ongoing extensive renovations.

### *Masters:*

**Catherine Geiser** (Advisor: **Dr. Harmon**);  
**Sereya Mukherjee** (Advisor: **Dr. Zaworotko**); **Abdullah Alhendal** (Advisor: **Dr. Malik**)

### *Doctoral:*

**Alan Maschek** (Advisor: **Dr. Baker**)  
**Shraddha Desai** and **Prajit Pillai** (Advisor: **Dr. Acevedo-Duncan**)  
**Jason Perman** (Advisor: **Dr. Zaworotko**); **Meghanath Gali** (Advisor: **Dr. Bisht**); **Roger Bass** (Advisor: **Dr. Harmon**);  
**Praveen Ramaraju** (Advisor: **Dr. Tuross**).

## **News and feedback**

**George Cobb** (Ph.D. '82) is a candidate for Division Treasurer, ACS Division of Environmental Chemistry and Alternate Councilor. He is Professor of Environmental Toxicology at Texas Tech University where he and his group investigations include age-dependent toxicity of metal nanoparticles, bioaccumulation of nanomaterials, and

ultra-trace analysis of acutely toxic air pollutants. His advisor at USF was **Professor Robert Braman**.

**Ralph N. Salvatore** (Ph.D. '01) is Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry, Lehman College, City University of New York.



Dr. Ralph Salvatore

After leaving USF, he taught at Western Kentucky University, he taught at the University of Massachusetts for one year, before joining CCNY.

## **Faculty/Staff Fund Drive... Do as we do?**

The annual 2011-2012 Faculty/staff Fund Campaign closed June 30<sup>th</sup>. It is a tradition of some years in which USF faculty and staff members are encouraged to make a contribution to some fund that will benefit worthy USF students or staff members.

**Dr. Randy Larsen** wrote, “I want to thank all those who participated in this year’s Faculty and Staff Campaign! This year our participation was ~98%!!! This level of support exemplifies the Department’s faculty and staff dedication to the Department, College and University.”

## **Donors**

The following is a list of those who made gifts to the Department of Chemistry, January --- June 2011. We are grateful for their special support.

Ms. Jacqueline Botello  
Jianfeng Cai, Ph.D.  
Ms. Rebecca Carraher  
Mr. Vincent Carroll  
Dr. Mohamed Eddaoudi  
Evan T.J. Dunbar Neuroblastoma  
Foundation  
Ms. Maria Gallardo-Williams  
Dr. Wayne Guida  
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Dr. Mohanraja Kumar and Ms.  
Amudha Athiyappen  
Randy Larsen, Ph.D.  
Dr. Vicky Lykourinou  
Ms. Jessica List  
Dr. Abdul Malik and Ms. Afroza  
Begum  
Mr. John L. Martin  
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Dr. Li-June Ming  
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Chemical Society  
Dr. Patrick Tomeny, Jr. and Mrs.  
Nelly Tomeny  
William & Ella Owens Medical  
Research  
Henry Woodcock III, Ph.D.  
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Zaworotko

Please advise us of errors or omissions.

## **New Webmaster...**

The new Webmaster for the fall term is **Mr. Christian Cioce**, who is a doctoral candidate working with Professor Brian Space. He did some of his undergraduate work at The City University of New York (CUNY) - John Jay College of Criminal Justice then transferred to USF and completed his B.S. degree in Chemistry here in Spring 2009.

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### **Webmaster:**

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### **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](mailto:dmartin@cas.usf.edu)  
or share with the Webpage or with the  
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