



USF Chemistry NEWS

News of Interest to

Friends of the Department of Chemistry
University of South Florida

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Summer 2020

Draft

Florida's only Metropolitan Preeminent
Research University

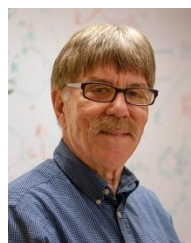
Faculty Recognition

Dr. **James Leahy** announced that Dr. **Julie Harmon** (Professor), was named Co-PI on a USF COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant entitled "Antiviral Impermeable Polyimide-Polyurea Films and Nanomembranes for Coating PPE and Packaging: COVID-19."



Dr. Harmon

Dr. Leahy also announced that Dr. **Wayne Guida** (Professor) is a co-PI on a USF COVID-19 Rapid Response grant entitled "Targeting Phosphatidylserine Exposure and Phospholipid Scramblase Activity to COVID-19 Infections."



Dr. Guida

Professor **Jianfeng Cai**, was recently selected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.



Dr. Cai

Persons you may know

Dr. W. Karl Olander

Dr. Olander, (M.S., 1968; Ph.D. U of Illinois, 1972)

wrote to update his current activities.

Prior to his retirement in 2006, he was Corporate VP and General Manager of Lord Corporation Chemical products Division.

Dr. Olander was also the first alumnus to receive Chemistry's Outstanding Alumnus Award (1988).

He also expressed his appreciation to his USF advisor (Dr. Martin) for suggesting the University of Illinois for his doctoral studies.

Ms. Wen-Shan ("Vanessa") Chang

Ms. Chang (M.S., 2010) wrote expressing concern over our well-being during COVID-19. Drs. Bisht and Martin were her co-advisors.

Dr. Neel Nabar

Dr. Nabar (BA.2012) worked with Dr. Martin while an undergraduate, earned his doctorate from the Karolinska Institute (Stockholm) in 2019, and subsequently accepted a position with a U.S. Government Laboratory

More recently, he indicated he "had spent five years studying the original SARS-coronavirus." he added, "I'm confident that through good

science, effective policy, and the tireless efforts of our frontline

healthcare workers, we will persevere."

Dr. Ralph Salvatore

Dr. Salvatore (Ph.D., 2001; Dr. Jung advisor) is Professor of Chemistry,

Southeastern University, Lakeland.

He was recently awarded the "Excellence in Scholarship Award" for

significantly elevating the present scholarship in the Department of Natural

Sciences in Chemistry, actively engaging with dozens of students in

undergraduate chemistry research, Dr. Salvatore prepares students for a

successful continuation of their education at many prestigious graduate schools.

He has often hosted special speakers to share and interact with students and faculty.

He also holds a five-year courtesy appointment in the Chemistry

Department at USF and has demonstrated departmental loyalty.

Dr. Joseph A. Stanko

Dr. Stanko, a retired associate professor, remains active in charitable

activities, including preparing food boxed for the St Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

on Tuesdays and Thursdays and making deliveries from and to other Pantries.

He wrote that he also attended a "Zoom meeting" of the local ACS section and

was able to visit with Dr. **Kimberly Fields** and Dr. **Christi Tang**

(for the first time) and was happy to meet them.



Dr. Stanko

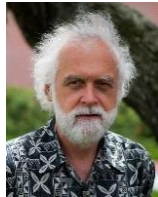
Dr. Stanko was a faculty member at USF March 1973-June2003.

He can be contacted at jastanko@verizon.net

Graduates

Graduate students who defended their doctoral dissertations (And their advisors):

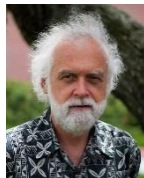
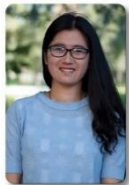
Sofia Kokkaliari (Dr. Bill Baker)



Yiming Li (Dr. Xiaopeng Li),



Bingjie Yang (Dr. Bill Baker)



University Achievements

Performance -based funding scores

USF placed first in the state compared to other universities in a series of 10 student success-based metrics established by the BOG that focus on affordable access, to graduating students at a high rate, with minimal debt, and preparing them for high-skilled, high-paying jobs in high-demand fields.

“The University of South Florida community should be immensely proud of our success in the state’s performance-based funding model. Our achievements are truly a reflection of the dedicated work of our students, faculty and staff,”

USF President **Steven Currall** said. “Our performance on benchmarks such as graduation rates, student access and the number of students employed after earning a degree underscores my belief that USF is where academic excellence converges with opportunity for our students. Our performance-based funding milestones university.”



Dr. Currall

COVID-19 USF Responds

The USF Administration recognizing the financial needs faced by many students created the “USF United Support Fund.” This was designed to help meet such needs as rent, buying groceries or coping with unexpected educational expenses.

President Currall reported: “As of late May more than

1,500 donors contributed nearly \$337,000 and 87 percent of the gifts came from USF alumni, faculty and staff.” Over 300 deserving students were assisted.”

Unification

Unification came into existence July 1, as required by State law.

USF is under a single accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and

Schools Commission on Colleges for the Tampa campus and our branch campuses

in St. Petersburg and Sarasota-Manatee. Additional information was

provided in: USF.edu/system/board-of-trustees/system-consolidation

USF is now “One University Geographically Distributed.”

The implications were summarized in released information:

- USF will now be able to offer additional majors, scholarships, support services and study abroad opportunities to students on any campus, as well as expanded access to student organizations and intramural or club sports teams. Faculty on each campus will experience new opportunities for interdisciplinary research collaborations and access to more community partnerships.
- “Consolidation opens up many opportunities for USF students. Now they will have access to academic programs and student support

services across all three campuses,”

USF St. Petersburg Campus Regional Chancellor **Martin Tadlock** said. “We’ll also be working together across USF to create geographically distributed centers of research excellence in important areas such as oceanographic and environmental sciences and STEM education.”

- USF Sarasota-Manatee Campus Regional Chancellor **Karen Holbrook** said tangible benefits from consolidation can already be seen with the expedited launch of a nursing program earlier this year to help meet an urgent workforce need in the local community.

She said discussions with college deans and her campus leadership team are

ongoing regarding new programs for students in Sarasota-Manatee in the arts, allied health, public administration, and engineering.

- “Consolidation will strengthen USF’s impact, not only for our students, but also for communities and businesses in the Sarasota-Manatee region.

We see a very bright future together as one USF,” Holbrook said.

“USF’s final consolidation plan is the result of significant contributions from students, faculty, staff, community members, legislators, and other stakeholder groups, as well as input gathered through town hall forums, public meetings, and other opportunities.”

Donations

The following donations were received between January 1, and June 30, 2020.

We are truly grateful for the support of the Department of Chemistry, and we hope other individuals will follow their example.

Individual Donors

Kirpal S. Bisht, Ph.D.
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USF Innovation Enterprise

Paul R. Sanberg, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc., is Senior VP for Research, Innovation & Knowledge Enterprise.

He is also President and Founder of the National Academy of Inventors.

Dr. Sanberg is also a highly cited author. One of 146 at USF who are among the top 1.5% of all cited scientists worldwide



Dr. Sanberg

Late in June, Dr. Sanberg invited and encouraged NAI members to provide their input on innovation culture at their universities. This was done in partnership with

Randolph Hall of the University of Southern California. He had been VP of Southern California. He had been VP Research at his institution (2005-2019).

Acknowledgments

Quotations from President Currall were obtained from **USF**

(University of South Florida Magazine) and were used with permission.

Donation information was provided by Ms. **Ann Serota**, CAS

Development Specialist.

Ms. **Kaitlyn Kroner**, Graduate Program Coordinator provided

helpful information concerning dissertation defense schedules.

Ms. **Paige Romero**, Webmaster, Administrative Specialist,

kindly provided useful technical assistance.

News and feedback

If you have news of interest you wish to share, consider contacting our web page

or write to: DFMartin@USF.edu

Administration

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Dr. Leahy

Dr. James Leahy
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August 2019 --

Webmaster:



Ms. Paige Roomano

Paige Romero

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

News for us or comments?

Please write to: dfmartin@usf.edu

