



# USF Chemistry NEWS

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

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Florida's only Metropolitan Preeminent  
Research University

## **Spring Term**

### **Faculty Funding**

From Dr. **James Leahy** (Professor and Chairman): Please join me in congratulating **Mildred Acevedo-Duncan**, who has received a \$100,000 award from the William and Ella Owens Medical Research Foundation to continue her group's research on ICA-1.

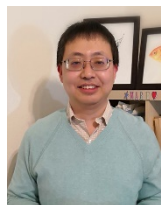


Dr. Acevedo-Duncan

### **CHEMINARS**

The seminar program returned to being held in the 200 seat CHM 100 auditorium with *all* live speakers and live audience,

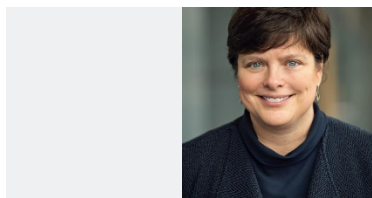
Dr. **Jiangfeng Cai** (USF Preeminent Professor) scheduled 15 colleagues and



Dr. Cai

### **Martin Lecturer**

The Barbara and Dean Martin Seminar speaker will be Dr. **Anna Mapp** (March 30). Dr. Mapp is the Edwin Vedejs Collegiate Professor of Chemistry and Research Professor, Life Sciences Institute, at the University of Michigan.



Dr. Mapp



Dr. Solomons (right)

## Colloquium

Dr. **Kirpal Bisht** (Associate Professor) noted, “Colloquium will be on Tuesdays 2.00-3.00 pm.”



Dr. Bisht

He has organized an interesting program of presentations that showcase interesting research occurring in the Department.

## Demise

Word was received of the death of Dr. **T.W. Graham Solomons**, Professor of Chemistry Emeritus, a charter faculty member who served from 1960 to 1990. He was the author of the most widely used textbook in Organic Chemistry for more than a quarter of a century. Death came in November after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer’s Disease. but details were not available. He was a popular lecturer and a treasured colleague.

## Legacy Gift

Dr. **Gerhard “Gerry” Meisels**, former provost and emeritus professor of Chemistry, and his wife decided to make a “focused” gift.



Dr. Meisels

## Persons you may know

**Alexandra Karolak** (Ph.D., 2015; Dr. **van der Vaart**, advisor) sent additional information. Very much appreciated.

Mr. **Dilojan Senanayake**, entrepreneur, sent Dr. **Dean Martin** (Emeritus Professor) best wishes for Thanksgiving. He was an advisee of Dr. **Robert Potter** (Professor, Associate Dean), before completing work for a masters at Florida State. His base of operations is in Grand Rapids, ND.

## **Commencement**

Traditional commencements were held December 10 and 11. This was the first time in about two years because of COVID concerns. Some 4500 students were awarded degrees. President **Rhea Law** presided over all four commencements held in the Yeungling Center.

## **Administration Information**

President **Rhea Law** noted:

### **A Statistic**

A study compiled by the Muma College of Business shows that USF had an economic impact of \$6.02 billion in fiscal 2019-20 – nearly two billion *more* than a similar study revealed in 2011-12.

### **Tallahassee**

She also reported on some experiences in Tallahassee meeting persons there associated with specially called meeting of the State Legislature in November.

### **Football Stadium**

President **Rhea Law** recognized the priority of an on-campus football stadium, and assembled a planning committee, which has four subcommittees meeting biweekly.

The estimated cost ranges from \$250 to \$400 Million.

At least six possible locations being considered are on and close to the Tampa campus.

The hope is that a new facility could be ready for games by 2026.



President Law

### **Provost Appreciation**

President Law paid tribute to Provost Dr. **Ralph Wilcox**, describing his many contributions. Dr. Wilcox will be retiring at the end of the academic year to be able to spend more time with his family.

## **USF Innovation Enterprise**

Dr. **Paul R. Sanberg**, FNAI, FRSC., Distinguished University Professor, is now former Senior VP for Research, Innovation & Knowledge Enterprise.

Dr. Sanberg is also President and Founder of the National Academy of Inventors.



Dr. Sanberg

Florida Inventors Hall of Fame 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Induction Ceremony and Gala was held November 5<sup>th</sup> at the same location.

## ***Acknowledgments***

Ms. **Kaitlyn Kroner**, Graduate Program Coordinator has provided helpful information concerning dissertation defense schedules and results.



Ms. Kroner

Ms. **Lorene Hall-Jennings** (Asst. Director for Undergraduate Studies, Tampa Campus) for helpful background information.

Ms. **Divya Kumar**, staff writer, *Tampa Bay Times*, December 8 for material about the stadium.

Dr. **James Leahy** provided the Solomons news.

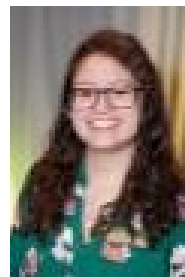
## ***Administration***

### ***Chair:***



Dr. Leahy

Dr. James Leahy  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Chemistry  
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Ms. Paige Romero

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

### ***News for us or comments?***

Please write to: [dfmartin@usf.edu](mailto:dfmartin@usf.edu)

