



# USF Chemistry NEWS

News of Interest to  
Friends of the Department of Chemistry  
University of South Florida  
Volume 20, No 2  
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(Draft)

Florida's only Metropolitan Preeminent  
Research University

## **Faculty Recognition**

Dr. **Mildred Acevedo-Duncan** (Research Professor)

She received a nearly \$500,000 award from the Leo and Ann Albert Charitable Trust in support of her ongoing research into the use of ICA-1 as a potential cancer therapeutic.

Dr. **James Leahy** (Professor and Chair) wrote, "Congratulations on such a significant award!"



Dr. Acevedo-Duncan

Dr **Randy Larsen** (Professor and Associate Dean for Research)



Dr. Larsen

Dr. **Randy Larsen** was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science "for distinguished contributions to the field of physical and biophysical chemistry, particularly for the advancement of time resolved thermodynamics of biomolecules and porous material photophysics."

Dr. **James Leahy** noted, "This is a fantastic and well- earned honor."

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Dr. Leahy also noted, "Several of our colleagues, including **Wayne Guida, Abdul Malik, Li-June Min, Wesley Brooks, Mike Shi** as well as some of our former colleagues (**Mike Zaworotko, Mohamed Eddaoudi, Shengqian Ma** and **Xiaopeng Li**) were

included in Stanford's Top 2% of the most cited scientists. Congratulations!"

## 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

guests to present Wednesday morning seminars 9:30-10:30 am starting January 12<sup>th</sup> and ending April 27<sup>th</sup>.

For the Spring term, the seminar program has been under the leadership of Dr. **Ioannis Spanopoulos** (Assistant Professor)



Dr. Spanopoulos

He has coordinated the individual lectures assuming the responsibilities held by Dr. Cai for several post-COVID semesters.

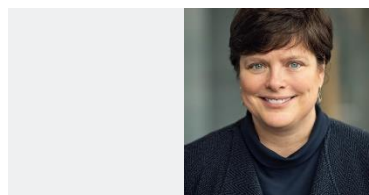
We are grateful for his leadership and his professionalism.

## 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

Her background was presented in the previous issue of the Newsletter.

## Colloquium

Dr. **Kirpal Bisht** (Associate Professor) noted "Colloquium is on Tuesdays 2.00-3.00 pm."



Dr. Bisht

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

## Graduates

Graduates who successfully defended their dissertations include the following and are pictured with their advisors.

## Ying Wang, Ph.D.



Dr. Wang



Dr. Scot Lewis,

## ***Persons, news of interest***

o **Aleksandra Karolak** (Ph.D., 2015; Dr. **Arjan van der Vaart**, Professor, advisor) sent a collection of pictures that brought back good memories.

o 95% of USF graduates are still alive.

o USF working with Coca-Cola has placed special vending machines through the campus: *reverse vending machines* will *accept* aluminum cans and plastic bottles. These are crushed, sorted, and prepared for reuse.

## ***Celebration***

### **34<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship & Alumni Celebration -March 31**

The Chemistry Department recognizes through scholarships and awards outstanding achievements of undergraduates who have demonstrated superior performance in learning, research, and service.

The scholarships and awards are provided through generosity of faculty, organizations, corporations, and individuals.

Recipients will be recognized at our annual celebration, held at Traditions Hall of Gibbons Alumni Center. The award proceedings followed an informal gathering, a dinner, and a short Keynote Address.

## ***Administration Information***

As was noted previously:

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

Planning is underway for a quality facility equivalent to RJ with a 35-40,000 capacity and a potential for expansion to 70-80,000. USF won't build anything but a quality facility. In addition, there will be unique features, e.g., classrooms, as well as spaces for students who wish to stand during performances.

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

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President **Rhea Law** drove her car together with her husband, Mr. **Wayne Williams** in the Gasparilla Parade on Saturday January 29<sup>th</sup>. There were said to be 400 floats.



President Law

## ***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

He presided over the NAI 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference held in Tampa Oct. 31 -Nov. 3 at JW Marriot Tampa Water Street.

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***

“Reverse Vending Machines” from USF collection of news items (January 20<sup>th</sup>). Jonee’ Lewis, Fox 13.

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

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



Ms. Kroner

Ms. **Paige Romero**, Webmaster, Administrative Specialist, kindly provided valued technical assistance.

## ***Administration***

## ***Chair:***



Dr. Leahy

Dr. James Leahy  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Chemistry  
The Florida Center of Excellence for Drug  
Discovery & Innovation  
Department of Molecular Medicine  
University of South Florida  
3720 Spectrum Boulevard, Suite 305  
Tampa, FL



Ms. Paige Romero

***Webmaster:*** Ms. 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](mailto:dfmartin@usf.edu)

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