

# **USF Chemistry NEWS**

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

Volume 10, No 4 Autumn 2012

### Annual ACS Report

An annual report is submitted to the ACS (American Chemical Society) Committee on Professional Training each fiscal year

This year's document was prepared by Dr. Patricia Muisener for the period July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012.

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Bachelor's chemists	
certified to ACS	17
not certified	506
Graduates	
Master's	5
Ph.D.	16
<b>Faculty Information</b>	
Full time tenure-track/tenured	25
Full time permanent instructional	7
All others (full-time equivalents)	5

The department is seeking an additional five full-time permanent instructional Staff and one assistant professor (tenure track )

## Good news for Chemistry

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Mr. Cioce (an advisee of Dr. Brian Space) has been invited to be the Keynote Speaker at an induction ceremony of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.



Mr.Cioce

**Dr. Randy Larsen** noted that The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) is an honors organization that recognizes and elevates high achievers. NSCS provides career and graduate school connections, leadership and service opportunities and offers nearly half a million dollars in scholarships annually. **Mr. Cioce** was the 2011-2012 Department Webmaster.

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**Dr. Hargis,** a postdoctoral researcher in **Dr. Lee Woodcock's** group gave an invited Highlighted Presentation at the 2012 USF Postdoctoral Colloquium on November 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a showcase of current research among USF and Moffitt postdoctoral scholars. Her presentation was entitled "What Makes 'Perfect Penicillin' Perfect?"

Dr. Hargis earned her Ph.D. in Chemistry

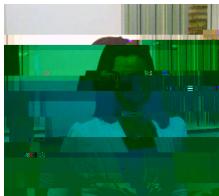
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Ms. Kerns, an undergraduate student, won an outstanding poster award at the recent NanoFlorida Conference. She worked with Dr. Bill Baker and Dr. Lee Woodcock. The poster was entitled: "Computational Ecology: Elucidating novel chemical defense mechanisms of Antarctic Sea Sponges" with co-authors Fiona Kearns, Sai Lakshmana Vankayala, Bill J. Baker, and H. Lee Woodcock.

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**Ms. Lopez** was selected for the Graduate School's Dean's Scholars program for 2012-13. This program is designed to increase underrepresented minority student enrollment in the STEM fields at USF.



Ms. Lopez

She will be going on a short recruiting trip and be involved a few other activities throughout the year. All the recruitment expenses will be paid by the Graduate School. **Dr. Jon Antilla** is her faculty advisor.

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**Dr. van der Vaart** was granted tenure in August, and he was promoted to associate professor. The autumn of 2009, he joined the USF Faculty where he is one of a group of highly regarded computational chemists.

Additional biographical material concerning his background was presented in the *News* (Autumn 2010 issue).

Congratulations and best wishes to **Dr. van** der Vaart.



### Meetings of Interest

244<sup>th</sup> ACS Meeting, Philadelphia

The Department was well represented at this meeting with faculty presenting in several divisions. For example, **Dr. Shengqian Ma** 

**Dr. Jennifer Lewis** contributed an invited paper at a symposium honoring Dr. Susan Hixson, who recently retired from NSF after 20 years as a program director (Division of Undergraduate Education).

**Dr. Lee Woodcock** presented two papers (in IE&C and Physical Chemistry) and was co-author of two others.

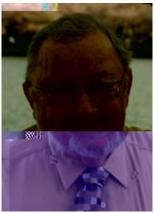
**Dr. Cheryl Li** presented a paper in the Analytical Chemistry Division.

**Dr. Dean Martin** contributed a paper in the HIST division.

Details (titles, co-authors) may be found at www.acs.org

STEM meetings

**Dr. Gerry Meisels**, professor of chemistry and Director, Coalition for Science Literacy, was in Washington, D.C. the first week in October. He attended the annual meeting of the Triangle Coalition for Math and Science. He serves on the Triangle Coalition Board, and he also served on the planning committee for this year's meeting.



Dr. Meisels

He told us, "



**Dr.** Santiago Sandi-Urena (Asst. Professor) is pictured with **Dr. Miranda Li Wu**, ACS President-Elect at the congress held in Cancun, Mexico, October 27-31.

In visiting, they discovered several objectives in common. **Dr. Sandi** noted that she, too, wishes to promote globalization and inter- national collaboration. She is also interested in supporting the International Chemical Education symposia that **Dr. Sandi** organizes for ACS Spring National Meetings.

#### Persons you may know

**Dr. Jack Fernandez** (Charter Faulty member, 1960-95 Professor Emeritus, (1995-) and **Mrs. Sylvia Fernandez** are Laureate Supporters of the Trail Blazers (a speaker series featuring USF College of Arts and Sciences) and were present at the dinner meeting in downtown Tampa on September 12th.

**Dr. Leon Mandell** (Faculty 1984-2000; Dean, 1984- 1990; Emeritus Professor, 2000) and **Dr. Sara Mandell** (retired USF professor) were guests (nd )-29.0039(13.8 )-2.98462(d)-c.007(I)13.0148.946 -136( )99373(339.99re)5U45273(I #8,110,699 *X* , Shifa Zhu

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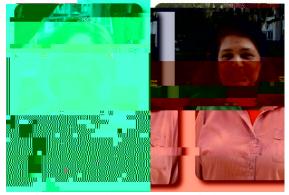
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Copies of each may be found at http://www.pat2pdf.org

### Inside the Department

#### **WOW Celebration**

**Dr. Eric Eisenberg**. Dean College of Arts and Sciences, was a guest speaker at the first Chemistry Faculty meeting on September 30. He spoke on the changes that state universities are experiencing these days, and commended the faculty for their achievements, and the department for its singular place in the College.



Ms Kimberly Read

Ms. Linda Lowe

Subsequently about 4:00 pm a pot luck buffet, organized by **Ms. Kimberly Read**, and assisted by **Ms. Linda Lowe** and other Staff members, was available by the Chemistry main offices for faculty, staff, and graduate students. An enjoyable time was reported, and the event continued past 8:00 pm.

to the sixth floor. *Newspapers* are now on the first floor. *Microfilm* is in the basement.

The first floor has a number of computer work stations that seem very popular. And a *Jobs Hub* and a *Career Corner* were added in August.

Periodicals that were housed on the second floor were placed in storage, a temporary inconvenience was better and cheaper than hauling the journals to the University of Florida for storage, paying for the storage, then paying the return moving costs. Besides, most articles are available through Interlibrary loan in less than 48 hours.

Please write to: