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## **Mole Street Journal, May 2008**

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry

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# The Mole Street Journal

Volume 7, Issue 5

## Spring Awards

The department honored spring award recipients at Honors Night at the UARK Ballroom April 24. The event included poster presentations by honors students, a dinner and awards ceremony.

### Alpha Chi Sigma Chemistry Award

*Awarded to an outstanding chemistry major - Lauren Hall*

### Alpha Chi Sigma Robert W. Rowden Scholarship

*Awarded to a graduating senior with the potential to make significant contributions to the chemical sciences and who exemplifies the characteristics of the fraternity - Rachel Ellis*

### American Chemical Society Awards

*Awarded to chemistry and biochemistry majors for remarkable academic achievement - Heather Ainsley, Tammy Binz, Eric Flag, Khalil Ibrahim, Nicole McClellan, Kristin Nagle, Miles Ritter, Maria Super, Nathan Tobey and Blake Williams*

### Arthur and Lois Fry Sophomore Chemistry Award

*Awarded to a sophomore chemistry or biochemistry major for academic excellence - Elizabeth Srader*

### A. W. Cordes Teaching Award

*Awarded to an outstanding graduate teaching assistant within the department determined by student evaluations and faculty review - Beth Emerson*

### Barbara Wertheim Campbell Awards

*Established in memory of Barbara Wertheim Campbell and awarded to graduating bachelor of science chemistry or biochemistry majors who intend to pursue a professional career in chemistry and have completed all of their work at the University of Arkansas - Natalie Anderson, Randy Carney, Zachary Donnell and Rachel Ellis*

### Kathy Noland Chemistry Award

*Established in memory of Mrs. Noland, a former member of the faculty, and recognizes a freshman student who has demonstrated outstanding ability in laboratory work - Megan Huslig*



Ryan Duncan talks with Marilyn Davis at Honors Night

### Frederick A. Kekulé Award

*Established in honor of the founder of the structural theory of organic chemistry and awarded to a sophomore chemistry major, with professional promise, with particular emphasis placed on academic performance in organic chemistry - Kellie Ong*

### Jacob Sacks Chemistry Award

*Recognizes an exceptional junior pre-medical chemistry major. This award is made possible through memorial gifts for Dr. Jacob Sacks, a long-time member of the*

*faculty. Sacks and his wife, Wilma, were both medical doctors and established the first biochemistry research laboratory in the department - Rachel Thomas*

## Gold Medals Awarded

The department, faculty and students were honored during the State and National Awards ceremony and reception April 28 sponsored by the office of post graduate fellowships.

The department received the 2008 Departmental Gold Medal for support of honors students and their research.

Undergraduate **Bianca Johnson** was recognized as a Gates Millennium Scholar. Senior **Randy Carney** was recognized for an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, his research mentor is **Xiaogang Peng**. SURF awardees were also recognized.

Peng was awarded the Faculty Gold Medal for 2008. **Denise Greathouse** won the award in 2007 and **Neil Allison** in 2004.

## Durham is Chair

**Bill Durham** will continue as department chairman for another three years. He is the 25th chairman since the first chairman T. L. Thompson in 1873. Continued page 2.

## Chair Continued

Durham's years of service to date make him one of only 11 department chairmen to serve more than five years — **Dan Davis** 1991-1998, **Les Howick** 1972-1979, **Walt Meyer** 1967-1972, **Sam Siegel** 1957-1963, **Edgar Wertheim** 1946-1951, **Charles Carroll** 1905-1916, **Albert Menke** 1887-1902 and **F. L. Harvey** 1875-1880. **Harrison Hale** served the longest term with 27 years from 1918-1945.

**Don Bobbitt**, **Wally Cordes**, **Art Fry**, **Collis Geren**, **Dale Johnson** and **Roger Koeppe** also served.



1940 faculty photo. Front row, from left to right Allen Humphreys, Harrison Hale, unidentified, Lyman Porter. Back row, left to right: Edgar Wertheim, Warren Steinbach, Andrew Bogard, Ralph Higbie.

### Chairman List

<b>T. L. Thompson</b>	<b>1873-1875</b>
<b>F. L. Harvey</b>	<b>1875-1880</b>
<b>Cuthbert P. Conrad</b>	<b>1881-1885</b>
<b>George D. Purinton</b>	<b>1885-1887</b>
<b>Albert E. Menke</b>	<b>1887-1902</b>
<b>Antony M. Muckenfuss</b>	<b>1904-1905</b>
<b>Charles G. Carroll</b>	<b>1905-1916</b>
<b>James Samuel Guy</b>	<b>1916-1918</b>
<b>Harrison Hale</b>	<b>1918-1945</b>
<b>Edgar Wertheim</b>	<b>1946-1951</b>
<b>Raymond R. Edwards</b>	<b>1951-1956</b>
<b>Arthur Fry</b>	<b>1956-1957</b>
<b>Samuel Siegel</b>	<b>1957-1963</b>
<b>R. F. Kruh</b>	<b>1963-1964</b>
<b>Arthur Fry</b>	<b>1964-1967</b>
<b>Walter L. Meyer</b>	<b>1967-1972</b>
<b>Lester C. Howick</b>	<b>1972-1979</b>
<b>Leslie B. Sims</b>	<b>1979-1982</b>
<b>Dale Johnson</b>	<b>Fall 1982</b>
<b>Leslie B. Sims</b>	<b>1982-1984</b>
<b>A. Wallace Cordes</b>	<b>1984-1987</b>
<b>Collis Geren</b>	<b>1987-1990</b>
<b>Roger Koeppe</b>	<b>1990-1991</b>
<b>Dan Davis</b>	<b>1991-1998</b>
<b>Donald R. Bobbitt</b>	<b>1998 - September 2000</b>
<b>Bill Durham</b>	<b>September 2000 - present</b>



Bill Durham during the rededication ceremony of the Chemistry Building in 2007

## Faculty News

### Research News

A patent was filed April 9 by **Joshua Sakon**, docket 110-020-PCT, "Fusion Protein of Collagen-binding Domain and Parathyroid Hormone," inventors Osamu Matsushita, Robert C. Gensure, and Joshua Sakon.

A paper by Sakon "Hepatitis C Virus NS3 Helicase Forms Oligomeric Structures that Exhibit Optimal DNA Unwinding Activity in Vitro," was published in the Feb. 18 issue of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

### On the Go

#### 214th Meeting of the Electrochemical Society

Phoenix, May 18-23

**Ingrid Fritsch** is organizing the symposium "Exploiting Magnets and Magnetic Fields in Electrochemical Systems and Devices." She will also give an invited talk "Control of Solution Velocities by Redox Magnetohydrodynamics in Microelectrode Systems."

**David Paul** will present "Effects of Solution Resistance in Electrode Arrays."

**Roger Koeppe** presented "Comparison of PISEMA and GALA Methods for Transmembrane Helix Alignment," April 17 at UC San Diego.

**Jack Lay** attended a proteomics workshop at UAMS April 4 and gave a department seminar at University of Oklahoma April 10. He will give an invited lecture on high performance mass spectrometry applications at PharmForum2008, May 20 at UAMS.

## May Safety Tip

4-liter glass reagent bottles should be carried in rubber carriers to avoid breakage and the associated spill

## Honors Night



Caroline Nardi, Kristin Nagle and Cristina Melean

## Student News

### Undergraduate Research Conference

Undergraduates **Andrew Avery**, under research advisor T.K.S. Kumar and **Blake Williams**, under research advisor Matt McIntosh, attended the 2008 Arkansas Undergraduate Research Conference at the Henderson State University in April. Avery presented "Effect of Osmolytes on Protein Folding and Stability," and Williams made a poster presentation "Examinations into the Utility of the Acyclic Allylic Diazene Rearrangement."

### Alpha Chi Sigma

Undergraduates **Iryna Polyakova** and **Daniel Vo** were among those initiated to Alpha Chi Sigma April 11. Majors elected to officer positions are master of ceremonies Christine Nicholson, reporter Iryna Polyakova and recorder Chris Duvall. They will take office this summer.



Trish Tran discusses her research



Lothar Schäfer with Whitney Tharp



Eric Flagg



Heather Ainsley



Chris Carter, Randy Carney and Natalie Anderson



Blake Williams

Special thanks to The UARK Ballroom, Pops Old Time BBQ, McAlister's Deli and department staff and graduate students.

## Summer Calendar of Events

### May

- 01..... Last day of classes for spring 2008  
 01..... Last day to officially withdraw from all courses  
 02..... Dead day, NO CLASSES  
 03-09 ..... Final exams  
 10..... Commencement  
 15..... COBRE symposium  
 18..... INBRE and REU students arrive  
 19..... Classes begin for summer session 1  
 19..... INBRE/REU welcome reception  
 20..... Last day to register or add a session 1 course  
 22..... Last day to drop a session 1 course without a "W"  
 26..... Memorial Day - U of A CLOSED

### June

- 16..... Last day to add a session 1 course with a "W"  
 27..... Last day of summer session 1  
 30..... Classes begin for summer session 2

### July

- 01..... Last day to register to add a session 2 course  
 03..... Last day to drop a session 2 course without a mark of "W"  
 04..... Independence Day - U of A CLOSED  
 24..... REU poster session  
 28..... Last day to drop a session 2 course with a mark of "W"

### August

- 08..... Last day of session 2  
 08..... Last day to officially withdraw from all session 2 courses  
 25..... First day of fall classes

## Library Hours

### Chemistry and Biochemistry

#### Spring Hours

- Monday - Thursday....8 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
 Friday .....8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
 Saturday .....CLOSED  
 Sunday.....2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

#### Summer Hours Begin May 19

- Monday - Thursday....8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
 Friday .....8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 Saturday ..... CLOSED  
 Sunday..... 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

#### Exceptions to Regular Hours

- Sunday, May 11 .....CLOSED  
 May 12-16..... 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 Sunday, May 18 ..... CLOSED  
 Sunday, May 25 ..... CLOSED  
 Monday, May 26..... CLOSED

<http://libinfo.uark.edu/chemistry/>

## May Birthdays

- 05.....Jim Hinton  
 05.....Lothar Schäfer  
 07.....Karuppanan Kathir  
 08.....Quan Yuan  
 09.....Koteshwara Ananthamurthy  
 09.....Paula Castro  
 12.....Abigail Hubbard  
 16.....Penny Lewis  
 16.....Mark Turner  
 17.....David Clay  
 17.....Tiffany Ellison  
 23.....Jack Lay  
 24.....Dan Davis  
 29.....Anne Froyd-Rankenber  
 30.....Ryan Thurman

*The publishing of birthdays is not intended to invade the privacy of anyone. If you prefer not to be included, please let us know.*

### NIH NCRR COBRE Center for Protein Structure and Function Symposium

Public Events - Thursday, May 15

Talks (CHEM 144)  
 8:30 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.

Poster session  
 10:15 a.m. to noon

Talks (CHEM 144)  
 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Poster session  
 2:45 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The department of chemistry and biochemistry at the University of Arkansas strives for excellence in research, teaching and service in chemistry—the central science.

We aspire to positions of leadership regarding the discovery of new scientific knowledge, the training of students, and the economic development of the State of Arkansas.

We seek to recruit and retain a diverse group of the best faculty, students and staff to address the challenges of the future through interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research and education.