

# THE MOLE STREET JOURNAL

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

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## Alumnus Inducted into Sports Hall of Honor



Jim Counce

*Photo courtesy of the Razorback Foundation*

**Jim Counce**, B.A. '79, was inducted into the University of Arkansas Sports Hall of Honor at a banquet in September. Counce was honored for being the assists leader on the 1978 Final Four basketball team under former Coach Eddie Sutton.

Counce is a cardiologist and thoracic surgeon in Northwest Arkansas. He earned his M.D. from UAMS in 1986, and did his residency there through 1991.

He received a fellowship to the Cornell

University Medical Center at New York Hospital in cardiothoracic surgery from 1991-93, became certified by the American Board of Surgery in 1992 and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery in 1994.

Inductees to the Sports Hall of Honor are elected by a vote of former letterwinners in conjunction with the "A" Club.

### Current Student Athletes

This fall there are three undergraduate chemistry majors who are also student athletes who excel in their sport and in the classroom.

Senior **Kim Schleif**, of San Antonio, is a member of the Arkansas Soccer team and made the Athletic Directors List for spring 2009. The soccer season is in progress and ends Oct. 30.

**Randy Parker, Jr.** and **Benjamin Skidmore** are both sprinters on the Arkansas Men's Track & Field team. Both made the University of Arkansas Athletic Department Honor Roll for spring 2009.

Parker is a junior from Tifton, Ga. Skidmore is a sophomore from The Woodlands, Texas and was named in the 2009 SEC Freshmen Academic Honor Roll. The Track & Field team begins competition in January and runs through the spring.



Kim Schleif



Randy Parker, Jr.



Benjamin Skidmore

*Photos courtesy of Arkansas Athletics*

## Arkansas INBRE Research Conference

The departments of biological sciences, physics and chemistry and biochemistry are again hosting the Arkansas INBRE Research Conference. The 2009 conference is October 23-24 in Fayetteville. The INBRE conference is the largest gathering of scientists and students in the three disciplines in Arkansas and surrounding states.

All faculty, researchers, undergraduates and graduate students are invited to participate.

Undergraduates are invited to submit abstracts for 15-minute student oral presentations Friday. Those not selected for the oral presentations will present during the poster session. Prizes will be awarded to the top posters and oral presentations in the undergraduate category.

More inside

## Faculty News

### Research News

**Paul Adams** received an administrative supplement for his current NIH grant for two years.

**Jack Lay** received an ASTA grant for "Establishment of Root Culture for 'Botanical Insulin' Production." The grant will be used for the analysis of plant extracts.

### On the Go

**Jack Lay** gave an invited lecture "Biomedical Mass Spectrometry at the Arkansas State-wide MS Facility," at the National Center for Toxicological Research Sept. 16 in Jefferson.

**Joshua Sakon** made the following presentations at the Society for Bone and Mineral Research in Denver Sept. 10-15. "Structure and function of Bacterial Collagenase Domains," and "Treatment of Chemotherapy-Induced Osteoporosis and Alopecia with a Parathyroid Hormone-Collagen Binding Domain Fusion Protein in Mice."

**Arkansas Biosciences Institute (ABI) Fall Research Symposium, ASU Sept. 25**

**Roger Koeppel, Joshua Sakon** and **Julie Stenken** attended.

**Denise Greathouse** presented "Investigation of Anti-Angiogenic Properties of Lactoferricin Peptides:

Interaction with Heparin and Sucrose Octasulfate."

Postdoc **Anna Daily** presented "Interactions Defined between S100A13 and Annexin Peptides: Insight into Non-Classical Secretion."

Graduate student **Brandon Suttles** presented "Binding Characterization of a Minimal Binding Domain of Tuberos Sclerosis Complex-2 and Rheb."

## Home Notes

### Greathouse Exhibit

Photos by Denise Greathouse are on display through October 30 in an exhibit "In the Shadow of the Sangre de Cristo: Reflections of the Lands and Traditions of Hispanic Americans," in the Helen Robson Walton Reading Room in Mullins Library. In addition to her duties as assistant research professor and advisor and various other talents, Greathouse also volunteers as a tutor for the Ozark Literacy Council.



Denise Greathouse

### Baby Tyree

Photo below of William Tyree Singh born to graduate student **Bill Tyree** and his wife Amanda Singh.



Liam Tyree



The featured speaker is university faculty member William F. McComas, Parks Family Endowed Professor of Science Education, College of Education and Health Professions. McComas will give an introduction to the life and work of Charles Darwin in honor of the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and 150th anniversary of the publication of *Origin of Species*. He will speak at a banquet Friday night at the Fayetteville Town Center. There is no charge for the banquet but prior registration is required.

**Colin Heyes** will give a lecture "Tackling Chemistry and Biochemistry One Molecule at a Time," Friday during the faculty talks.

**Joshua Sakon** and **Suresh Kumar** will give a workshop Saturday on the experimental strategies for the determination of three-dimensional structures of proteins using X-ray and multidimensional NMR techniques.

**Dan Davis** will participate in a panel discussion Saturday on evolution from a multidisciplinary perspective. He will be joined by Michael Plavcan, anthropology, and Jeffrey Silberman, biological sciences.

Surendra Singh will give a tour of the physics research facilities. Other university faculty giving workshops or presentations are Daniel Kennefick, physics, Tim Kral, biological sciences, and Julie Kennefick, physics.

VWR will host a vendor show with multiple vendors at the Cosmopolitan Hotel from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday. Rigaku will display their equipment Friday afternoon. Graduate program displays from area colleges will be presented from noon to 3 p.m.

All faculty are invited to a mixer Friday afternoon as an opportunity to meet faculty from other institutions.

No registration fees. Easy online registration.

For more information see <http://chemistry.uark.edu/1733.htm>

## Kickin Moles

Several students and department members are recreating in the City of Fayetteville Adult Kickball League. The first week of action was rained out. The team is 2-0, due to forfeit but not lack of effort. The team will compete again on Tuesdays, Oct. 6, Oct. 13, and Oct. 20 at Wilson Park. Spectators and fans welcome. Go team!



Front from left: Beth Emerson, Heather Jorgnesen, Becky Kerr, unofficial mascot Lola, David Clay and Melissa Weston. Back row from left: Thad Vasicek, Mike Clay, Ryan Thurman, Mike Rutherford, Dan Eddings and Lindsay Rutherford. Steve Gann offers moral support from behind the fence. Not pictured are team members Adam Albright and Abby Hubbard.

## REMINDER

**All department graduate students are expected to attend all department seminars unless they are teaching during the scheduled time.**

See page 9 of the Graduate Student Handbook.  
Attendance is being taken.

## Safety Tip

Are you prepared for a spill or fire?  
It pays to consider the possibilities as a thought exercise every now and then

## Changes in Chemical Inventory Procedures

Changes in the reporting requirements set forth in State and Federal regulations and the ever-increasing number of hazardous materials on the campus have made clear the need for an electronic data storage system for tracking and managing hazardous substances on campus.

After reviewing several safety data management software systems, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) contracted the services of On-Site Inc. in implementing a program called **EH&S Assistant**.

Information regarding Principal Investigators (PI) and the laboratories, chemicals, and radiological and/ or biological substances for which they are responsible must be entered into the system and accurate records must be maintained. The EH&S Assistant is a helpful tool for maintaining safety in teaching and research facilities, and for helping to ensure compliance with Homeland Security, EPA, and ADEQ requirements,

Most, if not all, laboratories and the responsible PIs have been entered into the system. Usernames and passwords have been e-mailed to each PI along with a user guide for entering the chemical inventory into the EH&S Assistant. All chemical inventories need to be entered into EH&S Assistant before the Thanksgiving holiday.

To access EH&S Assistant online the PI should:

- Go to the EH&S home page <http://new-www3.uark.edu/ehsatraining/ehshome.aspx> and click on EH&S Assistant button under Link column. Enter the appropriate username and password.
- Click on Change Password link to change current password or click on Login button to move to PI's home page.
- Click Inventory link under the CHEM column.
- From the chemical inventory page, each PI will be able to search his or her list of chemicals, enter newly acquired chemicals by clicking on Add Chemical link, or modify/remove chemicals by clicking on the Select link beside the inventory item listed.

Times and locations of training sessions are listed below.

All take place in POSC A 412.

- Oct. 8 – 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Oct. 16 – 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Oct. 20 – 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Oct. 22 – 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Additional training sessions will be posted on EH&S home page and the Daily Headlines. Each PI will be notified by e-mail.

Contact Anahitta Nayeraini 575-5336 or [ahaeriza@uark.edu](mailto:ahaeriza@uark.edu) if you have not yet received usernames and passwords or if the lab supervisor is unable to attend the meeting and needs assistance entering the data.

## Calendar of Events

### October

- 05..... Department seminar  
 07..... Early progress grades e-mailed for 1000 and 2000 level courses  
 08..... Department picnic, Agri Park  
 12..... Department seminar  
 16..... CUME  
 19..... Department seminar  
 23-24 ..... Arkansas INBRE Research Conference  
 26..... Department seminar  
 30..... Last day to drop a full semester course with a "W"

### Fall At-A-Glance

### November

- 01..... Daylight time ends  
 02..... Priority registration for spring 2010  
 20..... CUME  
 25..... Fall break, no classes, university is open  
 26-27 ..... Thanksgiving holiday, university is closed

### December

- 04..... CUME  
 08..... Last day of fall classes  
 08..... Last day to officially withdraw from all courses  
 09..... Dead day, no classes  
 09..... Department potluck  
 09..... Final copies of thesis/dissertations must be submitted to the Graduate School for December graduation  
 10-16 ..... Final exams  
 24-31 ..... University closed

The above dates and campus and area events are listed on the department Blackboard site <https://courses.uark.edu/>

### Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Annual

## Potluck/Picnic

Thursday, October 8, 2009

This year we will return to **AGRI PARK** on  
**N. Garland/Hwy. 112 & Knapp St.**

**Volleyball @ 5 p.m. - Dinner @ 6:15 p.m.**

**POTLUCK sign-up sheet at the main office or contact**  
**[cheminfo@uark.edu](mailto:cheminfo@uark.edu) or 5-4601.**  
**Hamburgers (& veggie burgers), hotdogs, buns, fixin's &**  
**drinks will be provided.**  
**Families welcome.**

## October Birthdays

- 01.....Rohana Liyanage  
 03.....Nicholas Gleason  
 09.....Leslie Johnson  
 11.....Christopher Mazzanti  
 13.....Gwen Mattice  
 19.....Mona Dyer  
 20.....Zheng Li  
 21.....Tomasz Janowski

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

## Library Hours

CHBC Library (CHEM 225)  
<http://libinfo.uark.edu/chemistry/>

### Regular fall 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.

### Exceptions to fall hours

- November 24-25 .....8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 November 26-29 .....CLOSED

## CUMES

The cumulative exams for graduate students will be the following Fridays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in CHEM 144

### Fall

- October 2 (*note date change*)
- October 16
- November 20
- December 4

### Spring

- January 22
- February 5
- March 5
- April 9
- April 23