Changing of the Guard

After more than a decade in the “chair”
Bill Durham will return to full time
teaching, advising and researching.

Durham was department chair number
25. The first was T. L. Thompson
in 1873 and only three have
served as long or longer –
Harrison Hale (1918-1945)
served 27 years, Albert E.
Menke (1887-1902) served
15 and Charles G. Carroll
(1905-1916) served 11 years.

During Durham’s reign
the first African American
faculty member and first full
female professors were hired
or promoted and research
grants were at an all time
high.

During his time, the
Chemistry Building was
finally renovated. He moved
us out and in.

His leadership was evi-
dent during the deaths of beloved staff
and faculty and with the many issues that
arose from day-to-day. Any time of day in
fact, since he was on call 24-7 to answer
calls about the three buildings or for prob-
lems relating to blizzards, ice storms, fires
and floods. Good thing he is calm, cool
and collected.

He also expanded the staff and cre-
ated the Mole Street Journal.

In addition to his duties as chair, he
was also chair of the Toxic Substance
Committee and the Patent and Copyright
committee, a consultant to the university
fairs. He will continue as the chemistry
liaison on the Arkansas INBRE Research
Conference committee and is the long-
time treasurer of the local ACS section.

Evidenced by his 114 publications,
he will easily revert back
to researcher focusing on
his research which involves
electron transfer in metal-
loproteins, development
of new transition metal
complexes with potentially
useful photoredox prop-
erties, and applications of ana-
lytical chemistry to forensic
problems which currently
include fingerprints and
K2-spice.

Durham has already
moved his office to the sec-
ond floor (CHEM 245) and
turned over the chairmanship
to Distinguished Professor
Bob Gawley July 1.

Gawley has been on campus since
2002, is a veteran of the U.S. Army. Most
recently, he served as secretary of the
AAAS chemistry section and as program
chair for the ACS division of organic
chemistry.

When Durham became chair, he
turned his vice chair duties over to Neil
Allison, who is also returning to full time
teaching and research.

Allison holds the Liebolt Chair and
is director of the Premedical Sciences
program. Since 2000, among other things,
he has served on the Faculty Senate
Executive Board, was chair of the Campus
Faculty, and Faculty Senate.

Professor Dan Davis is the next vice
chair. Davis is the graduate advisor and
has served as department chair for both
biology and chemistry and biochemistry.

See inside for changes at the univer-
sity level.

Tyree Defends

Bill Tyree defended his doctoral dissertation
“Transition Metal-Catalyzed Alkyl-Alkyl (sp3-sp3)
Cross-Coupling, its Applications in the Chemistry of
N-Boc-Pyrrolidine and Piperidine, and NMR Structural
Studies of Organolithiums in Solution,” June 9 under
the direction of Bob Gawley.

Tyree is from Madison Heights, Va., and has a
B.A. in chemistry from UALR and an M.S. in chemis-
try from Virginia Tech.

At left: Bill Tyree
Faculty News

Changes at University Level

Professor Robin A. Roberts will be the new dean of the Fulbright College replacing Bill Schwab July 15.

Schwab served as interim dean and was appointed to a two-year term as dean in 2009 and will return to the faculty as University Professor of sociology and criminal justice.

Roberts is professor of English and women's and gender studies at Louisiana State University. She previously served as associate dean and director of interdisciplinary programs in the LSU College of Arts and Sciences, as well as being a provost fellow.

She will be joined on campus by her husband, Les Wade, who will be a professor in the drama department.

Professor Todd Shields has been named the dean of the newly formed Graduate School and International Education. Shields, who is professor of political science, has served as interim dean since Collis Geren retired in June 2010.

3D Virtual Reality News

A video about the virtual reality lab produced by NSF Science Nation is now online. The link is available on the department Web site chemistry.uark.edu.

In June, a group of 33 junior high Latinas visited the facility. The students were on campus attending a one-week camp focused on math, science and college awareness.

The lab is already being frequently used for research by Suresh Kumar, Paul Adams and Ralph Henry (BISC), who use the system to visualize proteins whose structure and function they are studying.

Publications


3D Virtual Reality News

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On the Go

Matt McIntosh gave a talk “Novel N-Based Rearrangements,” at the Accelerating Reaction Discovery conference in Telluride, Colo., in June.

Frank Millett and postdoc Jeff Havens attended the Bioenergetics Gordon Conference at the Proctor Academy, N.H., June 26-July 1.

Millett presented a poster “Kinetic Studies of the Low Affinity Binding Site on Cytochrome C Oxidase and Evolutionary Changes in the Binding Affinity of Cytochrome C.”

Havens presented a poster “Flash Initiated Oxidation of Wild Type Cytochrome Bc1 Complex Reveals Half-Of-Sites Activity Between the Two Qo Sites of the Dimer, Electron Transfer Across Hemes Bl, and Diffusion of Quinol Substrate within the Complex Between the Qo and Qi Sites.”

Luti Salisbury attended the ACS Publications Customer Advisory Board meeting in Wilmington, Del., June 9-10, where she co-presented a paper with Andrew White (director of Health Sciences Library, Stony Brook University) “Bibliometric Applications in Libraries: An Overview.”

She then attended the Special Libraries Association meeting in Philadelphia, June 12-15. She presented a paper co-authored with Gwen Mattice, “Aiding Undergraduate Students in Understanding the Scientific Research Process through Collaboration of Chemistry Faculty and the Science Librarian.”

She also presented a poster, co-authored with Josef Lancz and Jeremy Smith “Information Seeking Behavior of Science and Technology Students in the Current Information Landscape.”

Fulbright IT Hires Staff

Fulbright IT support has added staff to meet the many tech needs in the Fulbright College.

Sean O’Bryan has been hired as a full-time computer operator. O’Bryan had been an intern from the Northwest Technical Institute. He will continue to assist with tech support calls, classroom support, daily cases and on-going projects.

Adam Zorzin has been hired as a part-time technical service assistant and will assist with tech support calls, cases, and on-going projects. He has four years previous experience working on campus where he provided technical support to students, faculty and staff on various systems at UITS and athletics.

Fire Alters Lab Courses

Students taking lab courses in chemistry and biology were given a free pass to wear shorts and sandals to class after an electrical fire closed the Science Building in May.

Dry labs and quizzes were given in various locations across campus.

Special thanks to Kathy Matthews in the Fulbright College dean’s office for her work in relocating the lab sections.

Students in summer session II courses will have to adhere to the normal safety standards of long pants and closed-toe shoes as the Science Building will be in full service for labs July 5.
Student News

Undergrads Get Gold Key

The Phi Beta Kappa Alpha Chapter of Arkansas inducted 16 chemistry majors into the society at a ceremony May 13. Chapter members must be invited and rank in the top ten percent of their graduating class.

This year 95 graduating seniors and 11 juniors received the distinctive gold key given to the most outstanding arts and sciences students.

The national society was founded in 1776.

Seniors
Amir Francis  
Lauren Hall  
Ali Haydar  
Hannah Henson  
Nicholas Tinquist  
Daniel Vo  
Sigrid Johannesen  
David Lee  
Grant Meredith  
Rhys Moore  
Shannon Mumma  
Omar Salem  
Kirby Welston  
Caitlin Williams

Juniors
Samuel Dunn  
Devin O’Dea

Kumar Does Study Abroad

Undergraduate Gaya Suresh Kumar was among 12 students to travel to Sweden in a study abroad course on the Swedish health care system for 3 weeks in May and June.

Neil Allison and three other faculty members Fran Hagstrom, Jeanne McLachlin and Nan Smith-Blair also attended.

Visits to hospitals and health care facilities were an integral part of the experience. Lectures on the topics of socialized health care and improving health care systems were given.

The group also took cultural excursions to Stockholm City Hall, Stockholm Palace, the archipelago and museums in the cities of Stockholm, Gothenburg and Upsalla.

Gaya Kumar (in the middle) with the study abroad group who found a “Razorback” at Millesgarden Museum, Stockholm

Undergraduate Degrees Awarded

Bachelor of Arts
Jacob Dufour *

Bachelor of Science
Oluamide Akinola  
Melisa Bolanos  
Joe Bruton  
Sara Camp *  
Mallory Delay  
Deborah Ho  
Katoria Holloway  
Ezekiel Lancaster  
Jacob Lavender *  
David Lee *  
Sarenthia McClelland  
Cristina Melean Murillo  
Grant Meredith *  
Kyla Morinini  
Anisha Shepherd  
Mary Smith  
Ana Tran  
Kristin Watson *  
Kirby Welston *

Departmental Honors
Christopher DuVall Magna Cum Laude *  
Lauren Hall Summa Cum Laude *  
Sigrid Johannesen Summa Cum Laude *  
Ashley Martfeld Magna Cum Laude *

Rhys Moore Summa Cum Laude *  
Shannon Mumma Summa Cum Laude *  
Jonathan Schmidt Magna Cum Laude  
Trinh Tran Cum Laude  
Peter Wolfenberger Cum Laude  
Jacob Wooldridge Cum Laude

Four Year Honors Students
Kristi Anderson Cum Laude  
Joseph Courtney Magna Cum Laude  
Amir Francis Summa Cum Laude *  
Ali Haydar Summa Cum Laude *  
Hannah Henson Summa Cum Laude *  
Mark Pickhardt Summa Cum Laude *  
Molly Steen Cum Laude  
Nicholas Tinquist Summa Cum Laude *  
Daniel Vo Summa Cum Laude *  
David Williams Cum Laude

Minors
Brandon Banks  
Jeremiah Born  
Allen Busick  
Leah Fruechtting  
Hiroko Nakao  
Jeremy Stout

* Denotes Fulbright College Senior Scholar
Calendar of Events

July

01....................... Last day of classes SSI
04....................... Independence Day, university closed
05....................... First day of SSII classes
08....................... Last day to drop a SSII class without a “W”
28....................... REU/INBRE poster session and luncheon

August

01....................... Last day to drop a SSII course with a “W”
12....................... Last day of classes SSII
15....................... New graduate students arrive on campus
22....................... First day of the fall 2011 semester

The above dates and events are listed on the department’s Blackboard site https://learn.uark.edu/

Summer Student Poster Presentations

Students in the REU, INBRE and HHMI summer programs will present their research at a poster session Thursday, July 28 on the second floor of the Chemistry Building from 10 a.m. to noon. The event is open to the public.

University Closed for Independence Day

The University of Arkansas will be closed in observance of Independence Day, Monday July 5.

Fall Break

For the first time in recent memory the university is taking a fall break. There will be no classes Oct. 17-18. This is an academic break, as the university will remain open.

July Birthdays

01........Roger Koepp
05........Leanne Mathurin
07........Katarzyna Janowska
10........Mack Clements
15........Aaron Beuterbaugh
19........Jingyi Chen
20........Josh Sakon
24........Anupama Aggarwal
29........Marv Leister

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
575-2557

Summer (May 23 to August 12)
Monday - Thursday.....8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday ...........................8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday ......CLOSED

Exceptions to summer

Monday, July 4.............CLOSED

Interim (August 13 to 22)
Monday - Friday .........8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday ......CLOSED

Fall hours begin August 22

Safety Tip

Make sure that people know that you are working in the lab.

No laboratory operations are without risk.

More accidents happen when washing dishes than any other time.

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.

THE MOLE STREET JOURNAL is an internal monthly publication of the chair Bill Durham. Editor Jennifer Sims.
http://chemistry.uark.edu/