Frank Millett Appointed to Inaugural Bruker Professorship

Distinguished Professor Frank Millett was appointed as the inaugural holder of the Bruker Analytical Science Professorship. Dean William Schwab made the surprise announcement during the department seminar Feb. 28.

Millett can use proceeds from the Bruker endowment to advance his research, support graduate students and recruit outstanding faculty to the department.

Bruker Corporation is a leading provider of high-performance scientific instruments and solutions for molecular and materials research, as well as for industrial and applied analysis.

This professorship is one of two established through Bruker Daltonics with matching funds from the University of Arkansas’ billion-dollar Campaign for the Twenty-First Century.

Honors Undergraduate Recognized

Senior chemistry major Jonathan Schmidt received one of five best speaker awards at the University of Memphis, Department of Chemistry’s 31st Annual Undergraduate Research Conference Feb. 26.

Fifty-one students from seven states presented oral presentations.

Schmidt’s presentation, “Surface Plasmon Resonance Affinity Analysis of Cytokine,” summarizes his honors thesis research, which explores the use of surface plasmon resonance to help predict the rate of binding events between heparin and cytokines.

Schmidt is a member of the University of Arkansas Honors College and his research mentor is Julie Stenken.

He graduated from Houston High School and is the son of David and Debbie Schmidt of Germantown, Tenn.

Success of a Student Athlete

Junior chemistry major Benjamin Skidmore scores on and off the track. More inside
Faculty News

On the Go

Matt McIntosh gave a talk “The Role of Organic Synthesis in Drug Discovery,” at Pittsburgh State University, March 11.

Charles Wilkins and Ingrid Fritsch attended PITTCON in Atlanta, March 13-18.

Biophysical Society Meeting

Baltimore, Md., March 5-9

Roger Koeppe chaired a session Interfacial Protein-Lipid Interaction and gave a talk “Proline Kink in GWALP23,” Roger E. Koeppe, Johanna M. Froyd-Rankenbreg, Vitaly V. Vostrikov, Christopher D. DuVall, Denise V. Greathouse, Christopher V. Grant, Stanley J. Opella.


Faculty posters presented


“Characterization of Chain Order of an Acylated-Lactoferricin Peptide by Solid-State NMR Spectroscopy and All-Atom Molecular Dynamics Simulations,” Denise Greathouse, Tod D. Romo, and Alan Grossfield. She was a coauthor on a poster presented by colleagues. “Lactoferricin Peptides Characterized using All-Atom Molecular Dynamics Simulations and Solid State NMR,” Tod Romo, Denise V. Greathouse, Alan Grossfield.

Post doc posters presented

“Characterization of Cdc42 vs. Cdc42(T35A) in the Switch Regions” Reena Chandrashekar, Paul Adams.

“A Structural Based Design of a Novel Protein Affinity Tag for Purification of Recombinant Proteins,” Srinivas Jayanthi, Suresh Thallapuranam.

Graduate student posters presented

“Using Tyrosine to Anchor a Transmembrane Peptide,” Nicholas J. Gleason, Denise V. Greathouse, Roger E. Koeppe.

“Expression and Characterization of Cytochrome C6 From Chlamydomonas Reinhardtii Using A Designer Gene,” Nicole L. Vanderbush, Brian St. Clair, Marylyn Davis, Dan Davis.

“The Treatment of Dynamics During Combined 2H GALA and 15N/1H Pisma Analysis of Transmembrane Peptide Tilt using Solid-State NMR Data,” Vitaly V. Vostrikov, Christopher V. Grant, Stanley J. Opella, Roger E. Koeppe.

Undergraduate posters presented


“Influence of Glycine Substitutions on Designed Proline-Containing Transmembrane Peptides,” Christopher D. DuVall, Vitaly V. Vostrikov, Denise V. Greathouse, Roger E. Koeppe.


“Synthesis of 15 Amino Acid Gtp-Ase Binding Region of Tuberous Sclerosis 2 to Study its Interaction with the Ras Gtp-Ase Rheb,” Sigrid L. Johannesen and Paul D. Adams.


Derek Sears attended the Lunar and Planetary Science Conference in The Woodlands, Texas, March 1-8, and coauthored five papers presented.

“Classifying Chondrules Based on Cathodoluminesence Sears et al.” Cristarela T. C. (REU), Sears D. W. G.


From the Library by Luti Salisbury

The University Libraries’ Web site will be closed and offline Friday, March 18 at 5:30 p.m. to Wednesday, March 23 at 7 a.m. This closure is due to a power outage necessary to replace transformers and electrical breakers. This outage will affect interlibrary loan, the libraries’ catalog, all research databases, digital collections, course reserves, and remote access.

The CHBC library will be opened during our scheduled hours on these days for study, browsing of the collections, and checkout of books, but access to the library Web sites will not be available.

We understand that many of our faculty, staff, and students use Spring Break to work on research and other projects, and we apologize for any adjustments you may have to make to your schedule.

• Make any pending interlibrary loan requests now.
• Pick up all interlibrary loan materials, or other needed items before Friday, March 18 at 5:30 p.m.
• Bookmark http://uark.libguides.com, where we will post temporary on-campus links.

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Student News

Grad Students Pass Cumes

Congratulations to the following graduate students who have now passed the appropriate number of cumulative exams to be considered doctoral candidates - Amirhossein Aliyan (Heyes lab), Kolawole Ayinuola (McIntosh lab), and Juliette Rivero-Castro (McIntosh lab).

Success of a Student Athlete continued

Razorback sprinter and chemistry major Benjamin Skidmore finds success in the classroom in a discipline where 80% of undergraduates hold a 3.0 GPA or higher. He also succeeds on the track.

In March, the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) announced Skidmore as one of 18 to receive All-America honors. He has now collected 4 indoor All American accolades. He is also listed on the SEC Spring Academic Honor Roll.

The NCAA lists Skidmore number 6 among Division I schools in the men’s 400 meter. Skidmore completed a time of 46.04 in the SEC Indoor Track and Field Championships in February.

He is a member of the 4x400-meter relay team that captured the program’s first-ever SEC indoor title in the event. The four-some clocked a time of 3:05.13 – this is the second fastest time in the world this year, an NCAA automatic qualifier, as well as the second-best time in school history.

Grad Students to Attend ACS

Graduate students Jacqueline Greer and Scott Morris will attend the 241st ACS National Meeting and Exposition in Anaheim, Calif. March 27-31.

Playing in the Band

The Razorback Marching Band was featured in the January/February 2011 edition of the prestigious college band magazine: Halftime Magazine.

Senior Rhys Moore and graduate student Brett Spahn are members of the band, which was featured in the Bowl-A-Rama segment after their performance at the 2011 All-State Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

The band performed a shortened version of its traditional pregame show and halftime show featuring the music of Led Zeppelin.

Moore recently presented a poster at the BPS meeting and is in the Kumar lab. Spahn is in the Tian lab.

Home Notes

Alumnus and current instructor Candace Z. Rainwater and her husband Chase welcome the birth of their first child Sawyer Benjamin Rainwater, March 11. Baby Sawyer weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces and was 21 inches long.


The family lives in Lenore City, Tenn., where Jennifer works at Oak Ridge Y-12 doing NMR.

Safety Tip

Keep your solvents stored in flammable-solvent cabinets.

A fire will not spread without fuel.
Calendar of Events

March

01.................. Application deadline for students who plan to graduate spring 2011
01.................. Deadline for all graduate students to submit a written research proposal to their committee
03.................. Early progress grades e-mailed to students in 1000 and 2000 level courses
07.................. No department seminar - Biophysical Society meeting
11.................. CUME
14.................. Department seminar
21.................. No department seminar - Spring Break
21-24.............. Spring Break, no classes, university is open
25.................. University closed
28.................. No department seminar - ACS meeting

April

01.................. CUME
01.................. Last day to drop a full semester class or classes with a mark of “W”
04.................. Department seminar
04-15.............. Priority registration for summer and fall
11.................. Department seminar
15.................. CUME
15.................. Deadline for graduate students to orally defend proposal to committee
15.................. Last day to make up incomplete marks from previous semester
18.................. Department seminar
21.................. Department Honors Night
25.................. Department seminar

May

02.................. Spring seminar series concludes
05.................. Last day of spring classes
06.................. Dead day, no classes
07-13.............. Final exams
14.................. University commencement
22.................. REU/INBRE summer programs begin
23.................. First day of classes SSI
23.................. REU/INBRE Meet the Summer Students reception
30.................. Memorial Day, university closed

July

01.................. Last day of classes SSI
04.................. Independence Day, university closed
05.................. First day of SSII classes
28.................. REU/INBRE poster session and luncheon

August

12.................. Last day of classes SSII
15.................. New graduate students arrive on campus
22.................. First day fall 2011 semester

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

March Birthdays

03............Jonathan Wilson
09............Colin Heyes
10............Art Fry
10............Cody Wright
21............Teresa Waddell
24............Matt McIntosh
25............Adam Kriedermacher
30............Chris Clanton
31............Juliette Rivero Castro

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

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.

See note inside about Spring Break

CUMES

Cumulative exams for graduate students will be given on the following Fridays in CHEM 144 at 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
April 1 and April 15

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.