Honors Night

The department hosted Honors Night April 21 at the UARK Ballroom on Dickson Street.

The evening began with poster presentations by Honors College chemistry majors followed by a dinner and department awards ceremony.

More than $25,000 was awarded to chemistry students.

The scholarship recipients were selected in the fall from a pool of applicants while the awards were chosen this spring by the awards committee.

Last fall 25% of all chemistry majors made the Dean’s List with a 4.0 GPA. The average GPA of department undergraduates was 3.35 with 57% maintaining a 3.5 GPA or above.

Senior Honors College students in the department must make a poster presentation in addition to defending and writing a thesis.

Special thanks to Facilities Management, the Garden Room, PMC Solutions, Smith Cabinet Shop and the UARK Ballroom.

Photos by Denise Greathouse.

Sunshine Robertson

Alta Johnson, Casey Henderson and Gaya Kumar

American Chemical Society Awards
- Amy Carr
- Stephen Dalby
- Arshan Dehbozorgi
- Samuel Dunn
- Rebekah Langston
- Kelsey Sparks
- Molly Steen

Barbara Wertheim Campbell Awards
- Joseph Courtney
- David Hopkins
- Ethan Latimer
- Leah Ramey

A. W. Cordes Teaching Awards
- Geoffrey Keeler
- Matthias Knust
- Scott Morris

DuPont Scholarships
- Grant Meredith
- Ashley Rosenberg
- Molly Steen

Arthur and Lois Fry Scholarship
- Gayatri Suresh Kumar

Octa N. High Scholar
- Ethan McBride

Coulter Jones Award
- Anna Fielder
- Casey Henderson
- Ashley Martfield
- Julie Tran

Frederick A. Kekulé Award
- Michael Mullarkey
- Colby Smith

Kathy Noland Chemistry Award
- Samuel McLelland

William K. Noyce Scholarship
- Ross Harmon
- Jonathan Schmidt
- Mary Smith

Jacob Sacks Award
- Rachael Pellegrino

Jacob Sacks Scholarship
- Christopher DuVall
- Shannon Mumma
- Ettore Rastelli

Honorary Scholars
- Emily Crossfield
- Chris Duvall
- Taylor Gohman
- Lauren Hall
- Ross Harmon
- Hannah Henson
- Sigrid Johannesen
- Alta Johnson
- Thomas Jones
- Matthew McMahon
- Devin O’Dea
- Kaila Pianalto
- Andrew Price
- Derek Pyland
- Sunshine Robertson
- Spencer Shinabery
- Christopher Sonntag
- Jake Usery
- Megan Wary
Faculty News

Research News

Julie Stenken was the editor and symposium coordinator for a special issue entitled “Interstitial Fluid Physiology as It Relates to Glucose Monitoring Technologies” in the Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology.


On the Go

Julie Stenken and graduate student Geoff Keeler attended the Society for Biomaterials Conference in Orlando, Fla., April 13-16.

Ryan Tian gave a seminar at NCTR in Jefferson April 20.

Student News

Vostrikov Gets Graduate Sigma Xi Award

Vitaly Vostrikov was awarded the Sigma Xi Aubrey E. Harvey Graduate Research Award. The annual award is made to the graduate student who has performed the most outstanding research on the Fayetteville campus during the year. The award was established in recognition of Dr. Harvey and his contributions to the graduate program at the University of Arkansas.

Vostrikov, a student of Roger Koeppe, will receive a cash award and will present a seminar to members at the final regularly scheduled meeting in May. Sigma Xi is an honorary scientific research society.

AXE Initiates Brothers

The Alpha Sigma Chapter of Alpha Chi Sigma (AXE) inducted 15 new members into the fraternity, April 23.

Chemistry majors inducted were:
- Junior - Jason A. Raymond
- Sophomores - Timothy P. Burnside, Evy Chang, Ashley N. Miller and Nancy T. Vo
- Freshmen - Kanesha D. Day, Megan R. Wary, Jessica Morales, Caitlin C. Stellpflug, Katherine M. Ramey, Rachael A. Pellegrino and Christopher E. Sonntag

Chemical engineering major Brother Nicole Lorenz has been selected as the national 2011 Alpha Chi Sigma Scholar. She is the fourth brother from the Alpha Sigma Chapter to win the award. The chapter holds the designation of the only chapter to have four AXE scholars.

ACS SA at Springfest

The American Chemical Society Student Affiliate (ACS SA) set up a booth and demonstrated several different chemistry experiments April 30 at Springfest.

Eight members participated, including Ashlee Bell-Cohn, Dennis Gillming, Jared Morphew, Chase Ross, Molly Steen, Daniil Tchakhalian, Catriona Whiteside, Ying Xue-Shirley Xie and Professor Nan Zheng.

Springfest is a community-oriented non-profit festival held annually on Fayetteville's Dickson Street.

Building Security

Lock laboratory doors when the laboratory is not occupied.

Do not compromise building door locks after business hours.

Call UAPD (479) 575-2222 if you see suspicious people in the building.
Honors Night 2011

Tony Hoyt, Ashley Martfeld and Rory Henderson

David Williams, Mark Pickhardt and Courtney Cagle

Omar Salem and Amir Francis

Shannon Mumma and Chris DuVall

Jacob Wooldridge

Amy Carr

Lauren Hall, Sigrid Johannesen and Hannah Henson

Richard Rieske

Joseph Courtney

Emily Crossfield

Stephen Dalby

Hunter Dunn
Honors Night 2011

Taylor Gohman

David Hopkins

Geoffrey Keeler

Matthias Knust

Rebekah Langston

Ethan Latimer

Samuel McLelland

Matthew McMahon

Scott Morris

Devin O’Dea

Rachael Pellegrino

Kaila Pianalto

Honors College Chemistry Majors Poster Presentations

Kristi Anderson “Isolation and Purification of 6191 in the Urine of Bernadelli-Seip Syndrome Patients” (Research mentor Bill Durham)

Courtney Cagley “Biodiversity and Prevalence of Entamoeba in the American Cockroach, Periplaneta Americana” (Research mentor Jeff Silberman, Biological Sciences)

Joseph Courtney “Comparison of Proline Substitutions at Positions 8 and 10 in WALP19” (Research mentor Roger Koeppe)

Chris DuVall “Influence of Glycine Substitutions on Designed Proline-Containing Transmembrane Peptides” (Research mentor Roger Koeppe)

Amir Francis “Membrane Interactions of Antimicrobial Retro-Lactoferricin Peptides by Solid-State NMR and Partitioning Assays” (Research mentor Denise Greathouse)

Evan Gill “Crystal Structure of Staphylococcal Nuclease Mutant V23L/V66I” (Research mentor Joshua Sakon)

Lauren Hall “The Conformational and Functional Role of Proline Residues in the Human Fibroblast Growth Factor-1” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

Ali Haydar “Rational Design of Human Fibroblast Growth Factor-1 with Enhanced Stability” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

Rory Henderson “The Involvement of PIP-2 in the Non-classical Secretion of FGF-1” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

Hannah Henson “The Structural and Functional Role of the Sole Tryptophan Residue in the Human Acidic Fibroblast Growth Factor” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

Lawrence Hoyt “Cloning and Characterization of first FNT-III Domain from Anosmin-I Gene” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

Sigrid Johannesen “Synthesis of 15 Amino Acid GTPase-binding region of Tuberous sclerosis 2 to Study its Interaction with the Ras GTPase Rheb” (Research mentor Paul Adams)
Honors College Chemistry Majors Poster Presentations

**Ethan Latimer** “Structure Determination of Clostridium histolyticum S2a Collagen Binding Domain and Structure Determination of Staphylococcal Nuclease I92V/V92L” (Research mentor Joshua Sakon)

**Ashley Martfeld** “Design of a novel S100A13 monomer to understand the non-classical release of FGF1” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

**Ethan McCormick** “Comparative Molecular Phylogeny” (Research mentor Jeff Silberman, Biological Sciences)

**Morgan Merriman** “Identification and Characterization of Heparin Binding Proteins” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

**Rhys Moore** “Examining the Stability of the C2B Domain of Synaptotagmin I” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

**Shannon Mumma** “Cross-linking Proteins with Peroxide and Iodide” (Research mentor Wes Stites)

**Devin O’Dea** “Identification of Glutamatergic Neurons in the Avian Brain with Emphasis on the Neuroendocrine System” (Research mentor Wayne Kuenzel, Poultry Science)

**Mark Pickhardt** “Purification and Characterization of recombinant L23 from Arabidopsis thaliana” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

**Leah Ramey** “Proliferation and Metabolism of Human Pluripotent Stem Cells Grown on Membrane Substrates” (Research mentor Sha Jin, Biomedical Engineering)

**Richard Rieske** “Understanding the Role of the Sole Disulfide Bond in the Structure and Function of the D2 Domain of FGFR” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

**Sunshine Robertson** “Comparative Proteomic Studies of Radiation Resistance in Pancreatic Cancer” (Research mentor Yuchun Du, Biological Sciences)

**Randy Roesser** “Structure Determination of Col G S3a S3b and Structure Determination of Staphylococcal Nuclease I72L/192L” (Research mentor Joshua Sakon)

**Omar Salem** “Characterization of a Switch I mutant of the Ras protein Cdc42” (Research mentor Paul Adams)

**Jonathan Schmidt** “Surface Plasmon Resonance Affinity Analysis of Cytokines with Heparin” (Research mentor Julie Stenken)

**Spencer Shinabery** “Ruthenium(II) Photocatalyzed [3+2] Cycloaddition of Mono-and Bi-cyclic Cyclopropylamines with Olefins” (Research mentor Nan Zheng)

**Molly Steen** “Analysis of Protein Folding Through Comparison of Fluorescence vs. Hydrogen/Deuterium-Exchange and Mass Spectrometry” (Research mentor Wes Stites)

**Nicholas Tingquist** “Design of a Duet Vector to Characterize Ligand-Receptor Interactions” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

**Daniel Vo** “Understanding the Structure and Stability of FGF-1 in a Cellular Environment Using NMR Spectroscopy” (Research mentor Suresh Kumar)

**David Williams** “Studies Towards the Synthesis of Antascomicin B” (Research mentor Matt McIntosh)

**Jacob Wooldridge** “Development of Methods for Rapid Analysis of Nutraceutical Plant Extracts” (Research mentor Jack Lay)
Calendar of Events

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 SSII
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 of the fall 2011 semester

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

May Birthdays
05........Jim Hinton
05........Lothar Schafer
12........Abigail Hubbard
15........Shutang Chen
16........Mark Turner
17........David Clay
23........Jack Lay
24........Raman Subramanian
24........Dan Davis
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.

Library Hours
CHBC Library (CHEM 225)
http://libinfo.uark.edu/chemistry
575-2557

Spring (spring hours end May 15)
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.

Interim (May 16 to 20)
Monday - Friday ......8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday ......CLOSED

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, May 30 ........CLOSED
Monday, July 4 ..........CLOSED

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

Fall hours begin August 22

Meet the Summer Students

The annual reception to meet the incoming summer students (REU and INBRE) and introduce them to their research mentors and lab affiliates is Monday, May 23 at 2:30 p.m. in CHEM 105.

University Closed for Memorial Day

The university will be closed in observance of Memorial Day, Monday May 30.

Memorial Day is a U.S. federal holiday observed on the last Monday of May. Formerly known as Decoration Day, Memorial Day commemorates U.S. soldiers who died while in the military service.

Started in the 1860’s, the day often marks the start of the summer vacation season, and Labor Day its end. By the early 20th century, the day was an occasion for more general expressions of memory, as people visited the graves of their deceased relatives and became a long weekend increasingly devoted to family get-togethers and other celebrations. wikipedia.org

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.