The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry is pleased to welcome six new graduate students for the fall semester.

Dustin Baucom  
Hometown: Tahlequah, OK  
B.S. Northeastern State University

Adair Claycomb  
Hometown: Warren, AR  
B.S. University of Arkansas at Monticello

Gage Coltrain  
Hometown: Sapulpa, OK  
B.S. Northeastern State University

Foyssal Khan  
Hometown: Dhaka, Bangladesh  
B.S. University of Dhaka

Marissa Reynolds  
Hometown: Harrison, AR  
B.S. Arkansas Tech University

Yinling Zhang  
Hometown: Changchun, Jilin, China  
B.S. Jilin University
Faculty News

On the Go

Mya Norman attended the Wally Cordes Teaching and Faculty Support Center’s Teaching Camp at the Winthrop Rockefeller Center from 8/3-8/5/13. She did a presentation with Tim Kral on teaching large classes. Neil Allison also attended and made a presentation.

University Awarded Patent

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has issued a full patent for a treatment for osteoporosis and other bone-related maladies that was developed in part through research at the University of Arkansas.

Joshua Sakon, an associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry at the U of A, is one of three co-inventors of the pharmaceutical now known as PTH-CBD. The patent, titled “Fusion Proteins of Collagen Binding-Domain and Parathyroid Hormone,” was issued to University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees, the Oschner Clinic Foundation and the National University Corporation Kagawa University in Japan.

BiologicsMD, a drug discovery firm at the Arkansas Research and Technology Park, holds the exclusive license to PTH-CBD and is developing the pharmaceutical as a novel and unique treatment for osteoporosis and other bone-related disorders.

“This is the first U.S. patent to issue from a patent family related to PTH-CBD and its use in treating diseases of the bone and other collagen-related disorders,” said J. David Owens, chief executive officer of BiologicsMD. “Because of PTH-CBD’s unique profile of selective targeting and other pharmacologic properties, we foresee a highly differentiated new product to help treat human disease.”

BiologicsMD is a portfolio company of VIC Technology Venture Development, a client of the University of Arkansas Technology Development Foundation, which operates the research park in Fayetteville. BiologicsMD was founded in 2010 and has been awarded a $2.3 million research contract from the U.S. Department of Defense.

Published by University Relations on the University of Arkansas Newswire, August 20, 2013.
Faculty Secure NSF Grants

Roger Koeppe and Denise Greathouse have been awarded three-year funding from the National Science Foundation, Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences, for a project entitled “Ionizable Residue Interactions in Tilted Transmembrane Helices.” Key background results for this project were published in Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., U.S.A. 110, 1692-1695 (2013), “Buried lysine, but not arginine, titrates and alters transmembrane helix tilt,” by Nicholas J. Gleason, Vitaly V. Vostrikov, Denise V. Greathouse and Roger E. Koeppe.

Susanne Striegler received note that the project ‘Microgel catalysts mimicking glycosidases’ is recommended for funding by the Macromolecular, Supramolecular and Nanochemistry Program of the Chemistry Division at the National Science Foundation. The studies proposed will evaluate glyconoamidines as putative transition state analogs of glycoside hydrolysis reactions, evaluate copper(II) complexes as catalysts for glycoside hydrolysis in alkaline solution and investigate microgels catalysts derived from inverse miniemulsions. The research encompasses synthesis, spectroscopic evaluation, molecular recognition and material science and provides training opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. The proposed catalysts are of outstanding scientific and industrial interest and are expected to provide a novel platform for a shortened synthesis of glycoconjugates and biomarkers of potential pharmacological importance as a long term goal.

On the Big Screen

Matt McIntosh is pictured at left getting makeup applied in preparation for a shoot by University Relations for a commercial for UA that will be shown during televised football games. His undergraduate student researchers Sydney Wells and Erin Jeffrey had starring roles.

Student Presents Poster

Hulsi Turgut, MicroEP graduate student in the Tian lab, presented a poster at the NSF-EPSCoR 2013 Conference in Little Rock. This poster was rated by the external advisory board as one of the best five and recommended as the priority project for the state.

Wilkins to Present Lectures

Charles Wilkins will be presenting Award lectures on the occasion of his receiving the American Chemical Society Division of Analytical Chemistry 2013 Award in Chemical Instrumentation (see Mole Street Journal, March 2013 for details). The first will be at the 246th American Chemical Society National Meeting in Indianapolis, IN, September 10, entitled “Hyphenated Analysis Methods: Past and Future.” The second will be at the SciX Meeting (FACSS 40th National Meeting) in Milwaukee, WI, October 1, entitled “Hyphenated Analysis Methods: Past, Present and Future.” Other speakers at the half-day award symposium at the SciX meeting will be Alan Marshall (Florida State University), Gary Hieftje (Indiana University), Peter Griffiths (University of Idaho), and Bill Heineman (University of Cincinnati).

The Blacklist

Ever hear of the Blacklist? Ever wonder how our campus gets on the blacklist? From Wikipedia: In computing, a blacklist or block list is a basic access control mechanism that allows access through all elements (email addresses, users, URLs, etc.), except those explicitly mentioned. Those items on the list are denied access. The opposite is a whitelist, which means only items on the list are let through whatever gate is being used.

How it happens:
- Phishing works because people can’t tell the difference between real and fake announcements.
- How can we get off the blacklist?
  1. Learn to recognize real vs. fake email
  2. Watch for unusual login activity
  3. Information Security is constantly monitoring the campus status on the blacklists

Other critical steps to protect your computer:
1. Make sure to use the appropriate current antivirus software provided by the UA.
2. Make sure your Windows, Apple, or Linux systems are fully patched.
3. Immediately forward suspicious email as an attachment to security@uark.edu for analysis.
4. Ask your tech support for help if you have a virus.
5. Always keep your password(s) safeguarded!

(All the material provided is this tip was prepared by Don Faulkner UA Info Security Team Lead)
What Did You Do on Your Summer Vacation?

Jacqueline and Scott Morris went to the Dominican Republic July 31-August 7. They flew into Santo Domingo and their ministry took place in San Pedro. Traveling with a Christian organization called “Beyond the Game,” Scott focused on baseball ministry (doing baseball clinics with other missionaries and sharing the Gospel) and Jacqueline focused on vacation Bible school and a Christian women’s conference with the other female missionaries on the trip. The entire team was composed of 23 members. They also visited a village struck by immense poverty called the Haitian Batey. They were able to provide water filters and buckets so that the citizens could have clean water to drink. They enjoyed the trip so much, they are planning on a repeat trip next year.

Calendar of Events

September
6  CUME, 5-6 p.m., CHEM 144
16 Seminar, Peter Andreana, Univ. of Toledo, 3:30 p.m., CHEM 144
21 Registration Deadline for INBRE Conference
23 Seminar, Marc R. Knect, Univ. of Miami, 3:30 p.m., CHEM 144
27  CUME, 5-6 p.m., CHEM 144
30 Seminar, Alexi Demchenko, Univ. of MO-St. Louis, 3:30 p.m., CHEM 144

To be included in the Fall 2013 All-University Commencement Program, you should apply for graduation by October 1, 2013.

Library Hours

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

Fall Semester Hours: August 26—December 19
Monday—Thursday 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday—Sunday Closed
LABOR DAY (Sept. 2) Closed