

Summer 2015
Volume 11

KSU Chemist

Department of Chemistry - Kansas State University / www.ksu.edu/chem/ / 785-532-6665 / chemdept@ksu.edu

Dear Friends –

At one point during the bucketing rain in May, students surfed in Mid-campus Creek; and June's longest legislative session in KS history culminated in another year without much support for Higher Education. July is a good time to update you on many things!

After last year's letter was mailed, we were delighted to welcome Santosh Aryal as an Assistant Professor of Organic Chemistry - with a twist: he joined us through a cluster hire initiative within K-State's new Nanotechnology Innovation Center. Santosh earned B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Chemistry and in Biochemistry in Nepal and received his Ph.D. in BioNanosystem Engineering from Chonbuk National University in Korea. Before joining us, he was a project scientist in the Department of Nanoengineering at UC-San Diego and an Instructor in Translational Imaging at the Houston Methodist Research Institute. Santosh's research interests lie broadly in nanomedicine, encompassing things such as polymeric drug release vehicles and the design and synthesis of contrast agents for PET and MRI. His work dovetails nicely with that of several colleagues and will open doors to broad collaborations for both research and proposals.

We learned in May that the ACS has re-accredited our B.S. program for another five years. Although that was not a surprise, it is a testament to the quality of our undergraduate education and it reflects well on the sustained commitment and effort put forth by our faculty, staff and GTAs.

During the past year, a total of 36 students graduated from the department. Of these, 18 received B.S. degrees; another 6 earned M.S. degrees; and 12 students successfully defended their Ph.D. theses. It is encouraging to note that, among this most recent group of KSU Chemistry alumni, exactly 50% are women.



Alpha Chi Sigma Magic Shows always light up K-State Open House activities.

Thanks to a strong team effort led by Chris Culbertson as PI, the NSF renewed our Research Experiences for Undergraduates grant for another 3 years. Our faculty members will host 10 diverse students from primarily undergraduate institutions and community colleges to conduct fundamental research, participate in professional development activities, and interact with students in other REU programs on campus. It also affords us a valuable opportunity to recruit top students to our graduate program.

Christine Aikens received the 2015 Lectureship sponsored by the ACS Division of Physical Chemistry and the Journal of Physical Chemistry A. The award carries with it a \$3,000 prize and an invitation to speak on her work at the ACS National Meeting in Boston. Christine was also promoted to Professor and granted a sabbatical leave for Fall, which she will largely spend developing proposals with the Soft Matter Group in K-State Physics.

Stefan Bossmann was named "Highest Honored International Expert" and an Honorary Distinguished Professor at Kunming Medical University in China, where his technology for early cancer detection has screened over 10,000 patients and discovered more than 500 previously unknown cancers.

Ryszard Jankowiak was named as a Distinguished Fellow of the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York, joining several Nobel laureates and National Academy of Science members in this inaugural class.

Our dear friend and colleague, Emeritus Professor Jim Copeland, passed away on January 21; he will be sorely missed. Jim was a regular and welcome visitor to the department throughout the years following his retirement in 1996. A brief obituary appeared in the April 20 issue of C&E News and one provided by his family can be accessed at the URL below:

www.ymlfuneralhome.com/obituary/5379

As always, I want to thank each of you for your ongoing support of our department. The rocky times for higher education in KS show no signs of easing, yet our students and faculty continue to achieve amazing things. With your help, we have been able to increase our scholarship aid to deserving students; we have been able to improve our instructional and research infrastructure; and have been able to maintain both a departmental seminar series and travel support for our students, faculty and staff. More than ever before, your support is having a positive impact on so many aspects of what we're trying to achieve.

Sincerely,

Eric Maatta

Mr. Ohno's Ships Sail to a New Harbor

Five glass ships - the trio of Columbian vessels, HMS Victory, and the USS Constitution - built by Mitsugi Ohno that once graced the 2nd floor foyer of CBC are now delighting a broader audience in the KSU Student Union. After considerable discussion, and with Mrs. Nao Ohno's blessing, we decided that these unique artworks deserved greater public exposure, and the Union's renovation offered the opportunity.

Moving these delicate objects required months of detailed planning by Jim Hodgson, ably assisted by Ron Jackson, and a talented team from Facilities. After a successful voyage, the entire moving crew was treated to lunch by Mrs. Ohno, who also presented everyone with beautiful photobooks of Mr. Ohno's work.



Donors to the Chemistry Department 7/1/14 - 6/30/15: Thanks to one and all for your support!

Gifts \$10,000 - \$49,999	Morris and Louise Grotheer	Dennis Gillen
John Berschied and Donna Derstadt	Kendall and Lily Guyer	Jim and Carolyn Hodgson
Barbara Hageman	David and Jean Heying	Henry and Leah Horner
Carl Lenz	Brice and Shirley Hobrock	Evan Hurley
Jerry and Judy Reed	Jim Hodgson	Takashi and Shinobu Ito
	Charles and Joan Johnson	Ryszard and Majka Jankowiak
Gifts \$5,000 - \$9,999	Eric Maatta	Marcia and Thomas Jarmer
Jery and Jerri Hefling	Meliz Maatta	Burk and Ann Jubelt
	Richard and Joan Nelson	Tara Kalivoda
Gifts \$1,000 - \$4,999	John Novak	Albert and Nomra Kovelesky
James Copeland*	Jeffrey and Rose Payne	Marva and Robert Nelson
James and Jane Curtis	Martin and Barbara Spartz	Joanna Petty
Betty Harthoorn	Jerry and Kaye White	James Pletcher
George and Linda Hawks	Guru Zingde	Martin and Cynthia Ruegsegger
Michael Hinton		Anna and Zechariah Sandlin
Jan Hiser	Gifts \$100 - \$249	Brian and Courtney Seacat
Larry Kraus	Jerrel and Cynthia Anderson	Vicki and Daniel Sedlacek
David and Wendy Manzo	James and Elizabeth Barnes	Richard and Anita Shores
Ed and Patricia Mishmash	Virginia Barney	Pamela Stewart
Ed and Chris Null	Duane and Nadine Bartak	Julie and Brian Ward
Madhuri Raut	Gary Bender	Han and Whaja Kim Yun
Shirley Sikes	Bert and Hsiu Chi	Donald and Mary Zebolsky
Charley and Kay Smith	Prashant Chopade and Smita Patil	
Daniel Stegner	John and CJ Collins	Pledged Commitments
Art Williamson	Bruce and Judith England	Jerry and Judy Reed
Shangdong Zhan	Brent and Karen Fulton	
Julie and Kenneth Zimmerman	John and Carol Graham	Deferred Commitments
	Suzanne Hagen	James and Jane Curtis
Gifts \$500 - \$999	James and Sylvia Hamilton	George and Linda Hawks
Etcyl and Ruth Blair	Dale and Jean Herbranson	John and Janet Walters
Allan and Susan Bohlke	Sadish Karunaweera	
Janis Broman	Thomas and Paula Lapp	Corporations and Organizations
Jerry Crow	Ping Li and Yan Ji	3M Company
Jerry and Joyce Foropoulos	David and Carol Locke	American Chemical Society
Dean* and Betty Hess	Peggy McCann and Kenneth Ford	ConocoPhillips
Dan and Susie Higgins	Joan Mulkern	Greater Manhattan Community Foundation
Adam and Kylie Kell	Tom and Kathryn Neill	Honeywell International Inc
Debra and Stephen Korpi	Marybeth Nelson	Hospira Inc
Larry and Celia Nicholson	Stephen and Melissa Oehme	Illinois Tool Works Foundation
Tsutomo Ohno and Susan Erich	Cheryl Overman	John Wiley & Sons
Joseph Schmidt	Robert and Beatrice Pearson	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Thomas and Shannon Shields	Sam and Susan Pennington	Phi Lambda Upsilon
Mark Spurrier	Martin and Margaret Shetlar	Phillips 66 Company
Ann and Jason Sullivan	Bob and Rhonda Spencer	Raymond A Voet Estate
John and Janet Walters	Stephen and Barbara Valente	Raymond James
	Nelson and Janet Wolfe	Shell Oil Company Foundation
Gifts \$250 - \$499	Rongda Xu and Xin Huang	Texas Instruments Foundation
Olajide Alawode and Safiyyah Forbes		The Boeing Company
Steve and Sandra Bernasek	Gifts up to \$100	The P&G Fund
Ronald and Nancy Bridges	Anton and Susan Ahrens	Zydus Pharmaceuticals (USA) Inc
Jack and Graciella Calentine	Christopher Anderson	
Allan and Cynthia Childs	James and Gail Assink	
Gerald and Marilyn Davis	Betty Brainerd	
Charles and Terry Foxx	George Fowler	*Deceased

Generous contributions from the individuals, corporations and organizations above have helped us to support talented undergraduates, attract quality graduate students, enhance our instructional and research equipment, host outstanding scientists for interactive visits, and send our students to conferences to present their research findings. Should you be interested in contributing (or if you have any corrections), please contact our KSU Foundation development team at 1-800-432-1578; 785-532-7980; or janetd@found.ksu.edu. We would be honored to have your support.

KSU Chemist

CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
213 CBC BUILDING
MANHATTAN, KS 66506

PHONE:
785-532-6665

FAX:
785-532-6666

E-MAIL:
chemdept@ksu.edu

WEB:
www.ksu.edu/chem/

Call, write, e-mail, or
better yet, stop by.
We'd enjoy hearing
from you.



Follow K-State Chemistry
(actually PLU members!)
on Twitter.

@KStateChemistry



Thank you, Maria!

It doesn't seem fair, yet after Spring 2016, students in our Chem 1 and Chem 2 classes won't have access to Maria Paukstelis's extraordinary teaching skills: she has announced that she will retire then. She has been an amazing Instructor in Chemistry since 1969 (!) and has received every teaching award available at K-State, including: the Stamey Award from the College of Arts and Sciences; the CONOCO Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award; and the Presidential Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Tens of thousands of our students have benefitted from her effective methods, her high standards, and her caring demeanor. We will miss you, Maria! Enjoy all of the things that come next!

A Round of Applause for:

Leila Maurmann, our superb Instrumentation Facility Director, who was promoted to Research Assistant Professor.

Adam Kell, 5th year Ph.D. student in Ryszard Jankowiak's group, recipient of a 2015 University Distinguished Professors' Graduate Student Award.

Raghavender Sirimdas, 2nd year Ph.D. student in Emily McLaurin's group, who was selected to present his research at the 12th annual Graduate Research Summit at the State Capitol in Topeka.

Duy Hua, whose patent on quinoline derivatives that restore cellular gap junction activity was licensed to Sigma-Aldrich.

Department of Chemistry
Kansas State University
213 CBC Building
Manhattan, KS 66506



NAME
STREET ADDRESS 1
STREET ADDRESS 2
CITY, STATE 00000