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Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Lawrence Barton, Editor

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Chairman's Message (Christopher D. Spilling)

It is early 2008 and at the beginning of each New Year I have chance to reflect on the previous year in my "Chairman's Message." I again have to report the retirement of a long serving faculty member. Prof. Joyce Corey decided to retire after 39 years in the Department. Although Joyce will officially retire in March 2008, I still expect to see her around the Department almost everyday. She will be working on completing an extensive review of transition metal-silicon compounds. I always thought retirement meant gardening, fishing, golf or some other leisurely pursuit, but not to Joyce.

As a result of the retirement of both Lol Barton and Joyce Corey, we are in the progress of searching for two new faculty members in inorganic chemistry. We are hoping to use these positions to increase the strong bond between the Department and the Center for Nanoscience. The Missouri system has also been busy. We now have a new President to replace Elson Floyd. The search lasted over one year, but finally Gary Forsee, former CEO of Nextel/Sprint Corporation, will take office on February 2, 2008.

I am excited to be able to inform you that progress with the Benton/Stadler renovations and the new laboratory building are proceeding rapidly. An architectural firm is being selected and the plans should follow quickly. Unfortunately, it will be about 3 year before construction is complete and we can say good bye to the old Benton labs.

2007 also marked the 40^{th} anniversary of the first graduates (1967-2007). We now have well over 1,250 total graduates, BA/BS + MS + Ph.D. The number of chemistry majors is steady at a little over 100. However, I was required to teach two sections of the advanced lab this past fall because we have an unusually large cohort heading for graduation in May.

Enrollment in many chemistry courses has risen over the last few years, primarily due to the very successful Biotech/Biochem BS and MS degree programs. Enrollment in the former is also around 100.

2007 was a good year for faculty and alumni awards. Prof.



Eike Bauer, the department's junior faculty member and Joyce Corey the senior member who is retiring after 39 years here

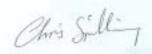
George Gokel was presented with the Midwest Award at the ACS Midwest Regional meeting in Kansas City. Bill Neumann (Ph.D. 1988) was given the ACS St. Louis Section Award. The award symposium, held in the Department seminar room, was great success with an excellent attendance. I was also extremely

please hear recently that **Harold Messler** (BS 1970) has recognized by the Missouri Academy of Science with a Science Educator's Award.

I am delighted to announce that we will be honoring **Charlie Armbruster** this summer when he will give the Commencement Address and receive the Chancellor's Medallion. You will be hearing from us shortly about the arrangements. I am also very pleased that we have established the **Chemistry Alumni Council**. Our thanks go to **Mike Finkes**, **Barbara Willis-Brown** and **Lol Barton** for being the driving force behind this effort. It is my hope the Council will help to maintain the excellent relationship we enjoy with you, our alums.

Finally on a very sad note, we just heard that our friend and colleague, **Ted Windsor** passed away as we went to press. Our thoughts go out to his family. Ted was here for 36 years and we will all miss him.

Best wishes



Alumni Information

1960s

Tom Jenkins, BS 1967 who is with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Cold Regions Research Laboratory in Hanover New Hampshire, was at the reunion for the class of 1967 on October 13, at the chase Park Plaza Hotel – part of the 2007 homecoming celebrations. He had with him the commencement program from 1967 when it was held at the Kiel Opera House, downtown St. Louis. In fact he had two copies and gave one to the Alumni Association for their archives. We learned that he had recently given a seminar at the University of West Virginia and had also been an invited speaker in a NATO Symposium in Sophia, Bulgaria. Tom received a Ph.D. from the University of New Hampshire. He retired in January 2008 after 38 years.

Lloyd P. Hill, BS 1967 was also at the class of 1967 reunion. He had been with *Mallinckrodt* in St. Louis for many years and spent 1998 - 2000 in South Carolina working for *Hoffmann La Roche*. He is very glad to be back in St. Louis and is currently working in Project Management, leading three project teams for generic pharmaceuticals at *Covidien* (formerly Mallinckrodt). He is learning new aspects of drug development and regulatory issues and finds it wonderful to be challenged outside his core field, organic chemistry, in which he received a Ph.D from Iowa State University. When not spending time with their six grandchildren he and his wife Diane like to play tennis and golf

Don Kaesser, BS 1967 was in touch with us in order to obtain Dr. Armbruster's address in Orlando. He was able to visit Charlie. Don was an undergraduate TA with the Editor in 1966-67. He has a doctorate in psychology and is in practice as a clinical psychologist. He remembers his days at UMSL and says that the editor was the first person he ever heard say "spot on". He is very happy in his career and is doing well. He says he misses the warm supportive nest of UMSL Department of Chemistry where he was 'born' again!

Joseph P. Bono, BS 1969, who was with the US Secret Service as Laboratory Manager, and who presented the 2007



Joe Bono, BS 1969

Distinguished Alumni Lecture (see later), retired from federal service in September 2007. He is now living in Indianapolis and with some along independent contract work, he is teaching as an adjunct professor at Indiana/Purdue University Indianapolis. Joe really enjoyed visiting the campus last May with his wife Barbara, after so many years.

1970s

John R. Kolb, BS 1970 was in touch recently. He enjoys trying to teach elementary school children science in Sonora CA where he lives with his wife Judy, having retired after spending 31+

years at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. He commented warmly on our faculty and recalls being challenged by Dave Larsen and Marcel Halberstadt. He reminds me that when he went to Northwestern University, where he received his Ph.D degree with Tobin Marks, he was much better prepared than his classmates from Cal Tech and other notable institutions.

Sanford A. Asher, BA 1971, who is professor of chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh, was featured in *Chemistry and Engineering News* in March 19, 2007. It was in an article on Raman Spectroscopy and how it can be used in the UV range to study protein folding, and more important misfoldings that are fingered as key factors in Alzheimer's, Huntington's and several other diseases. A photograph of Sandy was also include in the article which described work reported in Chicago at PITTCON 2007. We note that he is scheduled to present two talks on similar material at PITTCON 2008, in New Orleans in March.



Michael Finkes (BS 1973, MS 1978) and Tom Jenkins (BS 1967) at the Alumni Reception held during the 2007 Homecoming Celebration

Harold R. Messler, BS 1970, who runs the St. Louis City Crime Laboratory, will receive one of two SCIENCE EDUCATOR AWARDS from the Academy of Science St. Louis in April. He has been an enormous resource to young people, running programs for the St. Louis Science Center and the American Chemical Society, for students and teachers in areas schools and colleges, in giving talks to community groups, and in mentoring summer intern students.

Dorothy (Cooke) Greco, BS 1971, is involved teaching nutrition in the adult continuing education program at Meramec Community College.

T Gaynor Blake BA 1972 is President of *Nova Energetics* in Alton IL. The company manufactures rocket propellants for use in hobby rocket motors and is also working with the US Army and US Navy on additional uses.

Michael Finkes BS 1973, MS 1978, has been instrumental, with Barbara (Willis) Brown (BA 1984; OD 1988) in setting up the new Chemistry Alumni Council. Mike also serves on the Governing Board of that Alumni Association and is active in a number of areas in that role, not the least of which is giving the alumni message at commencement. Mike has been with

Monsanto in St. Louis for many years. Mike and his wife Linda attended the Alumni Reception at Homecoming 2007.

Benjamin (Nick) Westenberger BA 1973 is Deputy Director of the FDA Laboratory in St. Louis

Steven P. Gaydos, BS 1974 is Technical Fellow in Materials and Processes at the *Boeing Co.* in St. Louis.

Larry Justice BA 1974 is a Supervisor at Standard Labs, Inc. in Freeburg, IL.

Paul Blystone BS 1975 read our recent UMSL CHEMIST and it prompted him to contact us. He visited the campus earlier this year and that brought on a flood of memories; classes, professors, friends, old girlfriends, lab work, canoe trips, Ozark Airline plane crash, etc. He tells us his last research laboratory



Paul Blystone, BS 1975

job was in the mid 1980s, after which he traded in his lab coat for a marketing suit. That led him international marketing and sales positions. He has headed up marketing groups, been a vice-president, wrote an S-1 NASDAQ prospectus, and has been an independent business advisor for over 12 years. Such work has taken him into other disciplines, such as telecommunication,

biotechnology, software, internet, investment banking, and environmental fields. He is still an environmentalist and often meets with leaders in this field, occasionally writing position papers on environmental topics such as ethanol, bio-fuels, coal, and solar power. On a personal note, he enjoy travels (been around the globe a few times), learned how to catch and smoke king salmon, and still plays the guitar.

Phillip Asaro BS 1977 is Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Washington University School of Medicine.

H. Peter Kleine, BS 1979, MS 1982 is Associate Director, Discovery Synthesis Services in Discovery Medicinal Chemistry at *Pfizer, Inc.*, in St. Louis. Pete gave a seminar this past year in the department on Green Chemistry. He is one of several alums who have agreed to help in setting up the UM-St. Louis Chemistry Alumni Council. We recently learned that he was honored by *Pfizer* with a 2007 Achievement Award for leading the effort to refine the chemistry safety infrastructure at the St. Louis site

Mark Pozzo, BS 1978, MS 1981 had been working in St Louis until 2003, in small molecule pharmaceutical development with *Monsanto, Searle, Pharmacia* when his position was eliminated (*Pfizer* merger) and he took a job in the Chemical Research and Development group up in Kalamazoo in 2003. At the same time that **Mike Ennis** (BS 1978) moved to St Louis, he moved to Kalamazoo. In 2005 *Pfizer* closed R&D in Kalamazoo and once again he had to look for a job and joined the Pfizer Global Biologics group back in St Louis. He is working with

oligonucleotides and has set up a lab to synthesize and purify them to support current projects and has been working on a very exciting 24-mer compound that is in Phase III trials for non-small cell lung cancer. In 2005 Mark was one of the winners of the 2005 ACS Technical Achievements in Organic Chemistry award and he went to the National Meeting in Washington D.C to accept the award and give a talk. The family is adjusting well to being back in St Louis. He and wife Lisa, an UMSL 82 graduate in education, have three sons, Jeff 24, Dan 22 and Eric 17.

Timothy T. Wenzel BS 1978 is a Research Leader at *Dow Chemical Co.* in Midland MI. He received a Ph.D degree at Cornell with Professor Mel Goldstein and did postdoctoral work with Professor Robert Bergman at UC-Berkeley. He spent several years at *Union Carbide* in Charleston WV which became a subsidiary of the *Dow Chemical Co.* in 1999. His recent research has involved novel approaches to olefin polymerization referred to in the literature as "chain shuttling polymerization". Some of his work was published last year in *Science* magazine and featured in C &EN (May 14, 2006). Tim is the 2008 *Distinguished Alumni Lecturer*.



Barbara A. Soltz (Ph.D 1979) with her husband Bob

Barbara A. Soltz Ph.D 1979 lives with her husband Bob in Spring Valley, New York. Barbara runs *Conversion Energy Enterprises* (CEE) a privately-held corporation that was formed to develop and prototype innovative laser products for medical applications. CEE also provides consulting services to large and small business clients in optoelectronics, lasers, sensors and advanced electronics. The company in Farmington, Connecticut, located in the University of Connecticut Incubator, was founded in 1993 and has 5 employees.

1980s

Debora F. Bergstrom BS 1980 moved from Midland MI to the Washington DC area at the end of 2006. She and husband Wayne moved to Frederick, Maryland. She left *Dendritic Nanotechnologies* in 2005 as they shifted more and more toward pharma applications and started an independent consulting company, *Bridgehead Enterprises*, *LLC*. When Wayne took a position with *Bechtel* power plant division, she followed him

east. She is in a retooling mode and has worked in conformal coatings, infection control products, some nanomaterials, and a little in biofuel technology. One of her more interesting projects has been unrelated to chemistry and involves entrepreneurial education in Nigeria. She did a whirlwind tour of Nigerian universities last summer for strategic analysis. She has three daughters, one in high school, and one is a married college graduate and the third is a chemistry graduate student at Princeton.

Mark Leiber BS 1980, MS 1986 is a Senior Research Specialist at Monsanto in St. Louis. He was at the Murray Banquet in 2007.

Joan Twillman BA 1981 received the 2007 High School Science Teacher of Missouri Award from STOM (Science Teacher's of Missouri) at the fall conference of the organization in Jefferson City. There is a feature co-written by Joan at the end of this section.

Gregory P. Noelken, BS 1981, who is the Chemistry Computing Facility Manager at Washington University, recently developed an online testing program for high school science students to be used by Washington University Science Outreach personnel.

Gregg J. Lumetta, BA 1982, Ph.D. 1987, who is at the *Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*, is Chair-elect of the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry of the ACS.

David Main, BA 1982, recently retired from Boeing – AeroSpace Division, where he was the Environemtnal compliance Program Director. He is now running a small part-time business and also working to become certified as a baseball umpire. At least we think it is baseball. He lives in Huntington Beach, CA.

L. Denise (Dee Lange) Bianca, BS, 1984, Ph.D. 1991 is a faculty member at Nevada State College in Henderson Nevada where **Liz Hansen** (Ph.D. 2004) also teaches. Dee was recently promoted to regular full-status, the only such chemistry position on the faculty there. Her husband is an airline pilot and was training to be a 767 captain when we last heard from them.

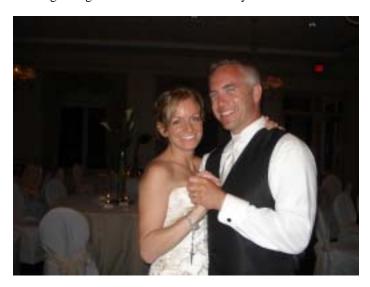
Barbara (Willis) Brown (BA 1984) who is a Doctor of Optometry and a graduate of the School of Optometery here is Manager, Student and Special Services for the school and she also practices one day per week. Barb has been very busy and extremely helpful in setting up the new Chemistry Alumni Council. In addition to her interest in the project, she used her experience with a similar group in the School of Optometry to provide excellent ideas.

Rajiv M. Banavali, Ph.D. 1985 represented his company *Rohm* and *Haas* at the Awards Banquet at the Chicago ACS meeting in March by presenting the George Pimentel Award in Chemical Education to **A. Truman Schwartz**, Macalester College. *Rohm* and *Haas* sponsors the award. He also presented two papers at the meeting including one in a Presidential symposium.

Stephen A. Kolodziej, BA 1987, Ph.D. 1993, who works in Discovery Medicinal Chemistry with *Pfizer Inc.*, in St. Louis, we

learned recently, won a Laboratory Achievement Award from his employer in 2006. Apparently he "demonstrated how application of state-of-the-art drug design and compound production tools can effectively accelerate project advancement." It was great to see Steve and his wife Mary at the reception we held at the ACS meeting in Chicago in March

James Roble BS 1986, MS 1989, is teaching physics at the John Burroughs High School in St. Louis County.



Mike Groaning (BA 1995, MS 1997) and his wife Dana dancing.

Richard L. Feldenberg BA 1987 moved back to St. Louis from California in the summer of 2006. He received an M.D. at UM-Columbia in 1992, did his Residency at U. of Illinois 1992-96, and a nephrology and research fellowship at Yale 1997 to 2000. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at St. Louis University, and work at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital as a Pediatric Nephrologist. In addition to clinical work he is also involved in the molecular biology research. His wife Julie is a cardiology nurse, but has been staying home with their two boys, William (age 9) and Oliver (age 7) and doing volunteer work. Outside of work and family, his favorite activities are cycling, endurance running, and yoga. He also misses the Chemistry Department at UMSL and thinks of us often.

William L. Neumann, Ph.D. 1988 was the 2007 recipient of the ACS St. Louis Section Award. Bill received a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Missouri in Columbia in 1983 and a Ph.D. in 1988 here where he worked with Professor Mike Sworin. After a 9-month post-doctoral appointment in radiopharmaceutical chemistry at Mallinckrodt Medical, Inc. he was hired as a permanent staff scientist. He spent the next 4 years there participating in the development of a Tc-99m based organophosphine complex (Q12) as a human myocardial imaging agent. In 1990 he received the Mallinckrodt Presidents Award for Technical Innovation. In 1991, he moved to Monsanto Corporate Research in the metal-mediated reaction chemistry group. As a result of mergers, he moved his medicinal chemistry group to the chemistry and process technology division of *Pharmacia* and finally to *Pharmacia-Pfizer* where he was a research group leader. In 2003 he moved to Metaphore Pharmaceuticals, where he served as Associate Director of Chemistry and was responsible for directing all discovery chemistry efforts, giving him the opportunity to extend the synthetic chemistry he invented at Monsanto. In 2005, he returned to Mallinckrodt Imaging and is currently developing molecular imaging agents. He is also adjunct Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Pulmonary,



Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, St. Louis University. Bill and his wife Jeannette and daughter Sarah live in Kirkwood. They own a 100 year old house which is on the national historic register and that has been their major project. They spend most of their free time playing with their daughter and their two

black Labradors. Both Bill and Jeanette are avid runners and Bill enjoys playing the guitar, and recording with friends, all of whom were at one time Monsanto chemists.

Susan Corey BS 1989 worked for *Monsanto* in St. Louis for about 4 years following graduation and then enrolled at the University of Illinois - Urbana/Champaign and completed a BS degree in horticulture in 1995. Following some internships she moved to the Black Hills of South Dakota and was a District Botanist on the Bearlodge Ranger District in Sundance, Wyoming. She lived 30 miles from the Bearlodge office in Spearfish, South Dakota but accepted a District Botanist position on the Shawnee National Forest in Southern Illinois and was to begin working there in late November 2007.



Yanina Levchinsky-Grimmond, BS 1997, MS 2000, with Qingzheng Wang (Ph.D. 2002) at lunch in California.

Gary Wester, BA 1989, MS 1992, is now with *Pfizer Inc.*, in St. Louis

1990s

Todd R. Boehlow, BS 1991, Ph.D. 1997, is a Senior Research Scientist at *Pfizer*, *Inc.*, in St. Louis, presented a seminar in the department colloquium series in December.

Xaio-Hong Zhu PhD 1992 is a Research Associate at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities in radiology.

Loralee J. Mondl, BS 1993 is a chemistry teacher at Marquette High School in St. Louis County.

Timothy Desmond BS 1994 has been working for *American Water* as a Laboratory Analyst for the past five years; two years at the Central Plant in St. Louis County and the last three at the Central Lab in Belleville, IL. He helped acquire some GC equipment for Dr. Jim Chickos from there last year. His responsibilities at American Water consist of analyzing water samples for haloacetic acids and herbicides by GC/ECD and metals by EPA 200.7 (ICP), as well as some method development for the herbicide method. He and his wife Shannon adopted daughter Allison in April 2005, and she has made their world a much better place to be!

Dennis Kraichley BA 1994 and his wife Dena announced the arrival of their third child in June when Mason Jaxon Kraichley was born. Dennis is with *Centocor*, doing pharmaceutical chemistry, near Philadelphia, PA.

Christine Maupin BS 1994 continues with *Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company* in the New Orleans area, in a position she started in November 2006. She works with is the MDAT (Materials Data Assessment Team) to evaluate all the material (non-metals) received that are applied to flight hardware and to get them approved them for release in production. The other half of her job is working with the assessment of the non-metals failure analysis (stuff that comes off the tank), or contamination particularly hydrocarbons because of the incompatibility with liquid oxygen. Her daughter Riley was born last year.



Chirstine Maupin at work at Lockheed Martin

Michael D. Groaning BA 1995, MS 1997 was Principal Process Research Chemist at *Roche Colorado Corporation*. He recently contacted us to tell us that he recently got married and now was moving overseas on October 1. He is moving back to Switzerland and will be in Basel for a one year assignment with the PTDA (Pharma Technical Development Actives) group. He gave us the picture of himself and his wife Dana dancing.

Cecilia Marzabadi Ph.D. 1995 is Associate Professor of Chemistry at Seton Hall University. She was featured last year in the magazine *Chemistry and Engineering News*, published by

the American Chemical Society, for her work in co-editing the book "Are Women Achieving Equity in Chemistry?: Dissolving Disparity, Catalyzing Change". She is currently on sabbatical leave from her position at Seton Hall and is doing research at Harvard Medical School

Elizabeth A. Amin, BA 1996, Ph.D. 2003, who is now Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Minnesota, has made a good start. She has been able to secure two research grants from the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center, and several collaborative grants from the National Institutes of Health. Her publication list numbered 13 including 7 from her home institution and 6 from work at UM-St. Louis.

Hong Gu Ph.D. 1996 with Professor Murray has moved back to China and has worked with Shanghai-based *YuXi PharmaTech Co., Ltd* since July, 2006. He is now a Senior Director in the Synthetic Chemistry Department and leads a large group of more than 140 research scientists, according to **Heng-hu Zhu** (Ph.D 2002).

Hong Yong MS 1996 seems to be doing very well at *Abbott Labs* in Chicago. We understand she took a vacation home to China during the summer.

Siu Wa (Sam) Au-Yeung BA 1996 is in touch with us each Christmas. He lives in Markhan, Ontario, Canada where he helps run a small start-up company.



Chemistry alums Michael Finkes (BS 1973, MS 1978), Angie (Schmitt) Powers (BS 2001, MS 2004), Tom Jenkins (BS 1967), Pat Barton (BA 1978) and Lloyd Hill (BS 1967).

Michael Washington Ph.D. 1997 is Manager, Chemistry Nuclear Medicine, Imaging R&D at *Mallinckrodt Inc.* in St. Louis.

Yanina Levchinsky-Grimmond, BS 1997, MS 2000, keeps in touch with us and was in the department recently with her husband **Brian Grimmond** (Ph.D. 2000) during the Thanksgiving break. Yana is a Process Scientist III with *Regeneron Pharmaceuticals*, Inc in Rensselaer, NY. She

recently met **Qingzheng Wang** (Ph.D. 2002) for lunch when she was on a trip to California. He is a chemist at *AnaSpec, Inc.* in San Jose. Brian is with the *General Electric Co*. in Schenectady NY. We understand he is involved in nanosience studies related to MRI and other medical imaging.

Kevin Trankler, BS 1998, Ph.D. 2004, is Director - Technical Services for Chemir Analytical Services in St. Louis. He also is a member of the newly formed Chemistry Alumni Council Steering committee.

Hossein Shabbany Ph.D. 1988, who is with the Fleming Company in St. Louis, recently moved with his family to St. Charles, MO

Lynda K. (Sutterlin) Guion, BS 1999, is with *Nestle Purina PetCare* Company in St. Louis. She was at the Distinguished Alumni Lecture in 2007 as was **Bill Lesko** (BA 1988, MS 1994), who is also with that company.

Robert Stockland, Ph.D. 1999 has moved to a faculty position at the University of North Texas in Denton Texas. Robert had been Associate Professor of Chemistry at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA, achieving tenure there. He had been very successful in his research at Bucknell but was looking for an institution where he could work with doctoral students. When we last heard from him, he was busy organizing his new laboratories and ordering equipment, chemicals, etc. An interesting feature of his position is that he is teaching both inorganic and organic chemistry.

2000s

Shiyue Fang Ph.D. 2000, who is on the faculty at Michigan Technological University, received funding fom the National Science Foundation and the Michigan Universities Commercialization Initiative in 2007. His research group has generated 3 publications and 3 more are in preparation. They also filed one US patent. One Ph.D. student, who transferred to his group in his second year and won a MTU Graduate School Finishing Award, will graduate in January 2008. Currently, his research group consists of a total of 4 Ph.D. students, and one postdoc will join in early 2008.

Jennifer Doucette BS 2001, who is now in the Masters Program in the Department works as an Analytical Chemist with *R. D. Laboratories* in Washington, MO.

Erik R. Hoefgen, BS 2001, MS 2005, is at *Mallinckrodt* (*Covidien*) in St. Louis.

Barry Parnas, MS 2001, won the 2006 ACS St. Louis Section Science and Technology Award. Barry is with *Pfizer, Inc.*

Angie (Schmitt) Powers, BS 2001, MS 2004, was at the alumni reception at homecoming in October 2007 with her husband Sean, who is a graduate of the Biology Department. Angie is working for *Covidien* (formerly known as *TycoHealthcare*, formerly known as *Mallinckrodt*) in R&D/Plant Support.

Marjorie (Nutt) Case, BS 2002, is in the MS program and has a job at the Washington University Medical School.

Frank Dover, BS 2002, MS 2008, who graduated in December 2007 from the MS degree program in the department, is with *Sigma-Aldrich* in St. Louis.

John S. Koslowski, MS 2002, continues to teach chemistry for the Francis Howell School District. He recently became a *National Board Certified Teacher* and he credits his UM-St. Louis education for much of his success.

Luis Llamas, MS 2002, continues with *Novartis Inc.*, in Cambridge, MA in the Chemogenetics and Proteomics group where they try to identify new ways to find new targets and/or figure out at what level an active compound interacts. He finds it fascinating and challenging.

Linyong Mao Ph.D. 2002 is doing postdoctoral research at Iowa State University. He met his wife, Jinbing Su, in Richland, WA, when he was a postdoc at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. They were married in Charleston SC in December 2006. Three months ago their daughter, Helen J. Mao, was born. He has been a postdoc at Iowa State for one year working on the gene co-expression networks in plants. He worked in Charleston at the Medical University of South Carolina for 2 years where he published one paper and another will come out shortly.

Amie M. Beerman BS 2002, MS 2004, is in chemical sales with *Jost Chemical* in St. Louis. When she took the position in the spring of 2007 she told us she would be doing a lot of travel (about 50%), and mostly in the southeastern part of the country ie. Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas.

Victoria (**Sedelkova**) **Gruden** BS, 2002, MS 2005, was in the department with her new baby Michelle in September. Michelle was born to Viktoria and Mario Gruden (BS 2003) both of whom work with *Sigma-Aldrich* in St. Louis, on July 26, 2007. Mario is enrolled in the MBA program at UMSL.

Heng-hu Zhu, Ph.D. 2002, was with *Pfizer Inc*. in St Louis from October 2005 until April 2007 at the time of a company-wide reconstruction driven by the new CEO. Then he took almost two months vacation to travel to Shanghai, visiting relatives and old friends in China for the first time in almost seven years.

Brian Tienes, BS 2003, had been with *Steris Inc*. in St. Louis but in the fall he enrolled in the Ph.D. program at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Mesfin Janka, Ph.D. 2003 is with *Eastman Chemicals* in Kingsport TN. He moved into a new house in February 2007 and a week later his wife Zee gave a birth to a baby boy (on Feb 12). His name is Eyouel – the English equivalent is Joel. Both Eyouel and Mom were doing well. They stayed in the hospital for four days. Their other son, Yonathan, was initially unimpressed by the new arrival. One day after school he found Zee and Eyouel at home. He cried a lot and asked Mesfin and Zee to take Eyouel back to the hospital. We understand the relationship has since improved.

John C. Sommer BA 2003, BS 2007, continues to further his education at UM-St. Louis. He holds a BA in biology with a minor in mathematics (1983) and continues study towards a BS in biology. John works with the St. Louis City Water Department as a Medical Technician.

Amy (**Thanavaro**) **Trankler** Ph.D. 2004, who is married to **Kevin Trankler** (BS 1998, Ph.D. 2004) and works at *Steris Inc.*, had a baby girl, Isabella Jenistar Trankler, born on March 2, 2007 via C-section at 9 lb. 13 oz. We hear and understand very well that she is adorable and has changed their lives in ways unimaginable.

John Swearingen Ph.D. 2004 is working in his alma mater as Instrumentation Technician. He is now back at Illinois State University in Bloomington and is responsible for maintaining the instrumentation in both the Chemistry and Biology Departments. He also does the training for several instruments and runs the DNA sequencer for the Biology Department.

Bingly Yan Ph.D. 2005, who had been doing postdoctoral work at the University of Pittsburgh, has moved back to St. Louis and is now working for *Sigma-Aldrich*.

Anhy He, Ph.D. 2006, who worked with Dr. Spilling, is still in UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas doing postdoctoral research with Dr. J. F. Falck. His research is going very well there and his work has already led to five publications.

Janice Wildrick, BA 2006 is doing a MS degree with Dr. Shelly Minter at Saint Louis University. She is also helping out with the planning for the conference "Boron in the Americas" to be held at Saint Louis University this year. Dr. Barton is helping Dr. Paul Jelliss, the conference chair, with it too.

Phil Barber BSBT 2007, is currently working at *Steris* as an R&D chemist working on government contracts that design decontamination products for nerve agents and related systems

Rokas Juodeska, BS 2007, is working for *Novus International* in St. Louis and lives in Chesterfield.

Medha Kamat, Ph.D. 2007, who was Research Associate in the Department of Surgery at Emory University, was at the Alumni Reception associated with the ACS meeting in Chicago in March. She has since moved with her advisor to the University of Toledo and we understand she will move again soon to Michigan State University.

Hanna Smith, BS 2007, is with *Monsanto* in St. Louis. She had been with *Sensient Colors*

Colin White, Ph.D. 2007, who did his degree with Dr. Wilking, completed a series of education courses at Keel University in England and is now back in the Department teaching inorganic and freshman chemistry as an adjunct professor. We understand he intends to do postdoctoral research in Canada next year.

Craig Bruton, BA is with *KV Pharmaceutical* in St. Louis. The Editor had lunch in December with Craig along with his senior colleagues, **Floris Homan**, BS 1985, Ph.D. 1989, **Phil Rexroat**

BS 1977, Laura Rexroat, BA 1982 aand Victor Grant, BS 1977.

Kenneth Owens, BS 1980, passed away in May 2007

Kenneth Owens, Scientific Glassblower in the Chemistry and Biochemistry department passed away on May 8, after a long and brave battle with cancer. Ken had been associated with UM-St. Louis for many years. He enrolled here as an undergraduate in 1974. He worked in the stockroom as a student and became Chemistry Stockroom Manager in 1978. He graduated with a BS in chemistry in 1980 and worked at *Petrolite Inc.*, from 1981-1983 as a chemist prior to joining *McDonnell-Douglas* in 1983. In 1994 he replaced Bob Cabaniss, then Scientific Glassblower in the chemistry department, on a part-time basis when Bob was ill. At that time Ken was also doing full time contract work for *AVSCOM* in St. Louis. He continued to juggle both jobs until August 1997 when he was appointed Scientific Glassblower in the department on a permanent basis. Ken was



very active in the American Scientific Glassblowers Society (ASGS) and received the society's Memorial 1999. Award in recognizing him as the Outstanding Junior Member. In 2000, he was elected Vice Chair of the Midwest Section of the ASGS. As Chair of the society's Questions and Answers Committee he fielded

technical questions and published a quarterly report in their journal FUSION. Ken was known to hundreds of high school and college students to whom he gave glass blowing demonstrations and to others who took the glassblowing course from him. In 2001 he was selected by the faculty as the 14th Distinguished Alumni Lecturer and he gave the presentation "Sharp Objects and Fires: Daily Fare for the Glassblower" to the graduating seniors, faculty and graduate students and department award winners at the Annual Award Presentation in May 2001. Ken became ill about five years ago and bravely continued his normal life and work, with interruptions for chemo and related therapy, until last spring. He is survived by his wife Katherine and children Sarah, Sam and Russell. A memorial service took place on Wednesday, May 16th, Sacred Heart Church in Valley Park.

W. Michael W. Johnson, BS 1999, we were shocked to hear, passed away on Monday, July 30, 2007. I recall Mike coming to see me when I was department chair in the early 1990s. He was working in banking at the time, and had decided to change careers. He had a degree in business from Webster University. Anyway, the career change involved completing a degree in chemistry, essentially from scratch. He did this by attending classes during the day and at night, while working part-time doing an internship at the FDA. He graduated in 1999 with a BS degree. He went to work for Meridian Medical as an analytical chemist after he graduated. He then joined *Wyeth BioPharma* as

a quality control scientist for the next four years. This became *Centocor Biologics* (a division of Johnson & Johnson) which took over Wyeth. In 2005 he went to work for *Tyco-Mallinckrodt* at the St. Louis plant downtown as a research



chemist. He was very proud of his chemistry degree and kept in touch with me, visited often, and contributed to department. I recall an article in C & EN on careers which was interviewed about how he made the career change from banking to chemistry. He died unexpectedly after complications from a stroke suffered after surgery. Mike

was born on September 8, 1953 in Kansas City, Missouri. He and his family moved to St. Louis in 1961, where Mike spent the rest of his life. Mike enjoyed walks in Tower Grove Park, travel, books, music and good wine. He and his wife, Judy, were best friends and the love of each other's lives. Mike is survived by his wife, Judy; mother, Elsie; son, Michael; sister and brother, Sandy and Gary; stepson, Eric; and faithful dog, Bear.

Pat Mayberry 1953 - 2007

Pat Mayberry passed away on December 17, 2007 following a struggle with ALS. Pat came to UM-St. Louis to work as a secretary in the department in June 2000. She was with us for almost two years and was especially helpful to the editor. Se moved on to the School of Education in April 2002 and later to the English Department. She bravely suffered form ALS for about three years until she succumbed at age 54. She is survived by her husband Larry Mayberry and adult children Laura Mayberry, Lynn Becker and Michael Mayberry.

Norman R. (Ted) Windsor

At press time we learned that Ted Windsor passed away on January 14, 2008. He was with the department from 1971 until this last summer, not long after he had been diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. He was 77 years old.

Special Feature

Mary Mierkowski (Bremer) and Joan Twillman discovered that they were both UMSL Chemistry Alums while kayaking down the Missouri River in the Race for the Rivers on August 25. Both were entered in the Women's Solo Division of the Clean Water Challenge.

Oddly enough, the race started with required chemical water testing. Twillman worked on the nitrate kit while Mierkowski titrated for dissolved oxygen testing; then, to the boats for the 20 mile race from Weldon Springs to Frontier Park in St. Charles.

During a short "strategy meeting" that included Mierkowski, Twillman, and the third entrant in the division, all parties agreed that traveling together was preferable to winning. As a result, the three contestants watched birds, looked for mile markers, followed butterflies, and stopped for a lunch of chocolate chip cookies, trail mix, and chocolate covered raisins on a huge clean sandbar. (racefortherivers.org)

Mary (Bremer) Mierkowski (BS 1984) has been working for Monsanto since she interned there while attending UMSL. She is involved in tracing metabolic products of plants for the EPA. She and her husband, Craig have two daughters, Jessy, a junior at Truman State and Ashley, a high school sophomore.

Joan Twillman (BA 1981) has taught at St. Charles West high School since 1984 and currently teaches Pre- AP Chemistry, Environmental Science, and Science Research, which can be taken for college credit class through UMSL. She and her husband, Ron, have three sons: Tymm, a graduate student at NYU, Rob, who got his engineering degree through the joint UMSL/ Wash U program and works for CBB, and Jon who works for Cabela's.

Alumni Reception, April 2006.

We held an alumni reception in April but the attendance was not very good – probably because we had too many other events that semester including the Murray Lecture, an alumni reception in Chicago in March, one in April at *Sgma-Aldrich*, the St. Louis Award Symposium where we honored alumnus Bill Neumann and the Distinguished Alumni Lecture at which we had a record attendance to hear Joe Bono speak. Nevertheless those in attendance including several faculty members and Michael and Linda Finkes, Hossein Shabbany, Cherise Pruitt, Todd R. Boehlow, Janet Wilking and Kevin Koeller, had a good time.

Graduates, Dec. 2006 through Dec. 2007

DECEMBER 2006

Alan Bauer, BA Mark Chase, MS Leslie Manofsky, BA Hui Zhao, Ph.D. Chloe Bryant, BA Medha Kamat, Ph.D Colin White, Ph.D

MAY 2007

Philip M. Barber, BSBB Erin M. Brooks, BS William O. Conley, BSBB Supratik Dutta, MS Shenica Fondren, BA Rokas Juodeska, BS Joshua Lang, BS Julie I. Lichtmann, BSBB Jessica R. Mattison, BSBB Rahul P. Mehta, BSBB Brenda M. Najlik, BSBB Maria P. Perez, BSBB Scott D. Sisul, BSBB Hannah J. Smith, BS

Steven Borgmeyer, BA
Elanie S. Caldwell, BSBB
Jennifer N. Desotel, BS
Olujimi A. Faminu, BSBB
Sarah E. Gadel, BSBB
Gregory R. Kilper, BS
Michael J Lantzy, BS
Benjamin P. Martin, BS
Aaron M. McCoy, BSBB
David A. Mounts, BSBB
Oscar O. Natwick, BS
Rashi Sharma, MS
Donnie Smith, MS

AUGUST 2007

Jesse Elgin BA John C. Sommers BS Barry W. Walker, MS Sujittra Srisung, Ph.D Kenise Jefferson, MS Kisuk Lee, MSBB Tad A. Wood, MSBB

DECEMBER 2007

Shaun M. Chaskelson, BSBB Frank J. Dover, MS Julie L. Leuchtmann, BSBB Lan T. Nguyen, BSBB Daniel M. Staffey, BSBB Umnahanant, Ph.D Timothy j. Conkle, BSBB Hillary J. Goode, MS N. A. Lubanowski, BSBB John Schmitz, BS Benjamin L. Thornton, BAP.

BSBB is the degree BS in Biotechnology and Biochemistry.

The Chemistry Club

It was an exciting year for the UMSL Chemistry Club which is the ACS Student Affiliate group. Dr. Mike Nichols is the faculty advisor to the club. In 2007 the group was chosen for by the ACS for an Outstanding Student Affiliate Honorable Mention Award for the second year in a row. The certificate presentation will be at the spring 2008 National ACS meeting in New Orleans. The Chemistry Club continues to be active hosting Student-Faculty Lunches, National Chemistry Week events, and a Welcome hot dog BBQ on the Science Complex back patio. Officers for 2007-08 are Matthew Sidwell (President), Adele Pacquette (Vice-President), J.B. Carroll (Treasurer), Chidume Aningo (Secretary), Eric Sack (SGA Rep), Lauren Patrick (Public Relations), and Amber Ray (Historian). 2006-07 officers were Holly Pope (President), Rokas Juodeska (Vice-President), Matthew Sidwell (Secretary), Adele Pacquette (Treasurer), J.B. Carroll (SGA Rep), Tara Carroll (Public Relations), and co-Historians Jeanette Guenther and Chris Georges.

Chancellor Thomas F. George's Message

Things are looking up ...I appreciate the opportunity to report on some of the great things happening at the University of Missouri-St. Louis – chief among them, our recent faculty ranking, *Express Scripts* expansion plans, and of course, the long-awaited renovation of Benton and Stadler Halls.

A new study by Academic Analytics as reported this fall in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reveals what many of us have known for years: UMSL has a most talented and productive faculty. The company's 2006-07 Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index ranked UMSL scholars as the fifth most productive among small research universities in the country (i.e., universities with less than 15 doctoral programs). UMSL was slotted immediately behind Boston College and Georgetown University.

The new Express Scripts Inc. headquarters opened on our campus in May to house up to 1,600 employees. It is the first tenant of a business park UMSL is developing along Interstate 70. Company executives have been impressed by the smooth transition to north St. Louis County and interactions with our faculty and students. So impressed, in fact, they have exercised an option to add a second building to house up to an additional 1,000 employees.

Benton and Stadler Halls have long been in need of renovation, and this past year Gov. Matt Blunt and area legislators worked together to find the funds for this and other construction projects on college campuses throughout the state. We are in the final design phase and hope to soon start this \$28.5 million project.

This is all very good news that would not be possible without your support and hard work.



Chancellor George with UM-Columbia Professor Kattesh Katti and Jimmy Liu and Mike Nichols who were presenters at the Plant and Life Science Network meeting chaired by Chancellor George

The Faculty

Lawrence Barton although now retired since March 1 and only holding a 40% appointment in the department, continues to work essentially a full schedule. He taught one course each semester this past year, was busy with student advising, and also continued to be the coordinator and leader for alumni and external relations. In addition to writing the UMSL CHEMIST, this involved helping set up the new Chemistry Alumni Council, arranging for the Murray Lecture, the Distinguished Alumni Lecture, assisting with fundraising and providing historical and other data for the chair. He had much trouble moving out of one of two offices he has occupied since 1998 and is still struggling to move out of his research laboratory. This past year he presented a paper and moderated the first session of the ACS Inorganic Chemistry Award Symposium in Chicago in March which honored Sheldon Shore, the 2007 recipient. He thought this may be his last research presentation but he just accepted an invitation to give a Keynote Lecture at the XIII International Conference on Boron Chemistry in Barcelona in September 2008. He continues to sneak off to play golf on occasion but this past year he didn't have to feel guilty about that. In 2007 he and his wife Pat Barton (BA 1977) attended the Open Championship on Carnoustie and also played golf in Scottsdale, AZ as well as around the St. Louis area. Younger daughter Hilary is now in Stillwater OK, so they look forward to playing the golf course where the OSU golf team has done so well. He played golf with Mike Nicholls twice this past year at Glen Echo Country Club where he plays to a 16 handicap - but not all the time.

Eike Bauer after one year at UMSL has settled into the department. His research lab is fully operational now and he has been teaching organic chemistry at the undergraduate level and this spring will teach a graduate course. His research group consists at the moment three graduate students and he will add a postdoctoral fellow in the spring. He is also committed to undergraduate research, and consequently a number of undergraduates have worked in his lab, three last winter and two

current ones. He and his students have synthesized novel, catalytically active metal complexes already, and two publications are in progress, one of them is close to submission. They presented their work at the Missouri Organic Day last April and at the Midwest Regional ACS meeting in November 2007. He has submitted two invited review articles this year, one on water soluble phosphines as ligands in transition metal catalysis (book chapter Wiley/VCH) and another one on recent developments in iron-catalysis in organic synthesis (Current Organic Chemistry). He has received research funding from the campus and from the University of Missouri Research Board.

James S. Chickos, we thought, was through with training doctoral students as his last student **Patamaporn Umnahanant** graduated in December, however he has taken on another student and also has some undergraduates in his lab so his research will continue at the fast pace it has in recent years. In 2007 he published 5 papers and presented at the ACS Midwest Regional meeting in Kansas City where he was able to stay with his son Aaron who is in law school at UMKC.



Alexei Demchenko receiving the 2007 New Investigator Award of the ACS Division of Carbohydrate Chemistry at the Boston meeting from Waldemar Priebe, past chair of the Division

Joyce Y. Corey is retiring midyear 2007-08 after almost 39 years on the faculty. Joyce joined UM-St. Louis in 1968 from Villa Madonna College in Covington KY, now Thomas More College, having completed her Ph.D. degree at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She will continue to use her office and will be working on an update of the review she coauthored with J. Braddock-Wilking, on Reactions of Hydrosilanes with Transition Metal Complexes: Formation of Stable Transition Metal Silyl Compounds", which was published in Chemical Reviews in 1999. This past year she co-authored a paper in Organometallics, with the Braddock-Wilking group and attended the Biennial Organosilicon Symposium in Victoria, British Columbia. She traveled with Janet Wilking and Peter Gaspar of Washington University. They were scheduled to take the ferry from Seattle to Vancouver but flight delays resulted in their having to fly. She had one undergraduate student working with her this past year and assisted all the researchers in the lab she shares with Janet.

Valerian T. D'Souza moved into a new house in Bel-Nor this

past year and he has been working on increasing closet space there. He continues to carry a heavy teaching load in the department and worked this past year with the Editor on revising the departmental graduate brochure and formatting the UMSL CHEMIST.

Alexei Demchenko, who was awarded tenure this year, received the 2007 New Investigator Award from the Division of Carbohydrate Chemistry of the ACS. During 07, he delivered 19 lectures at other universities and conferences and published 10 articles. Following the completion of an edited book on "Frontiers in Modern Carbohydrate Chemistry" (Oxford University Press, 2007) he has been working on the "Handbook of Chemical Glycosylation" to be published by Wiley in early 2008. He is a Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee of Carbohydrate Chemistry Division of the ACS, is on the Editorial Advisory Board of Carbohydrate Research (Elsevier), is a regional/associate editor for Current Carbohydrate Research and served as the review panel member for NIH and the Science Foundation of Ireland. In 2007, his research program was supported by grants from the ACS-PRF, NSF, the American Heart Association, and NIH. Currently, his research group consists of three post-doctoral fellows, seven Ph.D. students, and five undergraduates.

Cynthia Dupureur, in efforts to get out of town and talk about her work, gave lectures this past year at her alma mater, Missouri State University, Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles and at Caltech in Pasadena, where she did postdoctoral research. She also attended two summer meetings, the 15th Albany Conversation, where she gave a talk, and the FASEB Summer Conference on Recombination in Snowmass, Colorado. Around these meetings she found time to kayak and go whitewater rafting, the latter for the first time. Late in the summer, the entire Dupureur Group went canoeing on the Meramec River. This was fun for the group but nerve-wracking for the advisor, as all the graduate students were inexperienced and two cannot swim! In October, the Dupureur lab consisting of four graduate students attended the Gibbs Conference on Biothermodynamics held in Carbondale, IL where all group members presented posters of their work. Dr. Dupureur continues as chair of graduate recruiting and admissions.

Thomas F. George maintaining a very busy schedule as Chancellor is still able to present a prolific record as a research scientist. He is involved in theoretical studies of nanostructures (including molecular clusters and nanotubes), lasers, nonlinear optics, polymers and correspondences between quantum and classical mechanics. He maintains active collaborations with scientists around the world and is PI on grants from the U.S. Army Research Office and NATO. In addition, he recently finished co-authoring an undergraduate textbook entitled The Science of Nanotechnology: An Introductory Text (in press with Nova Science, Hauppauge, New York), co-authored the book Microcomputer Modeling of Growth Processes of Single-Crystal Sheets and Fibers (in press with Nova Science), and he co-edited a book entitled Molecular Building Blocks for Nanotechnology: From Diamondoids to Nanoscale Materials and Applications which was recently published by Springer. This was in addition to publishing at least 16 research articles during 2007. He regularly lectures around the US and abroad and most recently

presented the inaugural Frank and Elaine Moss Distinguished Lecture, in physics at UM-St. Louis.

George W. Gokel has been here for just over one year now. He began 2007 by having a special issue of the *New Journal of Chemistry* published in honor of his 60th birthday. Jerry Atwood and Jonathan Steed wrote a very nice editorial (*New Journal of Chemistry*, 2007, 31, 617). The year ended with similar acclaim when he received the Midwest Award of the American Chemical Society at the meeting in Kansas City in November. His research group consists of two postdocs and five graduate students; the latter began at Washington University so they will graduate from there. He begins his teaching activities in the department in spring 2008 by teaching organic chemistry



Jim Chickos with his friend Linda Snyder at the Murray Banquet

Harold H. Harris says the highlight of his year was serving as advisor to his wife Mary's *ExplorerVision Team* which won second place in national competition in Washington, DC. He also enjoyed attending the 45th reunion of his class at Harvey Mudd College. He also attended two National ACS meetings and he and Mary took a science history tour to Europe visiting sites in Sweden, Denmark and Germany. The tour group included several St. Louisans.

Wesley R. Harris continues to serve as Director of the very successful BS and MS degrees in biochemistry and biotechnology, offered jointly by the departments of chemistry and biology. His research goes well. He co-authored two articles which appeared in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* in 2007. One of his students, **Sujittra Srisung**, completed her Ph.D. degree this year. He has one other graduate student and an undergraduate in his lab. He continues to enjoy watching the Rams and the Blues with his son Jonathon who is a student at Saint Louis University.

Jingua (Jimmy) Liu completed a year as Director of the Center for NanoScience, which he renamed from the Center for Molecular Electronics. During the year, he hired Dan Zhou Electron Microsopcop Laboratory Manager and Ms. Kendra Perry, Director of Government and Business Relations. He established biweekly brown bag luncheon seminars, and a

biweekly coffee hour. Four research focus groups have been established. These are Nanocharacterization and molecular imaging, Theoretical and computational nanoscience, Nanoscale materials and systems and Membrane and cellular function. Research proposals are being planned by the various focus groups. A most successful open house was held in November.



George Gokel with his friend Jerry Atwood from UM-Columbia

Rensheng Luo now in his third year in the department continues his NMR management and service. He has been busy keeping the spectrometers running and increasing the facility usage. This year he provided opportunities for students to do undergraduate research both during the academic year and the summer. He and his collaborators published two papers in 2007. Rensheng is also involved with the local community and lower level education activities. In June he traveled to Washington DC with his daughter, Dee Luo, as Dee qualified all the way to be MO junior delegate to attend the National History Day (History contest for students in grades 6-12).



Wes and Marion Harris at the Murray Banquet

Michael Nichols is in his fourth year on the faculty and is continuing to work on the biophysics and biological activity of the Alzheimer's amyloid-beta peptide. He currently has four PhD students lab and two undergraduates worked in his lab in

2007. Both undergraduates presented their research at the UMSL Undergraduate Research Symposium prior to their May graduation. Conferences attended by lab members included the Society for Neuroscience (San Diego), ACS Midwest (Kansas City), and the Berg Symposium at Washington University. Mike gave presentations at SIU-Edwardsville and Missouri State University. The lab celebrated a publication in the *Journal of Neurochemistry* in September and funding continues from the Alzheimer's Association.

James J. O'Brien continues his research in intracavity laser spectroscopy in collaboration with Dr. Leah C. O'Brien from SIU-Edwardsville. This past year they presented two papers at the ACS Midwest Regional Meeting in Kansas City and published an article in the *Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy*.

Nigam P. Rath has been busy working with two single crystal diffractometers collecting data, solving structures and teaching regular and informal courses. His graduate course in x-ray crystallography was offered this past semester; the second time in 2 years. Our students including undergraduates are now able to collect their own data, both for class work and research purposes. In September he met **Shu Yao** (BS 2006) in Madison WI. when they were attending the Bruker Users' Meeting.

Christopher D. Spilling is busy in departmental and campus affairs. In addition to chairing the department, he represents it on the Faculty Senate and University Assembly and serves on the four-person Steering Committee. He is also a member of the campus Appointments, Promotion and Tenure committee. This past semester he had a heavier than usual teaching load, directed the research of six graduate students and several undergraduates and administered his \$1.1m NIH research grant. He co-authored two articles in 2007, lectured at the 20th International Symposium on Synthesis in Organic Chemistry, at Churchill College, Cambridge University, UK, and he and his students gave talks at the Chicago ACS Meeting, the Midwest Regional Meeting in Kansas City and he presented seminars at the University of East Anglia, UK, Western Illinois University and UM-St. Louis.

Keith Stine continues research in two main areas: the development of nanoporous gold as a support for biomolecules and the study of monolayers as model membrane systems. Work to develop the use of the gold materials as supports for carbohydrate synthesis is continuing in collaboration with the Demchenko lab and is supported by NIH. At present, his group consists of two graduate students, an undergraduate, and two postdoctoral associates, one of whom works in the Demchenko lab on synthesis. During the past year, a paper describing the first efforts in using nanoporous gold for enzyme immobilization was published in Chemistry of Materials and a paper was published in Thin Solid Films describing work on the triaroylbenzene monolayer system done by Frank Dover (BS 2002, MS 2008) in collaboration with former departmental colleague Chris Pigge now at the University of Iowa. During summer 2007, two high school students in the STARS program participated in research projects in his lab, and a visiting student from Russia participated in research in his lab also and this latter work was a part of a poster presented at the regional ACS meeting in Kansas City. At this meeting, his two graduate

students both presented talks. In August, he presented the talk Nanobiotechnology and Your Health at the Saint Louis Science Center. He will serve a term as Chair of the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society in 2008.

Janet Braddock-Wilking completed a very successful year in her research program this past year. She published a paper in Organometallics and submitted another. She made presentations at the 40th Silicon Symposium, in May in Victoria, BC, Canada, at the 233rd ACS National Meeting, Chicago, and has been invited to give one at the upcoming 15th International Organosilicon Symposium to be held in June 2008 in Jeju Island, Korea. Of particular note she received a grant from the National Science Foundation of \$343,000 for 3 years to study "Novel Metalloles Containing Heavy Group 14 Elements". Her research group consists of one postdoctoral fellow, three graduate students and three undergraduate students. This past summer she and her family visited Alaska, cruising from port to port.



Chris Spilling with Murray Lecturer Chad Mirkin and Sigma-Aldrich CEO Jai Nagarkatti at the Murray Banquet.

Chung F. Wong added a new postdoc, Dr. Baojing Zhou, who received his Ph.D. degree from UCLA, in March. Dr. Zunnan Huang in the group is continuing his happy life with his son who turned one year old in October and Chung was invited to the party. Last summer, an undergraduate from Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay, visited the group and the work is expected to result in co-authorship on a forthcoming paper. Chung's group had five papers published or accepted for publication in 2007. He was also pleased to receive his second NIH grant since joining UM-St. Louis to help develop drugs for a protein tyrosine phosphatase target. Next winter, he will be an assistant to Dr. Demchenko, our new Director of Graduate Studies, to help advise students in our master degree programs.

Zhi Xu continues to work on his project "Ultrasensitive Transmission Spectrometer" for which he receives funding from Alltech Associates Inc. In 2007 he was appointed Director of Translational Research in the Center for Nanoscience

Center for Nanoscience

This paragraph was provided by Ms. Kendra Perry, Director of

Government and Business Relations for the Center.

During the past year, the Center for Nanoscience (CNS) has repositioned itself for growth under the direction of Dr. Jingyue (Jimmy) Liu. Formerly the Center for Molecular Electronics, the building was renamed to better encompass the research performed by CNS members. This cross-disciplinary center, a hub of scientific research at UM-St. Louis, is grounded in chemistry, biology and physics. CNS goals moving forward include translating breakthrough scientific discoveries into practical applications, increasing industrial collaborations and ultimately improving the region's economy and well-being. Overall, the Center's mission is to enhance the research capacities of our faculty members, researchers and students to better serve regional needs through research and technology transfer, cooperative and educational outreach and workforce development.

Former Faculty and Staff Colleagues

Gordon K. Anderson enjoys his job as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at East Tennessee State University very much. It's amazing some of the things that, as a chemist, he would never have thought he would find himself involved in. Recently it was a big focus on the arts. His boys were back to school when he contacted me in late August. Daughter Jill finished her Master's at the University of Minnesota and had decided she wants to teach at the high or elementary level. She's had begun an MAT degree at ETSU, and was to teach part time at a private school during this coming school year. She taught two French classes for us over the summer.

Charles W. Armbruster is living in Orlando and the Bartons will be visiting him in February 2008. The big news is that Charlie will be back on campus for the August 2008 commencement where he will give the commencement address and also be given the Chancellor's Medallion. This is a major, well-deserved honor and we plan to have a celebration in hone of that event. Thus alumni and friends can expect to hear more about this later in this spring.

Lisa Hoguet continues to live in Wentzville Mo with Dan and her children. Jay is a senior in High School and Tara is eight and in third grade. Lisa is working part-time, one day a week and also doing some substitute teaching in the Warrenton School District. Husband Dan is doing well and was acting Battalion chief with the Robertson fire protection District in Hazelwood, MO, when we last heard from them.

James P. Riehl was in touch with us recently. He is in his eighth year as Dean of the Swenson College of Science and Engineering at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. He spent the fall in Paris on a research leave to complete the first draft of a book he was writing. Fall would be his third visit to Paris last year. He gave two seminars in Japan in February.

Rudolph E. K. Winter continues to come into the department four days per week to work with Joe Kramer in running the Mass Spectrometry Facility. This activity has allowed him to collaborate and publish with several colleagues in the department as well as with colleagues else where including St. Louis University, UM-Columbia and in Britain and Spain. The trips he and Margaret take to Florida to see daughter Liz and her family seem to be more frequent and longer these days and Rudi enjoys the increased time he spends with the five grandchildren in Florida and Missouri.



Janet Wilking with a group of students in her research lab.

Alum Reception-ACS Meeting Chicago

We scheduled an ACS Alumni Hour at the Spring ACS meeting in Chicago. It was quite successful. In attendance were **Janet Wilking** (BA 1985) and her husband Dr. Bruce Wilking, **Shelly Kumar** (Ph.D. 1982), **Cecilia Marzabadi** (Ph.D. 1995), **Bingly Yan** (BA 2005), **Peng Xiong** (Ph.D. 2006), **Greg Wall** (BA 1974, Ph.D. 1982), **Donna Friedman** (Ph.D. 1980), **Steve Kolodziej** (BA 1988, Ph.D. 1993) and his wife Mary and **Mehda Kamat** (Ph.D. 2007). We also saw **Phillipa** (Jayatilleke) **Wolohan** (Ph.D. 2001) and her colleague from the Welsh group, former postdoc **Elizabeth Collantes**. Faculty members there included Spilling, Barton, Stine, and Demchenko. Also present was friend Ted Gast

The Robert W. Murray Lectureship

This departmental function continues to be the major event of the visiting speaker program and it enters its eleventh year in 2008. We have been able to host some very distinguished chemists and again the past year was no exception. Among our previous speakers **Robert Grubbs** won the Nobel Prize and **J. Fraser Stoddart** was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II. Sadly, we lost **Chris Foote** in 2005 at age 70. The speaker in 2007 was **Dr. Chad A. Mirkin**, George B. Rathmann Professor of Chemistry at Northwestern University who spoke on *Nanoparticles in Diagnostics and Therapeutics*, and in 2008 the speaker will be **Dr. William R. Roush**, Executive Director of Medicinal Chemistry at Scripps Florida, who will speak on Monday, March 17, 2007.

The Lawrence Barton Scholarship:

This Scholarship is designed primarily for junior chemistry majors who are first generation college students and who have some financial need. The endowment provided a stipend of \$1,500 and the 2007-2008 recipient was **James B. Carroll**.

The M. Thomas Jones Memorial Fund This Fellowship is

the only endowment that recognizes performance by graduate students. It was initially funded through contributions from family, friends and colleagues of Dr. Jones and recently his widow Patricia Jones has made substantial contributions to allow us initially to endow it and to improve it. Currently it is used to fund an annual award for the top graduate student seminar. The graduate students vote on this award and in 2007 the award went to **Hilary Goode** and **Nikkilina Cruise**.

The Barbara W. Brown Fellowship for Women in Chemistry. This Fellowship is designated for women students over the age of 24 and Barbara (Willis) Brown (BA 1984) established it. The 2007-2008 fellowship went to Audrey Carpenter. Again, this is the only fund that is dedicated to the support of women students and you can designate your contribution to this fund if you wish.

The Eric G. Brunngraber Undergraduate Research Fellowship. This Fellowship, which has existed since the late 1980s but was recently endowed by the family of the late Dr. Eric G. Brunngraber, supports undergraduate research. If you are interested in supporting this important aspect of the department's activities, you may designate your contributions to this fund. For 2007 the fellowship went to **Sean Whittemore**.

The William and Erma Cooke Memorial Scholarship This, the major endowed award in the Department, is designed primarily for sophomores. Dorothy and Al Greco endowed it in honor of Dorothy's parents William and Erma Cooke. Dorothy (Cooke) Greco received her BS degree in chemistry and Alfred O. Greco graduated with a degree in biology, both in 1971 and both went on to become now physicians. The Fellowship had provided support for two students annually now since 1992. In 2007 fellowships went to Kara Kinzel and Joe Kolf.

ST. LOUIS AWARD SYMPOSIUM

In 2005 and 2006 a UM-St. Louis faculty member was honored with the ACS St. Louis Section Award. The recipient in 2007 was a first for a UM-St. Louis alumnus and also a first for a Covidien (Mallinckrodt) employee when William L. Neumann (Ph.D. 1988) was honored with the award. This Symposium, sponsored by the St. Louis Section of the ACS and the department, took place on Friday April 20, in Benton Hall. The welcome message and general introductions were given by Dr. Steven Kinsley, Chair, St. Louis Section. Dr. Spilling introduced Dr. Neumann who served as symposium moderator. Bill made some introductory remarks and then introduced the speakers. They were Dr Daniela Salvemini, Department of Internal Medicine, St Louis University School of Medicine, Dr. James K. Bashkin, University of Missouri-St. Louis and NanoVir, LLC., and Dr. Lanny S. Liebeskind, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor, Professor of Chemistry, Emory University. The event was very well attended and was completed very nicely with a reception hosted by Chancellor Thomas F. George and his wife Dr. Barbara Harbach at the Chancellor's residence. About 75 attended the symposium and about 40 the reception. On the following evening at the St. Louis Award Banquet at Kemoll's Restaurant, Bill was formally presented with the award which consisted of a plaque and an honorarium of \$1,500. His address was titled "Confessions of a St. Louis Sep Funnel Shaker".

Other Departmental Awards and Scholarships

Undergraduate

The award for the Outstanding Student in Introductory Chemistry went to Audra Sammons and Steve Sivewright who received a certificate and the Handbook of Chemistry and Physics from the Chemical Rubber Company. The Award to the Outstanding Student in Sophomore Chemistry went to Joe Kolf and the American Chemical Society Award for Analytical Chemistry went to Erin M. Brooks who received a certificate and a one-year subscription to Analytical Chemistry. The American Chemical Society - St. Louis Section's Outstanding Junior Award went to Adele L. Pacquette. The award was presented at the annual Awards Night during the ACS St. Louis Section's Chemical Progress Week. Erin M. Brooks received the Alan F. Berndt Outstanding Senior Award and the American Institute of Chemists-Student Award Certificate. The 2007-08 Undergraduate Chemistry Aid to Education Awards were given to James B. Carroll, Kara M. Kinzel, Adele L. Pacquette, Christian Peng, Todd Crawford Sean Whittemore, Nathan Birhanu, Peter Chang, Mercy Kiiru, Matthew Stockel, James Rehm and Scott Hasty. Finally a Certificate of Commendation for Outstanding Service went to Holly Pope.

Graduate

The 2006-07 Graduate Student Research Award went to Patamaporn Umnahanant and the 2006-07 Graduate Teaching Assistant Award in Memory of Jack Coombs was awarded to Maria Udan. Marjorie Case was the Outstanding MS student. Greg Papadakos was a Graduate School Fair Research Poster Winner and a Sigma Xi Poster Award went to Rashmi Sharma. A Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship was awarded to Eileen Bongat.

Distinguished Alumni Lecture

The 20th Annual Distinguished Alumni Lecture was presented by Mr. Joseph P. Bono, BS 1969, who is Laboratory Director for the Forensic Services Division of the United States Secret Service in Washington, DC. He spoke on "Forensic Science and the United States Secret Service Laboratory". We had the highest attendance ever for this event, 91 present for the lecture in 451 Benton Hall – standing room only. Among those present were several alumni including Michael Hauser BS 1981, MS 1986, Jeanette Hencken BA 1985, Todd R. Boehlow BS 1991, Ph.D. 1997, Harold R. Messler BS 1970, H. Pete Kleine BS 1978, MS 1983, Don Hesse BS 1984, Ph.D. 1991, Mike Finkes BS 1973, MS 1978, Darryl Hastie BS 1992, Lynda K. (Suetterlin) Guion BS 1999, Bill Lesko BA 1988, MS 1994, **Dolores Vermont** MS 1979 and of course **Janet Wilking** BA 1985. Our Distinguished Alumni Lecturer this year will be Dr. Timothy T. Wenzel BS 1978. Tim is a Research Leader at Dow Chemical Co. in Midland MI. He received a BS in chemistry here in 1978 and then completed a Ph.D degree at Cornell University with Professor Mel Goldstein followed by postdoctoral work with Professor Robert Bergman at UC-Berkeley. He spent several years at Union Carbide in Charleston WV which became a subsidiary of the Dow Chemical Co. in 1999. His recent research has involved novel approaches to olefin polymerization referred to in the literature as "chain shuttling polymerization". Some of his work was published recently in *Science* magazine and featured in *Chemistry and Engineering News*. You are welcome to attend the Department Awards Function which begins at 3:30 pm in 451 Benton Hall followed by the lecture at 4:00 pm.

Editor's Column (Lawrence Barton)

This year, instead of writing an Editor's message that often appeared to be an extension of the Chair's message, I will write a column that describes the history of the department - as I saw it. This will take several years and thus this, Chapter One, is the first of many other chapters – I hope.

As a postdoctoral fellow at Cornell University, I attended the 1966 Spring ACS meeting in Pittsburgh, where I presented a paper and also through the latter came to know Jack Malone, another boron chemist, who had joined the faculty of Saint Louis University in January 1966. At the meeting I registered for the ACS Employment Clearinghouse and had several quite productive interviews. I will not focus on any of that but I do recall sitting in the waiting area and seeing this fellow with a flat-top hair cut and broad shoulders, who looked more like an athlete then a chemistry professor. When I was called for the interview I met this same fellow, Charlie Armbruster, then Chair of the Division of Science at UMSL, and he interviewed me for a position. The rest is history; as a consequence of that meeting, both Dave Garin and I joined the faculty in 1966. Dave had similarly met Charlie at the meeting but he and I did not meet until we shared an office when we arrived.

I came to the campus for interview on April 13 1966 and there was scaffolding on the interior walls of Benton Hall. The building was not really complete but Charlie had insisted on the organic chemistry labs being available for the students who were juniors. The campus was established in 1963 so my first year, 1966-67 was the senior year of UMSL's first class. There were six faculty members when Dave and I joined the faculty and it was an impressive group. It included Armbruster, Ph.D. Washington U., Berndt, Ph.D. Caltech, Halberstadt, Ph.D. Yale, Larsen, Ph.D. Northwestern, Miller, Ph.D. Tulane, and Weidman, Ph.D. Chicago. Before the fall semester 1966, some classes had been held in the old Bellerive Country Club building, some in the United Methodist Church across the street and some in an old laundromat building west on Natural Bridge Road. I recall walking over to the Administration Building, (then the old country club building) with Charlie and seeing a muskrat swim across the lake that was later to be named Bugg Lake by the students. Indeed the campus was quite countrified in those days, as remnants of the golf course provided much open space and shrubbery. There was one par three hole still intact around the current location of the Millennium Center, and in my first year, there was a "nearest-to-the-pin" competition. I think I came in third! Once it was completed, Benton Hall essentially served as the campus classroom building until Clark Hall (1968), Stadler Hall (1968), and then SSB (1971) were constructed. Even after the Library was constructed in 1969, the old Bellerive swimming pool on its south side remained open until 1974 and many of the young faculty families, including my own, used it regularly.

Charlie had been here since 1962 and had hired biologists and physicists for the Division of Science. In 1968, the Biology Department split off and shortly after that the Physics Department was established. Then Charlie served as Chemistry chair until 1975 when Bob Murray took over. When we joined the faculty, we did so with the expectation that we were building a conventional research-oriented chemistry department and that a PhD program was on the near horizon. No one had told Chancellor Bugg that, however, but Charlie Armbruster relentlessly pushed for graduate programs and especially doctoral programs. I recall a meeting in 1968 when we hashed out the problem with Chancellor Bugg and Dean Glen Driscoll. The result of this was that, in late 1968, the new Dean Robert Bader sent forward a recommendation to establish two doctoral programs. Chemistry was the top priority for the establishment of a PhD program and Psychology second, along with new MS degrees in history and mathematics. Blanche Touhill, in her



The Barton Family: Andy, Cathy, Hilary and their parents at the editor's retirement party. Grandson Sam was not supposed to be in the picture!

book *The Emerging University*: 1963 - 1983, recounted the fact that it was Charlie, essentially alone among administrators, who pushed for doctoral programs.

Indeed in all his actions as Chair, first of the Division of Science then of the Chemistry Department, he was preparing for such a research department. For example, before Benton Hall was completed Charlie had purchased an NMR spectrometer and research IR and UV spectrometers. Faculty members were hired in all three areas of science with expectations that they would establish research programs similar to those in the established major universities. A major figure in the lives of students and faculty members in those early days was Jack Coombs. Jack was the storeroom manager and had been a doctor wannabe and a salesman who sold to physicians and hospitals. He was in his sixties when he started here in 1965 and served as a father figure and mentor to students and faculty members alike. Jack retired in 1977 and the Graduate Teaching Assistant Award is dedicated to his honor.

I recall very well the members of that first graduating class. They were Reginald Beal, Jon Benedictus, Gary Bernstein, Thomas Dueber, Jodie Duke, David Henton, Gary Henrich, Lloyd Hill, Thomas Jenkins, Donald Kaesser and Carol Reinhardt. Charlie was convinced that they all should go to graduate school. Each student was assigned to a faculty member who served as graduate school application advisor and I believe that almost all the students did go to graduate school. Some had their studies interrupted by the Vietnam War but most of them ended up with a graduate degree and we have been in touch with almost all of them over the years.

As a young Brit, I was pretty green in those days. I received advice from Charlie on what a "Grade Point Average" was and also from Dave Larsen on applying for federal grants. He had some samples of successful applications from his graduate school colleague Andy Wacky, whom I came to know very well much later. Anyway, the advice worked and I recall attending a meeting in the Research Office in 1969 of the five faculty members who held NSF grants. They were Bob Murray, Yom Jones and Lol Barton from Chemistry and Debbie Haimo and Ron Irwin from Math.

But I am getting ahead of myself. In those early years we battled with the dean for more recognition concerning the credit for teaching laboratory sections. In those days, our classes were much larger than they are today. In our first semester Dave Garin had about 415 students in Chemistry 11 and I had about 375 in Chemistry 1. Our teaching assistants were the seniors and some juniors, and I am sure that this added substantially to their learning experience. The faculty members were very close to the students in those days. I was, for example, rather shocked when I first arrived and noticed that the students referred to the Department Chair as "Charlie". I recall my first float trip on the Current River one spring with Dave Garin and students Chuck Heil and Doug Nuelle. There were lots of social events, etc. since most of the faculty members were quite close in age and not much older than the students.

In 1967 we recruited Eric Block from Harvard and Denis Diestler from Caltech. Both came straight from the schools where they did their Ph.D degrees. Eric had postdoc'd with E. J. Corey for one year after completing his Ph.D. with him but Dennis came directly from his Ph.D. degree with Vince McKoy. Following that we obtained permission to recruit senior faculty members and in 1968 Robert W. Murray joined us after a successful career at Bell Labs and Eugene and Joyce Corey joined us from the University of Cincinnati and Villa Madonna College respectively. At the time the Coreys were the only colleagues with academic teaching experience elsewhere and Bob Murray was the only one with industrial experience. Also Al Berndt had come from Argonne National Lab so those four provided more dimension to the department. One of the reasons we were able to attract the Coreys was that a friend of theirs, Dr. Linda Whatley, a Bob West Ph.D. from Wisconsin where the Coreys had graduated, had been hired by Charlie to teach the introductory labs in 1968. Linda had moved to St. Louis from the University of Maryland when her husband joined the Physics Department at Washington U. Whatley was interested in a position in the Research Office, but although we promoted her case she was passed over, so she to Washington U. in a research office position. From there she became the VP for Research at Illinois U. and eventually became President of Radcliff College. In 1969 we lost Dennis Diestler to Purdue University. Our computing facilities were not adequate for his high-level theoretical chemistry. We also lost Stuart Weidman due to a negative tenure decision. Thus the department, which was still in a building mode, had also to replace faculty members and during the 1968-69 academic year we were recruiting for four people. We eventually hired Jim Chickos, whom I had known somewhat at Cornell where he received his Ph.D. degree. Jim had been at Princeton as a postdoc and was doing the same at Wisconsin when we hired him. Rudi Winter had been a postdoc at Harvard with Corey when Eric Block was there and Eric encouraged us to try to recruit Rudi from Brooklyn Poly where he had been on the faculty for four years. We hired Bob Rouse to replace Diestler. Bob had received his Ph.D. degree from Northwestern and was doing a postdoc with E. Bright Wilson at Harvard. The fourth addition that year was Tom Jones who came over from Saint Louis University. Charlie had tried to hire this former graduate school colleague at Washington U. away from Dupont earlier. Tom was one of the stars there and there were rumblings that SLU's chemistry Ph.D. program would be ended. Tom was the first of many senior faculty members to leave the department there at the end of the 1960s.

Look for Chapter 2 in the 2008 UMSL CHEMIST

Laurence De Ace

Contributors 2007

Below we list the individuals, chemistry alumni and friends who made contributions to the department this past year. The list is very impressive and we are most grateful for your support. If we missed out your name, we apologize and hope you understand that we are fallible. Recent gifts will be listed next year.

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An aerial shot of the campus circa 1970 showing Benton, Stadler and Clark Halls and the Thomas Jefferson Library.

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