Hanno zur Loye received two significant awards during the 2011-2012 academic year. The Memphis section of the American Chemical Society named him the 2011 Southern Chemist and the University Board of Trustees recognized him as Carolina Trustee Professor. The Southern Chemist award is given annually for outstanding research accomplishments by a chemist in the southern region. The Carolina Trustee Professor award is essentially the faculty MVP award for distinguished achievement by a faculty member of the university across the board: in research, teaching and service.

The research that led to Hanno winning the Southern Chemist award is in the area of inorganic materials chemistry; in particular, the synthesis and characterization of oxide materials, the development of new polymer/clay nanocomposite dielectric materials for pulse-power applications, and the design of novel inorganic/organic coordination polymers. For the past 10 years, a significant part of his research has been devoted to the development of new methods to grow single crystals of novel oxides, an area in which he has gained international acclaim and where he is known, in particular, for his extensive work on 2H-perovskite related oxides. Over the past few years, his research on transition metal oxide crystal growth has been featured on six journal covers! Since moving to USC in 1996, his research has been continuously funded and he has been invited to present over 100 lectures at scientific conferences as well as at universities and industrial research centers. During the same time period, he has published over 250 papers.

In addition to his exceptional research accomplishments, the Carolina Trustee Professor Award recognized Hanno for excellence in teaching and service. Hanno typically teaches freshman chemistry in the spring and graduate inorganic chemistry in the fall, and is consistently one of the top-rated instructors in the department. Since joining the department, he has graduated six masters and sixteen doctoral students and has provided research opportunities to over 37 undergraduates, while also in addition, helping to educate high school students and teachers, and professors from undergraduate institutions. Hanno has been very involved in service in a variety of ways, ranging from editorial service, organizing symposia at meetings, and serving in a leadership role at the ACS, to participating in workshops and to running summer research programs for undergraduates.

These awards are just the latest recognition for Hanno. He received the USC Educational Foundation Award for Research in 2007, the IPMI Henry J. Albert Award in 2009, the SC ACS Section “Outstanding Chemist” Award in 2010; he was elected a Fellow of the AAAS in 2009 and of the ACS in 2011. He has been the David W. Robinson Palmetto Professor since 2000 and his Chair was also renewed in 2012. In August, 2011, he was appointed Associate Dean for Research in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Hanno is the fourth member of the department named Southern Chemist after Profs. Durig, Adams and Dawson. Furthermore, it is a remarkable testament to our excellent faculty that since the Carolina Trustee Professor Award was established in 1999, Hanno is the sixth departmental recipient following Profs. Reger, Baynes, Dawson, Adams, and Sodetz.

Outside his academic endeavors, Hanno is a scuba diving enthusiast along with his wife, Dee, and his son Karl. They enjoy traveling to distant dive destinations to explore the underwater world. On land, their activities focus on skiing in the winter and on golf, camping, and kayaking in the summer.
Note from the Department Chair, John H. Dawson

First “USC Chemist” in Three Years

Since becoming department chair in July 2008, the department has thrived despite the stressful budgetary problems the University has had to face. To make up for the loss of over half of its state funding, the University significantly increased enrollment, leading to a 34% increase in the number of students we teach in the department. The number of chemistry majors has also gone up from 245 to 356. We have started a biochemistry and molecular biology major jointly with Biological Sciences and already have over 80 majors. In response to these stresses, we have been able to hire several new faculty, although the many searches added significantly to the workload of the front office. One casualty of these time demands on our staff has been that we have not published a USC Chemist for three years. Our solution is to focus on departmental activities for 2011-2012 in this issue while publishing in parallel, and easily accessible via the internet, two “back issues” of the USC Chemist – one for 2009-2010 and the other for 2010-2011. The latter two issues are compilations of highlights without any accompanying stories and can be found at http://www.chem.sc.edu/NEWS/USCChemist/2009_2010Awards.pdf and http://www.chem.sc.edu/NEWS/USCChemist/2010_2011Awards.pdf

Here is a brief summary of department highlights for 2011-2012

2011-2012 was a remarkable year for the number of awards and recognitions received by our faculty and staff. Four faculty won university awards: John Ferry won the Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award, Wayne Outten received the Ada B. Thomas Undergraduate Faculty Advising Award, Hanno zur Loye was named 2012 Carolina Trustee Professor and I was recipient of the Educational Foundation Outstanding Faculty Service Award. Sophya Garashchuk and Wayne Outten were named “Rising Stars” by the USC Office of Research. Three of our faculty had their endowed chairs renewed: Dan Reger, Carolina Distinguished Professor; Łukasz Lebioda, Guy F. Lipscomb Professor in Biochemistry; and Hanno zur Loye, David W. Robinson Palmetto Professor. At the state and regional level, Mike Angel was named “2012 Outstanding SC Chemist” by the SC Section of the ACS and Hanno zur Loye was named “2011 Southern Chemist” by the Memphis Section of the ACS. At the national level, Mike Angel and Łukasz Lebioda were elected Fellows of the AAAS. I also note that retired Adjunct Professor and University Administrator Dan Antion was elected Fellow of the ACS in 2011. JD Ham received the 2012 College of Arts and Sciences Classified Staff Excellence Award. All of these awards recognize the hard work and outstanding achievements of our faculty and staff.

Two new biochemistry faculty were hired in 2011-2012, both of whom initiated their research efforts in the fall of 2012. Tom Makris joined the department as Assistant Professor and Maksymilian Chruszcz as Associate Professor. Tom’s research expertise is in the chemical biology of metalloenzymes involved in pharmaceutical biosynthesis and bioenergy production. Maks is a protein crystallographer who is studying the interactions of the human immune system with pathogens and allergens.

Caryn Outten was promoted to Associate Professor based on an exceptional combination of research achievement and excellence in teaching. Bill Brewer was promoted to Senior Instructor, recognizing his stellar record of achievement in the classroom. Perry Pellechia was promoted to Research Associate Professor as a result of his outstanding work as Director of NMR Services for the department. During the course of the year, Caryn and Wayne Outten were courted by another University; with the support of Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, a retention offer led them to remain on our faculty.

Numerous grants were awarded to our faculty during the 2011-2012 academic year. Perhaps most noteworthy, Sophya Garashchuk and Sheryl Wiskur received NSF Career Awards.

In spite of tight budgets, our department continues to be strong because of the extraordinary quality of our faculty, staff and students. Our teaching evaluations remain very high and our faculty continue to win teaching awards. So we are succeeding in our joint mission of excellent teaching and high level research. As always, recruiting the best graduate students remains a top goal of the department. You can dramatically help us accomplish this goal by making contributions to either the Odom or Teague funds. Named for two of our legendary teachers, Jerry Odom and the late Peyton Teague, these funds enable us to offer fellowships to incoming students, over and above their normal stipend. This helps us attract the best graduate students into our program. A gift to the Chemistry Department Fund would aid our efforts to maintain a top notch weekly graduate seminar program that brings chemists and biochemists from around the world to the department to present their research and interact with our students and faculty. I hope you will consider making a contribution to these funds. To see a complete listing of the Departments funds and to make a donation, please go to http://www.chem.sc.edu/DonationPage.asp
Ferry Recognized for Undergraduate Teaching

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry congratulates Dr. John L. Ferry for receiving a 2012 Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award. Ferry is the ninth Chemistry faculty member to be awarded this recognition since the award began in 1992.

Ferry’s classroom teaching includes freshman chemistry (111 and 112) but much more often is in the Analytical sequence, including Quantitative Analysis (321), Instrumental Analysis (621), Environmental Chemistry (623) and recently Chemistry 701A, the graduate seminar for students in analytical research. His classes are known for combining topical applications of analytical chemistry with emerging research, such as the recent module focused on the chemistry of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that was a topic of his environmental course. He is particularly excited about his new role directing the analytical seminar series and has been having fun helping students with new ways to think about sharing their work, including the well-known “elevator talks” often requested of students during their interviews. He has given presentations at several professional meetings about strategies for teaching environmental and analytical chemistry for both upper and lower level courses.

Ferry also teaches undergraduate and graduate students research methods in environmental analytical chemistry in his laboratory. His undergraduate students have earned recognition for their work with three NSF pre-doctoral fellowships, two EPA STAR fellowships and a Udall fellowship, as well as numerous other awards at the State and University level. His research on how the environment responds to and recovers from pollutants has been funded by the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense. He has pioneered the application of combinatorial methodology to environmental chemistry and has worked with his students to develop one of the only high throughput environmental modeling labs in the world. His students have also enjoyed interacting with his collaborators at the Coastal Center for Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research (NOAA, in Charleston), in the Arnold School of Public Health and several other colleges and universities.

Reger Wins National Awards

Carolina Distinguished Professor Dan Reger has recently received two national awards. Elected to fellowship in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), fellows are recognized for “meritorious efforts to advance science.” He was also awarded the 2012 Charles H. Stone Award, presented annually by the Charlotte/Piedmont Section of the American Chemical Society to the most outstanding chemist in the southeastern United States.

Professor Reger has been on the faculty at the University of South Carolina for over 40 years. A total of 31 Ph. D. students have graduated working in his laboratory, producing 214 refereed research papers (98 since 2001) in organometallic, coordination and supramolecular chemistry. Currently, Professor Reger’s research funding comes from the National Science Foundation and Department of Defense; past funding came from the National Institute of Health, Department of Energy, Petroleum Research Fund and the Research Corporation. He has taught over 5000 students in General Chemistry and is co-author with Scott Goode, professor, and Edward E. Mercer, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, of the text used in that course, “Chemistry, Principles and Practice.” He also served as Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry for seven years and Associate Dean of the College of Science and Math for two years.

Daniel Reger
Sandipan Dawn: Valuable Experience

At professional meetings and in post-doctoral interviews, Sandipan has been asked what has made the USC Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry so special. He focuses primarily on three things: a) cutting edge research in every aspect of chemistry, b) world class equipment centered in the GSRC building, and c) externally sourced funding. He joined USC in Summer 2008 as a Murtiashaw Scholar for the organic chemistry division, which provided him a good opportunity to become familiar with the labs, as well as to begin his career as a researcher. Sandipan learned in-depth advanced chemistry, both in his specialization, organic chemistry, and in areas outside organic chemistry in the first year. Sandipan appreciated receiving the Dr. Joseph W. Bouknight Award, which provides encouragement to outstanding departmental Teaching Assistants. Sandipan credits the graduate school with his encouragement to outstanding departmental teaching assistants.

Samuel Tenney: Reflections

I started my graduate work at USC on a Copenhaver Fellowship during the summer of 2007 and the Jerome D. Odom Fellowship during my first year. I obtained my Ph.D. under the supervision of Dr. Donna A. Chen. My research projects focused on utilizing a wide variety of surface science techniques to study supported bimetallic nanoparticles that have shown potential for applications in heterogeneous catalysis and industry. The results have lead to several publications and presentations at scientific conferences, in addition to a couple of awards that I received for the work that was conducted in our group. I was awarded a Dorothy M. and Earl S. Hoffman Travel Grant and named as a finalist for the Morton M. Traum Surface Science Student Award during the AVS 59th International Symposium and Exhibition. I also received several awards from USC and the department of Chemistry and Biochemistry for the various projects that I worked on during my time at USC. I was awarded the College of Arts and Science’s Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship and the Hiram and Lawanda Allen Award for Excellence in Chemistry by the department. In addition, I was named a recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student Award by USC’s Breakthrough magazine and placed second in the oral presentation group during USC’s Graduate Student Day. The awards and research funding, along with the support of the department, my committee members, and my advisor allowed me to secure a postdoctoral position at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). I’m currently working as a postdoctoral research associate in the Center for Functional Nanomaterials at BNL. I oversee the ambient pressure X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (AP-XPS) endstation at the National Synchrotron Light Source, which has drawn significant attention from users both in industry and academia. I’ve also had the opportunity to work on similar systems at the Advanced Light Source at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Andrea Pascui Gains Accolades

Andrea Eva Pascui, a fourth year Ph.D. candidate specializing in Inorganic Chemistry, was awarded the Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship for the year 2012-2013. The $25,000 award supports the final stage of her dissertation studies. Under the direction of Dr. Daniel L. Reger, she studies magnetic interactions in transition metal coordination compounds, with an emphasis on structure-property relationships. She works with a dinuclear metallacylic system that brings two metal centers into close proximity, through a small anionic bridge (halide, hydroxide, cyanide), to enhance the “communication” between the metal centers. The overall structure of the molecules is designed to remain constant upon modification of the metal-metal distance, but is flexible enough to allow single systematic modifications at specific sites. This way, trends are established between the changing structural parameter and the magnetic behavior of the compounds—bringing scientists one step closer to the rational design of molecular magnets and future applications in nanocomputing.

In additions to publications in renowned scientific journals, she presented her work at the 243rd ACS Conference in San Diego, while the latest developments will be communicated at the 245th ACS meeting in New Orleans. Her participation at these conferences was made possible through several awards: Durig and USC Graduate School travel awards as well as the Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship.

Graduate Students on the Move
In June 2012, Dr. W. Stephen Kistler retired from the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry after 37 years of service. Born in Virginia, but raised north of the Mason Dixon Line, he attended Princeton University and then obtained his doctorate from the Division of Medical Sciences at Harvard, where he was introduced to the regulation of gene expression in bacteria. Beginning with postdoctoral training at the University of Chicago, he became interested in the area of spermatogenesis. Describing this choice he stated, “Along with all other biological creatures, we come endowed with the remarkable ability to make more of ourselves. Clearly this process has worked well on the whole, yet relative to the desires in individual cases the process can work either too well, or not at all.” Feeling at the time that the male had received little attention, Dr. Kistler developed a life-long interest in the biochemical intricacies of reproduction from the male side, which has merged with his original interests in regulation of gene expression.

Lured back to the South in 1975, Dr. Kistler joined the department at a dynamic time when the biochemistry section was expanding due to its new teaching role in the fledgling School of Medicine. He was joined a year later by his wife, Malathi Kistler, whom he had met when she joined the same research laboratory in Chicago. Together they forged a successful research collaboration that lasted through 33 years of continuous funding support from the National Institutes of Health, with occasional grants from the March of Dimes and the National Science Foundation. During this period they consider themselves privileged to have participated in the technological revolutions that allowed studies that began on proteins isolated by classic methods to progress to study both the actual genes that specify these proteins as well to identify factors that control their expression.

Over the years the laboratory contributed to two related areas. One consisted of characterizing certain proteins and genes that are regulated by the male sex hormone testosterone in the accessory glands of the male reproductive tract. The other was in the characterization of novel chromosomal structural proteins that help prepare male chromosomes to form the very compact nucleus of the mature sperm cell. Study of the control of the gene from one of these proteins has just recently led to identification of a gene-regulatory protein that serves as a master regulator of spermatogenesis. It is hoped that these studies, though carried out at a basic science level, will help contribute to analysis and treatment of infertility. These studies have been published in over 60 publications and presented in many professional meetings and conferences.

Graduate students have been critical members of this research program. In total, 14 PhD’s and three Masters degrees were awarded under Dr. Kistler’s direction. In addition to the American Chemical Society, he continues as a member of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, The Society for the Study of Reproduction, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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Dr. Donna Chen: A Leader in Research

Donna Chen, Professor, has been recognized as one of the leading young nano-scientists in the world. She was one of five sponsored by the National Science Foundation to speak at the Young Chemists Workshop in Nanoscience in Gothenburg, Sweden in 2003, which was organized by the Chair of the Nobel Prize Committee, and was also the recipient of the 2008 Governor’s Young Researcher Award for Excellence in Science. She has given over 50 invited talks at universities and conferences across the globe, including meetings in Brazil, Sweden, and the Netherlands, as well as at Gordon Research Conferences and American Chemical Society Meetings. She was the keynote speaker for the Department of Energy’s inaugural meeting of the Center for Functional Nanomaterials at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Dr. Chen’s research is focused on the development of superior commercial catalysts based on precious metals such as gold, platinum, rhodium, and ruthenium. Recently, Dr. Chen was honored by receiving the 2012 International Precious Metals Institute Carol Tyler Award. This national award is presented to a woman who demonstrates outstanding achievement in the field of precious metals, either in industry or academia. Her work with precious metal nanoparticles has received support from the Petroleum Research Fund, The Army Research Office, The National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, and NASA. In total, Dr. Chen has received over $2.7 million in research dollars from 20 different grants.

In addition to being a prominent researcher, Dr. Chen is a celebrated professor in the Department of Chemistry. She has mentored 15 graduate students, 10 postdoctoral students, 13 undergraduate students, and 2 high school students, and many of her former students have gone on to excel in their fields as a result of her guidance. For her excellence in the classroom, Dr. Chen was awarded the 2010 Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award. The Department is proud to have Dr. Donna Chen on its faculty, and looks forward to seeing future accolades resulting from her research.
Angel Receives National Research Awards and Honors

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry takes great pride in congratulating Dr. S. Michael Angel for receiving several recent awards and honors. At the 2012 FACSS/SCIX International conference, Michael was honored with a session in his honor and a plenary lecture recognizing his research accomplishments. Other recent awards and honors include the 2012 Applied Spectroscopy William F. Meggars Award, the 2012 ACS South Carolina Chemist of the Year Award, and the 2011 FACSS/SCIX Innovation Award; he was also elected as Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2011. In addition, Angel won a 2011-2112 Mortar Board “Excellence in Teaching” Award. He previously won the 2009 USC Educational Foundation Research Award for Science, Mathematics and Engineering. Michael has been the Fred M. Weissman Palmetto Chair of Chemistry since 2004, and a full professor since 2001 in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of South Carolina, where he started his academic career in 1993.

Angel is a world leader in the development of in situ, remote and standoff spectroscopic measurements. The excellence of his research has been widely recognized, both nationally and internationally, by invitations to give talks, including plenary and award-session talks, at major national and international conferences, invitations to write review articles for major analytical journals (Analytical Chemistry, Applied Spectroscopy, Spectrochimica Acta A, and others) and book chapters, and selection of his papers as cover articles in Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy. Recently he has focused on measurement techniques for use in extreme environments like the deep ocean and planetary surfaces. Michael has collaborators all over the world, and he even won a 2006 Directorate Award from The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for collaborative work he did on detection of high explosives. Michael works hard to bring research funding to the University and the State, successfully garnering almost $7 million to support his research group, mostly from the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Energy. Angel has been continuously funded by NSF since 2003 with two main grants running simultaneously for several years (currently up for renewal), and has had as many as 3 NSF grants running simultaneously.

Angel is committed to producing the very best students and promoting their scientific careers. Michael often teaches freshman classes of more than 250 students. He keeps these classes lively by showing his “picture of the day,” performing chemistry demos, and calling out students individually by name to ask them questions. Angel’s evaluations in these big classes are always very positive, as is evidenced by his receiving the 2011-2112 Mortar Board Excellence in Teaching Award. In addition to his classes, Angel has mentored students at all levels, including 10 postdoctoral fellows, more than 45 graduate students (5 currently), and more than a dozen undergraduate research students. He has graduated 36 students from his research group, including 16 Ph.D. students and 11 M.S. students since his first Ph.D. was granted in 1997, and 11 of those students have gone on to University positions. The presence of Prof. Angel's students throughout academia and in high-profile research positions is a real asset and is building the reputation of our department and the entire university.

Dr. Hui Wang and Dr. Greytak Join the Department

Hui Wang joined the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry as a tenure-track assistant professor in 2010. He received his BS with honors in chemistry at Nanjing University, China, and his Ph.D. in physical chemistry at Rice University under the supervision of Prof. Naomi J. Halas. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas at Austin with the late Prof. Paul F. Barbara. The central theme of his independent research at USC is to use physical chemistry approaches to tackle challenging problems in both materials science and molecular biology. Since 2010, his group has been focusing on the geometry-property relationship of novel photonic nanostructures as well as single-molecule spectroscopic studies of complex, heterogeneous biomolecular processes. At USC, he teaches Physical Biochemistry (CHEM 545), Spectroscopy and Molecular Structures (CHEM 747), and General Chemistry (CHEM 111). He lives with his wife, Min Zhang, and his daughter, Alice. The Wang family enjoys fishing over the weekends and Alice particularly loves the animals at the Riverbank Zoo.

Andrew B. Greytak joined the USC faculty as a tenure-track assistant professor in the summer of 2010. A physical chemist by training, Dr. Greytak’s research is centered on semiconductor nanostructures. A native of the Boston area, Dr. Greytak received his BS in chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After completing his PhD at Harvard University under the supervision of Prof. Charles M. Lieber, he returned to MIT for a postdoctoral fellowship with Profs. Daniel G. Nocera and Moungi G. Bawendi. At USC, the Greytak group studies semiconductor nanocrystals (also known as quantum dots), including measurements of nanocrystal ligand exchange and shell growth reactions that are pertinent to the development of highly capable nanocrystal fluorophores for bio-imaging applications. In a second focus area, the Greytak lab uses microscopy, spectroscopy, and electronic transport measurements to explore the role of the surface in dictating the properties of one-dimensional semiconductor nanowires, with a view towards applications in solar energy capture via photovoltaics and photocatalysis. He collaborates with several groups at USC in chemistry and in electrical engineering, including the USC Nanocenter. He lives in Columbia with his wife, biologist Sarah R. Greytak, and their children Alex and John. They enjoy walking outdoors and visiting the local farmers markets.
Alumnus Thomas Moore Named USC Upstate Chancellor

When Tom Moore left Jerry Odom’s lab in the USC Chemistry Department in August of 1978 with a newly-earned Ph.D., no one would have predicted that 33 years later he would be Chancellor of USC Upstate, the largest senior campus of the USC System. During the span of those three decades, Moore was on the faculty of three colleges/universities and held administrative positions at the department, college, and university levels. While he has changed institutions and positions, Tom’s career has always focused on promoting the highest level of student learning and development.

Tom and his wife Marsha left Columbia in 1978 for Statesboro, GA, to begin his academic career as assistant professor of inorganic chemistry at Georgia Southern College (now University). He remained on the Georgia Southern faculty until 1981. In that year, the Moores, including son Charlie who was born in August 1980, spent the winter quarter in Athens at the University of Georgia, where Tom taught one chemistry class and did research in Bruce King’s lab. In August, they moved to Birmingham, AL, where Tom began his second faculty position as assistant professor of chemistry at Birmingham-Southern College.

After five successful and productive years in Birmingham, the call back to South Carolina came in August of 1986, and the Moores (now four in number with the addition of second son Kirk in October of 1984) came to Rock Hill and Winthrop College (now University), where Tom was appointed chair of the department of chemistry and physics.

Winthrop and Rock Hill were home for the Moores for 25 years. At Winthrop, Tom quickly developed rapport and respect across the Winthrop campus and became involved in initiatives and issues beyond his home department. He helped design and deliver a Master of Liberal Arts program and directed the program for 10 years. In February of 2001 he became Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Winthrop, and in July of 2003 he was named Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty. Eight years as a chief academic officer prepared Tom to provide institutional leadership at the Chancellor level, and in May of 2011, USC President Harris Pastides presented Tom Moore as the next Chancellor of USC Upstate.

Dr. Moore took office on August 1, 2011, and on April 13, 2012 was officially invested as Chancellor. Dr. Jerry Odom had the honor of introducing Tom at his investiture, and as everyone would expect, Dr. Odom told some interesting stories about Tom as a graduate student whether Tom wanted to hear them or not. He said that he is very proud of Tom and all of us in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry are as well. Congratulations, Tom, we’re proud of you and pleased to have you back in the USC family.

Contribute to the USC Chemist

If you’re an alumnus of the chemistry department and would like to share the story of your life in chemistry beyond USC, please feel free to write us at:

USC Chemist
C/o Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry,
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208.
chemweb@mailbox.sc.edu

We look forward to hearing from you!
**STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS**

2012 Science & Engineering Fair Chemistry Award Winners

**Junior Division**

1st Place
Benjamin Fechter

2nd Place
August Cole

3rd Place
Ian Bain

Honorable Mention
Matthew Greene

**Senior Division**

1st Place
Benjamin Fechter

2nd Place
David Hodge

3rd Place
Courtney Noh

Honorable Mention
Bushra Islam

**Undergraduate Awards**

ACS Division of Inorganic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry:
Stephen Timko

Algeron Sydney Sullivan Award:
Nicholas Riley

Alpha Epsilon Deta Induction:
Adam Griffith
Brent Kosher
Lauren McManus
Zachary Rhines
Katelyn Stahl
Jessica Taylor

American Institute of Chemists Foundation Award:
Nicholas Riley

Analytical Chemistry Award of the American Chemical Society:
Daniel Ray

Betty R. Fundenberg Undergraduate Biomedical Research Award:
Quyen Nguyen
Shikha Patel

College of Arts and Sciences Rising Senior Award:
Elisa Bonnin

CRC Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award:
Nora Banaszek

CRC Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award for Honors Chemistry:
Kyla Risko

Discovery Day Awards
1st place in oral presentation in Science, Engineering & Computing:
Stephen Timko

1st place in poster presentation in Biology & Biomedical Sciences II:
Jonathan Motts

1st place in poster presentation in Chemistry & Biochemistry:
Alexis Keller

1st place in poster presentation in Leadership:
Ben Muller

2nd place in poster presentation in Biology & Biomedical Sciences I:
Allison Manuel

2nd place in poster presentation in Chemistry & Biochemistry:
Lauren Stogner

2nd place in poster presentation in Leadership:
Elisa Bonnin

Honorable mention in oral presentation in Science, Engineering & Computing:
Christopher Pinion

Fullbright Scholar:
Jacqueline Cantwell

George Armstrong Wauchope Award:
Stephen Timko

Harper Award:
Adam Griffith

Hiram and Lawanda Allen Award for Excellence in Chemistry:
Christopher Pinion
Jui-ting Hsieh

Hypercube Scholar Award:
Brandi Bailey

Joseph W. and Julia L. Bouknight Scholarship:
Kristy DeZenko

Joseph W. Bouknight Teaching Award:
Joshua Hubbard
Matt Rorro
Brad Sieckman

Magellan Scholar Fellowship Award:
John He
Michael Crooks
Alexis Keller
Ryan Sankovic

Merck Index Award:
Gerry Koons

NOAA Hollings Scholar:
Drew DeLorenzo

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship:
Jacqueline Cantwell
Stephen Timko

Outstanding Senior Award:
Rohail Kazi
Benjamin Muller
Nicholas Riley
Lauren Stephens
Stephen Timko

Outstanding Undergraduate in Marine Science:
Stephen Timko

South Carolina Section of the ACS Outstanding Undergraduate:
Jacqueline Cantwell
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS (cont.)

T.O.A.S.T. Award:
Whitney Cofield
Darrius Dunbar
Kellye Landrum

Tommy L. & Fred E. Hickman, III Scholarship:
Todd Chapman, Jr

Traci J. Heincelman Memorial Scholarship:
Drew DeLorenzo

Victor Laurie Junior Year Scholarship:
Jessica Kaczmarek

Victor Laurie Senior Year Scholarship:
Nathan Trenor

Who's Who Among Students In American Colleges and Universities:
Jacqueline Cantwell
Christine Gennosa
Rohail Kazi
Alexis Keller
Benjamin Muller
Lauren Stephens
Stephen Timko

Graduate Awards
2012 POLY-International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry Travel Award:
Christopher Hardy

ACS Award for Student Poster Presentation in the Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry:
Quyen Nguyen

Cancer Research Travel Award:
Sharmistha Saha
Pongkwan Sitasuwan
Khaléh Thomas

Charles F. Murtiashaw Fellowship:
Kayley Fishel

Coblentz Society Student Award:
Nathaniel Gomer

Copenhaver Fellowship:
Molly Burnip
Zhaobo Fan
Lauren Grabowski
Jason Hoffman

Cover for the Journal of Physical Chemistry:
Li Zhang

Cover of Journal for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry, September 2011:
Andrew Lee

Cover of Journal of Materials Chemistry, June 2011:
Laying Wu

Deans Dissertation Fellowship:
Michael Geer
Nathaniel Gomer
Andrea Pascui

Eastman Analytical Travel Award:
Michael Geer
Lei Wang

Excellence in Graduate Polymer Research Symposium:
Christopher Hardy

Graduate School Travel Award:
Min Cai
Alexander Gulledge
Christopher Hardy
Xiaoning Li
James Mazzuca
Max Molle
Andrea Pascui
Sharmistha Saha
Rachel Severance
Pongkwan Sitasuwan
Shae Vaughn
Anand Viswanath
Perry Wilbon
Jiuyang Zhang

Graduate Student Day 1st place, Poster Presentation in Physical Sciences Group #10:
Shae Vaughn

2nd place, Oral Presentation in Physical Sciences Group #1:
Samuel Tenney

2nd place, Oral Presentation in Physical Sciences Group #10:
Nathaniel Gomer

Graduate Student Symposium Senior Achievement Awards for Excellence in Chemistry and Biochemistry
Guy F. Lipscomb Award:
Nate Gomer

Hiram & Lawanda Allen Award:
Samuel Tenney

IRIX Pharmaceutical Award:
Sandipan Dawn

Oakwood Product Poster Award:
Kinkini Roy

Hoechst Fellowship:
Brandon Litwin

International Precious Metals Institute (IPMI) Metro NY Chapter Student Award:
Qiang Zhang

IRIX/David L. Coffen Fellowship:
Shawna Tazik

James R. Durig Graduate Student Travel Award:
Ravish Akhani
Min Cai
William Chance
YuYuan Dai
Xiaoning Li
Andrea Pascui
Cory Read
Perry Wilbon

Jerome D. Odom Fellowship:
Bryan Nichols

Jerome D. Odom/Peyton C. Teague Fellowship:
David Arenivar

Joseph W. Bouknight Teaching Award Fall 2011:
Fiona Oxsher
Alex Gulledge
Jeffery Hayat
Hao Jing
Vincenzo DiSantis
Pakritsadang Kaewsuya
Spring 2012:
Agota Debreczeni
Vincenzo DiSantis
Nate Gomer
Pravin Paudel
Rachel Severance
Yi Shen
Jing Sun
Qianga Zhang

Leon Shechter Summer Fellowship:
Perry Wilbon

Presidential Doctoral Fellowship:
Stephanie DeJohn
Audrey Duke

Students for the Advancement of Chemical Sciences (SACS) Officers:
Andrew Leitner, president and safety officer
Matthew Di Carmine, vice-president
Alex Gulledge, secretary
Perry Wilbon, treasurer

T.O.A.S.T. Award:
Lisa Celeste
Alex Gulledge
Andrew Leitner
Andrea Pascui

Chemistry BS Graduates
*ACS Certified
August 2011
Lindsey Allen
Misha Chiles
Jeremy Rhodes

December 2011
William Brittain
Michael Fernandez
Clayton Galloway*
Aaron Kinney*
William Petroff
Aherial Polite
Neal Trulock
Ross Wigington

May 2011
Allae Abu-Selma
Brandy Bailey*
Karissa Bailey
Candace Broussard*
Jessica Burch
Samantha Burdette
Chad Burton
Gray Byers
Jacqueline Cantwell*
Robert Clark
Erin Davis*
Eric Fulmer*
Hannah Gamble
Preston Helmy
Crystal Hightower
Brandon Kats*
Alexis Keller*
Boyd Lever*
Ashley Maharana
Kalpesh Mistry
Benjamin Muller
Quyen Nguyen*
Rhail Rashid Kazi
Heidi Reno*
Amanda Rickher*
Nicholas Riley*
Joseph Runkles
Lailah Sabree
Chavis Stackhouse*
Lauren Stephens*
Bradley Terry
Stephan Timko*
Narmina Tyger*
Nanastasia Welnick
Eve Williams
Karli Williamson
Amberley Winburn
Allen Winburn*

Arief Wibowo
Laying Wu
Yuwen Xu
Qingbiao Zhao

M.S.
Jessica Frankel
Hao Jing

December 2011 Graduates
Ph.D.
Sean Kern
Haoan Li
Jie Liu
Yu Qian
Atri Rungta
Jing Sun
Nisaraporn Suthiwangcharoen
Yun Wu

M.S.
Brett Cagg
Rebekkah Dudgeon
Kevin Sapp

May 2012 Graduates
Ph.D.
Lesa Celeste
Sandipan Dawn
Agota Debreczeni
Pakritsadang Kaewsuya
Kinkini Roy
Rachel Severance
Shae Brown
Suning Wang

M.S.
Fang Fang
Mara Levine
Sarah Murphy
Katherine Philipkosky

List of Graduates 2011-2012
August 2011 Graduates
Ph.D.
Oscar Cabrices
Harsimranjit Chahal
Laura Hill
Megan Pearl
Harsimranjit Chahal (Ph.D., 2011) holds a post-doctorate position in the Biochemistry Department at Rutgers University. She is expecting a daughter in December 2012. Harsimranjit was a student of Dr. F. Wayne Outen.

Victoria Samples (B.S., 2011) is working at Kior in Houston, TX as a Research & Development Chemist. She was a research student of Dr. Ken Shimizu at USC.

Jing Sun (Ph.D., 2011) is a visiting Professor of Chemistry at Georgia Southern University. Jing was advised by Dr. Thompson and Dr. Lavigne.

Peter Barber (Ph.D., 2010) is Material Science Group Leader, MOV Technology at Hubbell Power Systems in Aiken, SC. He is taking classes at USC for a Master of Business Administration degree. Peter was advised by Dr. zur Loye while at Carolina.

Christopher L. Cooper (Ph.D., 2010) is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Georgia. Dr. Sodetz was Christopher’s advisor.

Huong Nguyen (B.S., 2010) received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. Huong was advised by Dr. Goode.

Daliangelis Nunez-Millard (M.S., 2010) is currently a lecturer at in the Department of Chemistry and Physics at Coastal Carolina University. She was advised by Dr. Twinning.

Patrick Hankins (B.S., 2009) received an NSF Graduate Fellowship.

Gabrielle Ross (B.S., 2009) was accepted into the MUSC Dental School.

Matthew Blatnick (Ph.D., 2008) was recently awarded funding in a competitive selection for a Pfizer Global Research and Development (PGRD) postdoctoral fellowship. He was a student of Dr. Baynes.

Heather Flick (B.S., 2008) is currently working at Aveo Oncology as a Research Associate II in the Protein Biochemistry group.

Kevin Yehl (B.S., 2008) was awarded the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. Kevin was a student under Dr. Murphy.

Tara (Hansen) Korkowski (Ph.D., 2007) is the New Product Introduction Leader for H.B. Fuller in St. Paul, MN. She and her husband Steve Korkowski reside in Woodbury, MN. Tara was advised by Dr. zur Loye while she was at USC.

Tobin Nelson (Ph.D., 2007) is an assistant professor at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, OK. He received the Benjamin Wall Ingram III Young Alumnus Award from Francis Marion University and the Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award from Oak Ridge Associated Universities. Toby was a student of Dr. Lavigne.

Bryn Reinecke (M.S. 2007) competed on Jeopardy and won $12,000. Bryn was student of Dr. Reger’s when she was at Carolina.

Ivy Tran (B.S., 2007) is a Product Development Chemist at Valspar.

James Ruff (Ph.D., 2006) is a RD&I Chemist at AzkoNobel. James was advised by Dr. Scrivens while he was at USC.

Heather Voegtle Clontz (Ph.D., 2002) is an Associate Professor of Chemistry at Wingate University. She married Danny Clontz on January 14, 2012. Heather was advised by Dr. Dawson.

Ruya R. Ozer (Ph.D., 2002) is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Tulsa. Ruya was a student of Dr. Ferry.

Alan Marshall (B.S., 2001) has been elected a Shareholder in the Dority & Manning law firm. Alan currently serves as the President of the Carolina Patent, Trademark & Copyright Law Association where he has served on the Board since 2006.

Alexander B. Morgan (Ph.D., 1998) works in the University of Dayton Research Institute in Dayton, OH as a group leader and distinguished research scientist. He was advised by Dr. Tour.

Delana Niven (Ph.D., 1997) was appointed Interim Assistant Dean at Armstrong Atlantic State University. Delana was advised by Dr. Angel.

Paul Gregory Van Patten (Ph.D., 1996) was awarded an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship to spend a year at the University of Hamburg working with Horst Weller on developing biocompatible quantum dots. He has also become Chair of the Chemistry Department at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN. Paul was advised by Dr. Myrick.

Peter Platteborze (Ph.D., 1995) is a Lieutenant Colonel in the active duty Army. He currently serves as the Army’s Forensic Drug Testing Program Manager stationed at Fort Sam Houston, TX. Peter was a student of Dr. Sodetz.

Scott Mason (Ph.D., 1994) was named the 2012 Great Teacher at the University of Mount Union. He and his wife Sheryl live in Alliance, OH with their 4 children. Scott was a student of Dr. Reger.

John Edwards (Ph.D., 1990) is operating an independent NMR-based business, Process NMR Associates. John was advised by Dr. Ellis.
Tracie Sheehan (Ph.D., 1990) is the ARYZTA Corporation Vice President of Food Safety & Quality Assurance. She resides in Kiawah Island, SC. Tracie was advised by Dr. Durig while at Carolina.

Adrian Sepcic (Ph.D., 1990) is a product scientist with Dr. Pepper/ Snapple Company. His wife Kelly Hall Sepcic (Ph.D., 1990) is Vice President of Research and Development at Frito Lay. They live in Frisco, TX with their two daughters.

Anthony Boccanfuso (Ph.D., 1988) was given the State Service Award in honor of 10 years of service to SC.

Thomas Dzomba (B.S., 1988) is the Assistant Director for Air Quality and Smoke Management with the USDA Forest Service Northern Region in Missoula, MT.

Richard L. Pearce (B.S., 1981; J.D., 1984) is currently City Manager for Aiken, SC.

Angela McCaskill Roberts (M.S., 1979) serves as a Chemistry, Math, and ESL tutor to students. She and her husband Gene Roberts reside in Savannah, GA with their three sons.

Sean O’Connor (M.S., 1978) is Senior Lecturer & Coordinator of Undergraduate Organic Chemistry Laboratories in the Department of Chemistry at Clemson University.

William M. “Pete” Peterson (Ph.D., 1973) is the General Manager of the US office of Ivium Technologies, a Dutch manufacturer of electrochemical instrumentation. William was a student of Dr. Mercer.

Daniel J. Antion (Ph.D., 1969) was elected an ACS Fellow in 2011. He was a student of Dr. Durig at Carolina.

Lawanda Allen and Hiram Allen, III (B.S., 1969) were both named College of Arts and Sciences Alumni/Friend of the Month in February 2011.

William Breazeale (Ph. D., 1968) was named an American Chemical Society (ACS) Fellow. Dr. Breazeale was a student under Dr. Bonner.

Bill Green (Ph.D., 1967) joined the Florida State University Physics Department as a lecturer on cosmology. Bill was a student of Dr. Durig while he was at USC.

William Breazer (Ph.D., 1966) was given the 2013 Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society. He was a student of Dr. Bonner while he was at USC.

James D. Ham received the College of Arts and Sciences Classified Staff Excellence Award.

George Handy was given the “Mortar Board Award for Outstanding Teaching USC Alpha Chapter of Mortar Board”

Staff Awards

State Service Awards

Harriet Bradham, 30 years of service
James D. Ham, 20 years of service
Diane Jackson, 30 years of service
Virginia Rogers, 30 years of service
Mark D. Smith, 10 years of service
Tenure Track Faculty Appointments
Dr. Stephen Kistler, Distinguished Emeritus Professor
Dr. John Ferry, full professor
Dr. Qian Wang, full professor
Dr. F. Wayne Outten, associate professor
Dr. Linda Shimizu, associate professor

Other Appointments
Dr. Thomas Vogt, Associate Vice President for Research for the Science, Engineering and Mathematics Areas
Dr. Hans-Conrad zur Loye, Associate Dean for Research for the College of Arts and Sciences; Editor, Journal of Alloys and Compounds; ORNL SNS/HFIR User Group Executive Committee
Dr. Richard Adams, Reappointed Carolina Distinguished Professor
Dr. James Sodetz, Reappointed Carolina Distinguished Professor.

Faculty Awards and Honors
Dr. S. Michael Angel was named an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellow, and won the Applied Spectroscopy Meggers Award, 2012 for the Paper Published in the Journal Applied Spectroscopy, the FACSS Innovation Award, the Mortar Board Award for Outstanding Teaching, the South Carolina Section ACS Outstanding Chemist Award and His paper together with Nathaniel R. Gomer, Shiv K. Sharma, and Chris McKay was a featured cover article of Applied Spectroscopy, February 2012 issue.

Dr. Brian Benicewicz together with Dr. Brandon M. Cash, and Lei Wang had their paper selected as a cover article in the Journal of Polymer Science Part A: Polymer Chemistry, June 2012 issue.

Dr. Donna Chen was awarded the International Precious Metals Institute (IPMI) Carol Tyler Award.

Dr. John Lavigne won the 2012 Teva USA Scholar Award and received the Mortar Board Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Dr. Lukasz Lebioda was named an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellow.

Dr. Thomas Makris attended the Cottrell Scholars Collaborative New Faculty Development Workshop

Dr. F. Wayne Outten was awarded the Ada B. Thomas Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award and named a USC Breakthrough Rising Star.

Dr. Daniel Reger was awarded the Charles H. Stone Award.

Dr. Chuanbing Tang was appointed Associate to the Committee on ACS Project Seed.

Dr. Hui Wang and Li Zhang were featured on the cover of the Journal of Physical Chemistry, September 2011 issue.

Dr. Qian Wang along with Dr. Hans-Conrad zur Loye and Laying Wu had their paper featured on the cover of Journal of Materials Chemistry, June 2011 issue. His paper along with Andrew Lee, was selected as a journal cover for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry, September 2011 issue.

Dr. Hans-Conrad zur Loye was named an ACS Fellow, was awarded the Southern Chemist Award for 2011, and was featured on the cover of Journal of Materials Chemistry, June 2011 issue. He also won a University of South Carolina Trustee Professorship Award.

State Service Awards
Dr. Michael Myrick, 20 years of service
Dr. Vitaly Rassolov, 10 years of service
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