

Note from the Chair

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Editors: Skip Brenzovich, Deborah Duncan



Greetings from Salem! I am glad to tell you that the department had another strong year this past year. We continue to focus on student learning and to emphasize involving students in our research. Our chemistry and biochemistry majors presented their research results at every possible on-campus showcase. They also gave talks and posters at regional meetings like MARCUS, VAS, and the VBRS undergraduate poster session. Three of our student collaborators (Jon Perkins, Casey Wojtera, and Reeve Aguayo) presented posters at the national ACS meeting in New Orleans in April. Two more (Jed Curtis and James Lee) presented at the Mercury Conference, and Maura Belanger presented at the National Meeting of the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in Boston. Student travel to national meetings continues to be a priority of our department.

The College recognized Jeremy Johnson (chemistry major, URAP with Vern Miller, and Goldwater Scholar) and Kayla Muncy (biology major and URAP with Tim Johann) as co-Valedictorians. Both of these students worked for four years in our research program, and it has been a joy to watch their growth as scientists. In the fall, Jeremy will begin an MD/PhD program at the University of Kentucky, and Kayla will start veterinary school at Virginia Tech.

Our faculty were also busy as scholars this past year. Four of us presented at two different national meetings, and Vern Miller, Cathy Sarisky, Tim Johann, Skip Brenzovich, and I had items published this year. Ben Huddle and Jack Steehler submitted a manuscript to the *Journal of Chemical Education*, and all of the faculty have ongoing writing projects. Cathy Sarisky was named a Roanoke College Faculty Scholar, a three-year award that will give her more time to pursue her research agenda. We celebrate that our scholarship is carried out with our students. We mentored 15 students in the summer of 2012, 20 students during the academic year, and 14 students this summer (including two Roanoke Summer Scholars).

Dr. Vern Miller retired at the end of this year. Vern came to Roanoke College in 1976 and has faithfully served the Chemistry Department and the College for 37 years. He has developed and nurtured a research program that has produced over 70 student independent study projects (including two in Physics) and 37 presentations at national and regional professional meetings. His publication record stretches from 1966 to this year when he contributed a chapter in an ACS monograph on using 2-dimensional NMR techniques in undergraduate labs. His record of service to the Chemistry department is even more impressive. His consistent and tender care of the department's instruments has been fundamental to one of the department's strengths, training our students in modern analytical skills. As a teacher, he was among the earliest adopters of new technologies to improve teaching, from the PC to PowerPoint to advanced Chemistry software, and has worked tirelessly to bring computer interfaces to the data acquisition in our Chemistry teaching labs. At Roanoke College Vern taught 14 different lecture courses and 15 different lab courses, four of which were in Physics, that impacted more than 4000 students. He has worked tirelessly and patiently with our students, especially those who were struggling. We will miss Vern. When he is asked whether he wants cherry pie or chocolate pie for dessert, he simply answers, "Yes, with lots of ice cream." Vern wants people to know that he has not "really" retired; he will be teaching four sections of organic lab in the coming academic year.

Dr. Egis Zilinskas joined the department as a Visiting Assistant Professor. He taught mostly in the General Chemistry curriculum (lectures and labs), but he contributed in organic, biochemistry, and inorganic courses, as well. His easy-going professionalism has made him a hit with students and faculty alike. We also conducted two successful tenure-track searches this year and look forward to new additions to the department this fall. Dr. Steve Hughes will bring a mix of physical and inorganic expertise, and Dr. Richard Keithley is slated to jump in by teaching our Instrumental Analysis and Environmental courses and labs.

In other faculty news, Dr. Sarisky and Dr. Johann received tenure this year and will start the coming year as newly minted Associate Professors. Dr. Jack Steehler and Dr. Gail Steehler have moved to the Administration Building. Dr. Jack is now the College's Director of Institutional Research, while Dr. Gail is serving a term as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and General Education. Dr. Huddle, though retired, will be coming back to teach General Chemistry again next year.

We had record numbers of students in our courses and labs this past year. This continued growth of student interest in chemistry and biochemistry is wonderful, but our general chemistry classes were bursting at the seams. In our organic curriculum, a focus has been on training students in 2D NMR as a tool for structure determination. This tool has become more routine in the broader chemistry community, and our department is ahead of the curve in incorporating it into the standard curriculum. In line with one of our long-range goals for the department, we continued to develop and implement greater experimental design in our labs, particularly in General Chemistry and Physical Chemistry.

Finally, let me say "Thank you!" to everyone who earmarked their donation to the Chemistry Department this past year. We continue to be blessed with alumni and friends who help us continue to build our program. All of these donations support student research and make a positive impact on our majors. Things are good at Dear Old Roanoke. We are working hard, and we are trying to have as much fun as we can while we work. Please keep in touch with us, by coming to Alumni Weekend, by stopping for a chat or lunch when you are in town, by sending us a holiday greeting, by emailing, or by posting on Facebook. Until we see you next, may you see the round-bottomed flask as half full.

Roanoke College Chemistry Department Newsletter

Meet Our New Faculty...



Egidijus Zilinskas

One of our new faculty members in the department is Egis Zilinskas, who joins us as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Originally from Lithuania, Egis completed his doctoral work at Montana State University - Bozeman, studying iron-containing proteins. After graduation, he briefly worked there as an adjunct professor and then spent one year at Hamilton College (upstate New York) as a visiting faculty member. Egis has been helping out our department across the curriculum, teaching courses from General Chemistry to Biochemistry and even Inorganic! He has started research in the department that continues his doctoral work, cloning various iron-containing proteins in an attempt to determine their structure and function. In his spare time, Egis likes to watch movies, read books, and go hiking.

Steve Hughes

Steve received his undergraduate degree in chemistry at Connecticut College where he first fell in love with materials chemistry studying microporous manganese oxides with Dr. Stanton Ching. After graduation Steve decided he was done with winter and went to the University of California, Berkeley for his doctorate, where he studied the synthesis and characterization of semiconductor nanocrystals in the Alivisatos group. With an emphasis on electron microscopy, Steve had the opportunity to work on research projects as varied as nanocrystal-based solar cells to biological labeling. Upon completing his doctorate, Steve joined a group out of Intel in launching SpectraWatt, a solar cell startup company outside of Portland, Oregon. There he worked with a team to integrate nanomaterials in novel ways to boost the performance of traditional silicon cells. After three years, Steve happily returned to academia as a visiting faculty member at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. In addition to teaching physical chemistry and instrumental methods, Steve began his undergraduate research program studying cadmium-free nanocrystals for LED phosphor replacements and catalysis, which he intends to continue at Roanoke. Having sampled the living conditions around much of the country, originally a Minnesotan, Steve is looking forward to moving back east and being closer to family in North Carolina and New York. When not in the classroom or lab, Steve can be found spending time outdoors with his family, preferably while flying kites.



Richard Keithley

Richard received his undergraduate degree in chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University, using chemometrics to understand illicit drug metabolism under Sarah Rutan. He went on to pursue a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry with R. Mark Wightman at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In addition to learning the true nature of excellence in basketball, while there he developed electrochemical-based microsensors and used them to measure neurotransmission in awake and behaving animals in real time. Richard then traveled to the promised land of college football, The University of Notre Dame, to postdoc with Norm Dovichi. There, Richard used capillary electrophoresis with ultra-sensitive detection (approximately 50 molecule detection limit) to study neuronal lipid metabolism on a single cell level. Rather than working alone, Richard mentored a team of talented undergraduates, and several of his papers include undergraduate co-authors. At Roanoke, Richard plans to weave his background in electrochemistry and separations together to study Nature's fundamental biochemical processes. When he manages to find spare time, Richard enjoys sitting outside reading a book and playing with his two cats, Smith & Wesson. Richard also loves to show off his Southern heritage, constantly cooking food for others that is incredibly unhealthy yet exquisitely decadent.



Vern Miller's Retirement

After an amazing 37 years with the department, we wish a heartfelt "Happy (Semi) Retirement" to Dr. Vern Miller. Over this time, Vern has been an amazing force within the department, teaching courses from Physics to Organic Chemistry lab. It is safe to say that the instrumentation within the department is functional due in large part to Dr. Miller's hard work. We will miss Dr. Miller's spirit and hard work with students, but are sure to find constant reminders of all of his accomplishments around the department for years to come.

During Alumni Weekend, alumni and friends turned out to wish Dr. Miller well and to celebrate with a Dr. Miller inspired ice cream sundae bar with over 20 different toppings! While he has officially retired from the department, Dr. Miller has agreed to come back to help out with his two true loves - organic lab and instrument maintenance. While his constant presence in the department will be missed, we wish him the best as he spends more time with his family.



Alumni Weekend

Alumni Weekend was held on April 12th - 14th, 2013. The Chemistry Department hosted a lecture by Joseph Stephens. Joe is a 2003 chemistry graduate. He gave a talk on "The Chemistry of Documents."



The Chemistry Department also held a reception to mark the retirement of Dr. Vernon Miller. An ice cream sundae bar was the featured food as anyone who knows Dr. Miller, knows how he loves ice cream.

Sarisky & Johann Tenure

Congratulations to Cathy Sarisky and Tim Johann for being awarded tenure and promotions to Associate Professors!

Cathy Sarisky joined the faculty at Roanoke College in 2007. She received her Ph.D. from California Institute of Technology in 2005. Her research at Roanoke College has focused on the characterization of the enzymes involved in purine biosynthesis in Archaea.

Tim Johann joined the faculty at Roanoke College in 2008. He received his Ph.D. from California Institute of Technology in 1997. His research at Roanoke College has focused on the synthesis and characterization of various proteins from several important disease causing organisms, such as malaria and tuberculosis.

Congratulations to both Cathy and Tim, and we look forward to many more years working with you in the department.

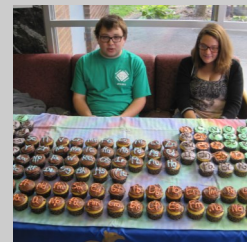


Student Affiliates' Year in Review

SAACS kicked off the 2012-2013 school year with our first chapter meeting and recruitment event, gaining 11 new members. The "Magic of Chemistry" presentation at Family Weekend was a huge success. This year, we were entertained by can crushing magic, changing colors, and of course, flames! For National Chemistry Week, the theme was "Nanotechnology." The SAACS poster session featured a wide variety of nano-topics including cosmetics, fireworks, and nanomedicine. We celebrated finals with a spirited party at Dr. and Mrs. Miller's home. The highlights of this year's gift exchange were a large bucket filled with 1,000 dinosaur stickers, chocolate, lottery tickets, and a denim snowflake vest.

In the late fall, we elected new officers. Our current officers are:

President: Casey Wojtera
 Vice President: Reeve Aguayo
 Secretary: Maura Belanger
 Treasurer: Matt Othus
 Activities Coordinator/Publicity: Fran Rowe



One of the first tasks the new officers undertook this spring was to start a SAACS Facebook page. You can stay connected to all SAACS happenings by "liking" us at www.facebook.com/RoanokeCollegeSAACS. In the spring, SAACS sponsored three students – our past president, Jonathan Perkins, and current president and vice president, Casey Wojtera and Reeve Aguayo – to travel to the National ACS Meeting where our chapter was recognized with an Honorable Mention in recognition of our activities here at Roanoke. Last, we hosted a very successful end-of-the-year picnic offering everyone a study break from Spring Term finals. Around 40 people attended! As the academic year wraps up, we are already planning new activities for the fall!

Roanoke College student receives Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

Jeremy Johnson, 2013 Chemistry Graduate, has been awarded a prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. Johnson, a chemistry major from Bluefield, Va., is one of 282 students from colleges and universities nationwide selected to receive a Goldwater Scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year. The Goldwater Scholars were chosen on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,123 mathematics, science, and engineering students nominated by faculty.

Johnson, who plans to earn an M.D. and Ph.D., wants to conduct research on cancer treatment and develop drugs to combat cancer. "My mother is a cancer survivor and she has benefitted from new cancer drugs, and this has inspired me to help create new beneficial drugs with fewer side effects," Johnson said. "There's a big need for that."

Johnson has conducted hands-on research at Roanoke through programs such as the Undergraduate Research Assistant Program, the Bondurant Scholar program, and the Summer Scholars program.

"It's been great to learn about the instruments

and how they work," he said. "It's nice that we are trusted to work on the equipment."

All of Johnson's research has been with Dr. Vernon Miller, professor of chemistry, who describes Johnson as "intellectually curious." "When he comes in to talk about research, he wants to know what is happening behind the scenes," Miller said. "At this stage, he is doing his own research, and he's trying to take it forward. I would say he understands research better than a first year grad student."

Goldwater Scholars have impressive academic qualifications that have garnered the attention of prestigious post-graduate fellowship programs.

The one- and two-year scholarships will cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year.

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation Program is a federally endowed agency established in 1986. The program, honoring the late U.S. Sen. Barry M. Goldwater, was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and

engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields.



2013 Fisher Lecture

This year's Fisher Lecture was held on February 21, 2013. The speaker was Dr. Anne Cohen from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. Dr. Cohen is a tenured associate scientist who studies climate change and its effects on ocean life. The title of her talk was "Too Much of a Good Thing: Fossil Fuels and the Fate of Coral Reefs". She gave an interesting lecture on the effects of carbonate ions in ocean water on the ability of coral to effectively build reefs. Dr. Cohen was brought in to coincide with the Hyperbolic Coral Reef project on campus. The Roanoke Valley Reef was organized by Jan Minton in the MCSP Department, but had broad participation across campus, including Chemistry's own Kelly Anderson.



Student Awards, 2013

CRC Handbook - **Fran Rowe**

ACSSA Awards - **Phillip Barbolla, Stephanie Belieu, Patrick Dowling, Jordan Jones, Laura Spilman, Ben Walker**

Ronald Oetgen Organic Award - **Cody Meadows**

Analytical Chemistry Award - **Casey Wojtera**

Inorganic Chemistry Award - **Brandon Craig**

Fisher Scholarship - **Kaylani Miller**

James Lewis Howe Award - **Jeremy Johnson**

Senior Scholar (Chemistry) - **Jeremy Johnson**

Senior Scholar (Biochemistry) - **Meagan Tolley**

AIC Awards - **Heather Anthony, James Lee**

Merck Award - **Rachal Crum**

Schumacher Award - **Alexander Hawes**

Student Affiliate Award - **Maura Belanger**

Phi Lambda Upsilon - **Rachal Crum, Rachel Dellehunt, Jeremy Johnson, Meagan Tolley**



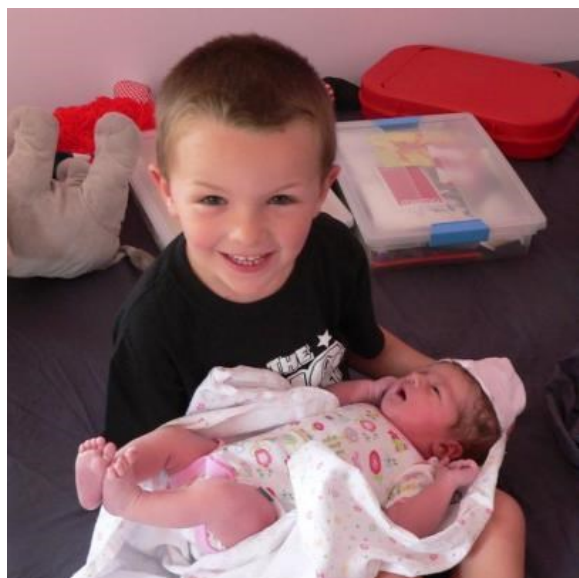
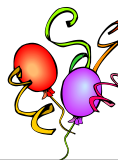


The annual Magic of Chemistry show was held over Family Weekend, September, 2012.



Dr. Hollis Receives Award

Congratulations to Dr. Gary Hollis for receiving the Dean's Exemplary Service Award for the 2011-2012 school year. Gary is extraordinarily active on campus, serving not only as the chairman of the Chemistry Department, but also as an active member of Phi Beta Kappa, the General Education Group, and is the faculty mentor for the College Bowl team. For his outstanding commitment to the college community at all levels, we are proud to have him as a member of our department. Congratulations!



Big Brother Dalton holds baby Joule. Joule was born to Dr. Cathy Sarisky and Dr. Tim Johann in July, 2012.

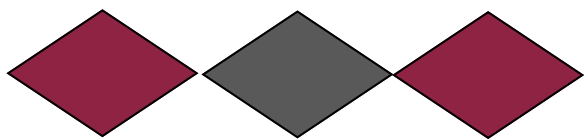


The Chemistry Faculty say goodbye to the Bittle Tree, April, 2013.

Roanoke Chemistry



The Chemistry Department celebrates Christmas with a party at Vern Miller's home, December, 2012.



Members of the Chemistry Department, February, 2013.





Several of the Chemistry faculty at the New Orleans ACS Meeting, April, 2013.



Chemistry cookies and graduates at the Graduation Reception, May, 2013.



Celebrating the end of the year with the SAACS Picnic, April, 2013.

Our Seniors - Class of 2013

Heather Anthony (Biochemistry) - plans to attend Jefferson College of Health Sciences where she has been accepted in the Accelerated Nursing Program

Chase Board (Chemistry) - will be graduating in December, 2013.

Rachal Crum (Chemistry) - plans to attend Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine where she has been accepted in the Osteopathic Medicine Program

Jed Curtis (Chemistry) - planning to seek employment

Rachel Dellehunt (Biochemistry) - plans to attend medical school. She has been accepted to several, but has not yet made a decision of which one to attend.

Robert Gibson (Biochemistry) - full time employment at Novozymes in Salem, VA

Alexander Hawes (Chemistry) - plans to attend Virginia Tech where he will seek his doctorate in Chemistry

Jeremy Johnson (Chemistry) - plans to attend University of Kentucky College of Medicine where he has been accepted in the Medicine and Chemistry Program. He will pursue a dual MD/PhD degree

James Lee (Chemistry) - full time employment at AGC Chemicals

Chelsea Sprouse (Biochemistry) - planning work as a pharmacy technician and then attend Virginia Commonwealth University where she has been accepted in the pharmacy program

Meagan Tolley (Biochemistry) - full time employment at Novozymes in Salem, VA

Kathleen Wager (Biochemistry -- Not pictured) - planning to seek employment

Greg Winston (Biochemistry) - currently employed

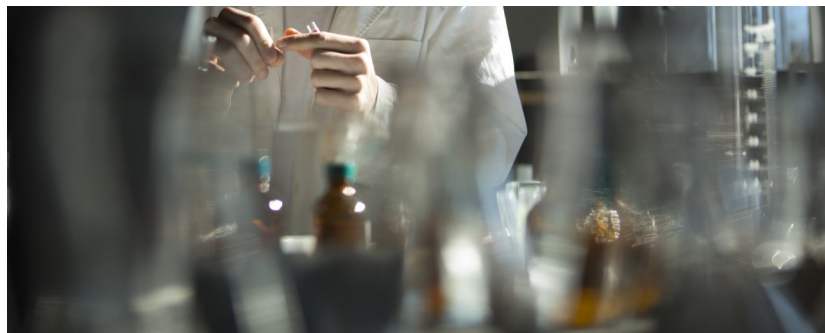
Madeline Aliff (Chemistry - Not pictured) - currently employed

David Whitt (Chemistry -- Not pictured) full time employment at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA



Meagan Tolley, Heather Anthony, Chelsea Sprouse, Rachal Crum, Greg Winston, Chase Board, Rob Gibson, Alex Hawes, Jed Curtis, Jeremy Johnson





Summer 2012 Research

Reeve Aguayo (with Dr. Cathy Sarisky)

Investigations of Predicted PurP Enzymes in the Purine Biosynthetic Pathway

Maura Belanger **(with Dr. Cathy Sarisky)

Characterization of the PurF Gene Pathway in *Sulfolobus Solfataricus*

Colin Briggs (with Dr. Vern Miller)

NMR Interpretation of Friedel-Crafts Acylation Reaction Products

Matt Bryant (with Dr. Tim Johann)

A Study of 5,10-Methenyltetrahydrofolate Synthetases Structure from *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* and Insertion of Human MTHFS into Plasmid pET15b

Jed Curtis (with Dr. Kelly Anderson)

Sulfuric Acid and Water Models and Atmospheric Nucleation

Alex Hawes **(with Dr. Gary Hollis)

Synthesis of Novel Ethers from 1,2,3,4-Tetrakis (pentafluorophenyl)cyclopentadiene, 1,2,3-Tris (pentafluorophenyl)cyclopentadiene, and Various Alcohols

Patrick Kohlhaas (with Dr. Skip Brenzovich)**

Palladium-Catalyzed Synthesis of Hydroxyproline Derivatives

James Lee (with Dr. Kelly Anderson)

Monte Carlo Simulations of Perfluoroalkane-Alkane and Ether-Alkane Mixtures near a Gold Surface

Cody Meadows (with Dr. Skip Brenzovich)

Palladium-Catalyzed Synthesis of Hydroxyproline Derivatives

Michelle Pasier (with Dr. Cathy Sarisky)

Characterization of Purine Biosynthesis Genes in *Haloferax volcanii*

Jonathan Perkins (with Dr. Gary Hollis)

Ethers and Fluoroether Derivatives of Pentafluorophenyl-Substituted Cyclopentadienes

Kathleen Wager (with Dr. Tim Johann)

Investigation of 5,10-Methenyltetrahydrofolate Synthetase (MTHFS) in Standard and Auto-Induction Media and Protein Stability and Storage

Nick White (with Dr. Gary Hollis)

The Addition-Elimination Procedure of 1,2,3,4-Tetrakis (pentafluorophenyl)cyclopentadiene with Different Types of Alcohols to Receive Fully Substituted Products

Casey Wojtera (with Dr. Tim Johann)**

Investigations of 5,10-Methenyltetrahydrofolate Synthetase (MTHFS) from *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* and *Plasmodium falciparum*



**Indicates Summer Scholar



Summer 2013 Research

Reeve Aguayo (with Dr. Cathy Sarisky)

Investigations of Predicted PurP Enzymes from Archaeal Organisms

Salihah Ali (with Dr. Kelly Anderson)

Monte Carlo Simulations of *n*-Alkanes on Explicit Surfaces

Samantha Barker (with Dr. Tim Johann)

Progress Toward an Alteration of Substrate Specificity in InhA, the Enoyl-ACP Reductase from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*: Investigations into the Substrate-Binding Loop

Maura Belanger (with Dr. Cathy Sarisky)

Characterization of the PurF Gene Pathway in *Sulfolobus solfataricus*

Kate Bradford (with Dr. Tim Johann)

Overexpression of ThyX from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in *E. coli*

Brandon Craig (with Dr. Skip Brenzovich)

Silica Sulfuric Acid as an Efficient and Environmentally Friendly Catalyst for the Synthesis of Various Diarylacetic Acid Derivatives

Allison Denton (with Dr. Skip Brenzovich)

The Synthesis of Diarylacetic Acids

Taryn Johnson (with Dr. Cathy Sarisky)

Overexpression and Mutagenesis of the IMPDH *guaB2* in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

Matt Joseph (at Virginia Tech with Dr. McGrath)

Synthesis of Melt Processable Poly(acrylonitrile-*co*-methyl acrylate) Statistical Copolymers via RAFT Polymerization

Rose Kohinke (with Dr. Skip Brenzovich)**

Silica Sulfuric Acid as an Alternative Catalyst for the Synthesis of Diarylacetic Acid Derivatives

Jordan Pritts (with Dr. Egis Zilinskas)

Study of Methyltransferase RumB in *E. coli*

Michelle Pasier (with Dr. Cathy Sarisky)**

Characterization of a PurA from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

Tyler Stoneham (with Dr. Kelly Anderson)

Monte Carlo Simulations of Alcohol-Alkane Mixtures near an Implicit Gold Surface and Nucleation of Polar and Nonpolar Model Systems

Amanda Wright (with Dr. Kelly Anderson)

Variations in the Development of Atmospheric and Liquid Drop Clusters via Monte Carlo Simulations

Nick Wright (with Dr. Tim Johann)

Investigations of Fluorquinolone Resistance in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*



***Indicates Summer Scholar*

Dr. Keithley Receives Award



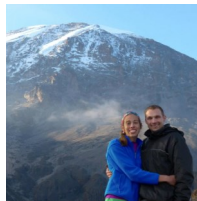
Congratulations to Professor Richard Keithley for winning the 2013 "Baxter Young Investigator Award". Baxter International Inc., located in Deerfield Illinois, is a company that specializes in biomedical technology. The Young Investigator Award is given yearly to promising graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to foster new ideas and innovations from promising young researchers in the area of biomedical research. Dr. Keithley received the award for his work on the combination of capillary electrophoresis and fluorescence spectrophotometry to study the inner workings of cells. Using this approach, Dr. Keithley was able to detect minute amounts of chemicals (as little as 100 molecules), allowing for exquisite spatial sensitivity by the analysis of the contents of a single cell. We are thrilled for Dr. Keithley, and look forward to seeing what interesting new analytical techniques he will develop at Roanoke College!



Alumni News

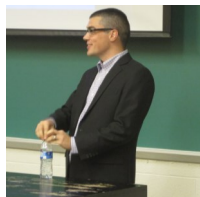
Melissa Carr ('05) teaches Chemistry at William Byrd High School in Roanoke, Virginia. She has been awarded Roanoke County's Golden Apple. The Golden Apple Award is given in recognition of the top educator of the year.

Beth Cook ('07) teaches Chemistry at Salem High School, Salem, Virginia. She was selected as one of six finalists for the 2013 McGlothlin Awards for Teaching Excellence. Also, Beth and husband recently hiked to Kilimanjaro.



Bettie Siler Masters ('59) will soon become the first woman to lead a prestigious, Texas-based professional and academic society. Masters was chosen as the 2013 president-elect for the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas (TAMEST). She is vice president currently, and she will assume the full presidency in January 2014. She also is the Robert A. Welch Distinguished Professor in Chemistry at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. On a sad note, Bettie's husband, Robert Masters, passed away

Joe Stephens ('03) and his wife, Alexandra, are expecting their first baby this fall. Joe also was our guest lecturer for Alumni Weekend in April, 2013.



Rob Gibson ('13) and his wife are expecting their first baby in August.

Collin Briggs ('13) and Coleen Weber ('13) were married this summer. He is employed as a contract employee with the Eastman Chemical Company.

Alissa Gadpaille ('08) has finished medical school and is currently a resident at the University of Alabama. She is headed toward a specialty in neurology.

Kevin Lynch ('78) sent his greetings to the department.

Nick Bonenfant ('11) is attending medical school at the University of Vermont.

Valerie Cuba ('03) graduated from law school in 2011. She worked as a patent attorney and recently was hired by Monsanto as the Breeding Traits and Technologies Intellectual Property Lead

Sydney Webb ('11) successfully passed her qualifying exam in May so she is now officially a PhD Candidate at UVA and she is currently collecting data in order to work towards her first publication hopefully sometime next year.

Kelly Fletcher ('09) finished her MS in Food Science. She moved to Atlanta and is employed in R & D. She is the Food Scientist on staff and her boss (PhD Poultry Science) is constantly "picking her chemistry brain" when something doesn't make sense.

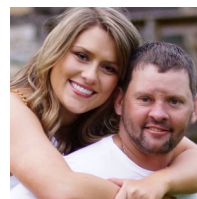
Samantha Strickland Hoopes ('08) graduated with her PhD in Cell and Molecular Physiology from UNC Chapel Hill in March of this year. She recently started a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. She and her husband live in Mebane, NC with their two dogs. Samantha has also started competing in obstacle races. She says it is "a great hobby that keeps me motivated and in shape as well as a little stress relief!"

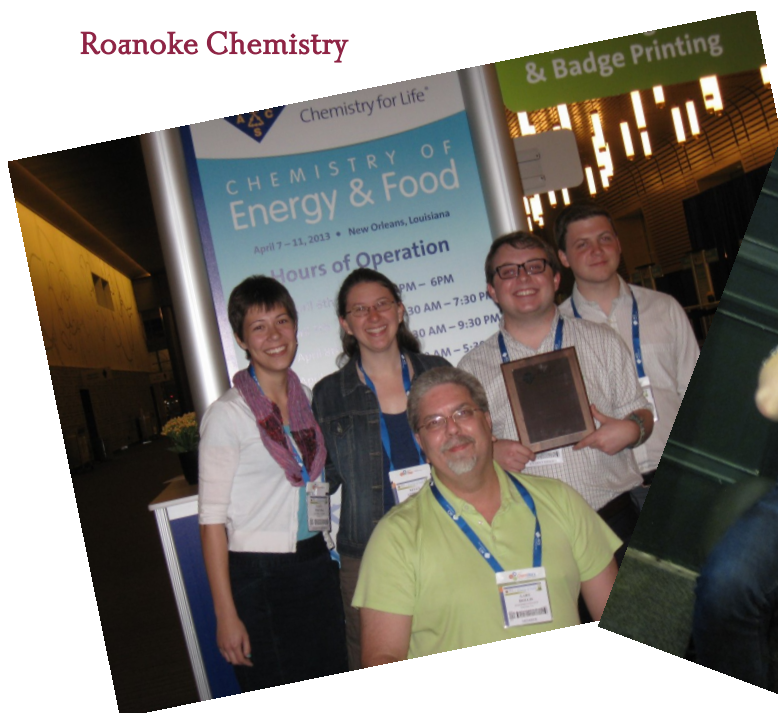
Caitlin O'Callaghan Conley ('09) and her husband just moved to Lexington, KY where she started an emergency medicine residency at University of Kentucky. She graduated from medical school at VCU in May.

Megan Via McDonald ('05) was spotted recently at Old Salem Days. She had her ten month old daughter, Aubrey, with her.

Stephanie Kenny Scheidt ('01) and husband, Gus Scheidt ('01) welcomed their third child, Avery Kendall Ridings Scheidt on May 17. Stephanie is currently a physician in the Shenandoah Valley.

Megan Sensabaugh ('10) is engaged to Tommy Ady. They are planning their wedding for October, 2013.





Our students presented at the ACS Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana in April, 2013.



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Roanoke College Chemistry
and Biochemistry



Please stay in touch! Send us your news, memories, photos, etc. We greatly enjoy hearing from you!

Contact Us

Dr. Kelly Anderson, kanderson@roanoke.edu,
540/375-4971
Dr. Skip Brenzovich, brenzovich@roanoke.edu,
540/375-5298
Deborah Duncan, duncan@roanoke.edu,
540/375-2441
Prof. Dana Harris, dharris@roanoke.edu,
540/375-2440
Dr. Gary Hollis, hollis@roanoke.edu,
540/375-2437
Dr. Ben Huddle, huddle@roanoke.edu,
540/375-2440
Dr. Steven Hughes, shughes@roanoke.edu
540/375-2568

Dr. Tim Johann, johann@roanoke.edu,
540/375-2364
Dr. Richard Keithley, keithley@roanoke.edu
540/375-2048
Dr. Stephanie Livingston, livingston@roanoke.edu,
540/375-5248
Dr. Vern Miller, miller@roanoke.edu,
540/378-5158
Dr. Cathy Sarisky, sarisky@roanoke.edu,
540/375-2438
Prof. Gwen Sibert, sibertt@roanoke.edu
540/375-2440
Dr. Egis Zilinskas, zilinskas@roanoke.edu
540/375-2439