

the vandalschemist

The occasional newsletter from the Chemistry Department to past, present, and future students and to friends.

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Long-time readers of our newsletter will note that production of this issue is decidedly behind schedule and it has been more accurately denoted 2005, instead of the usual July or January designation. The news and information contained herein cover roughly a 12-month period, but all segments may not represent the same twelve months. The year 2004 or 2005 has been added for clarity as needed. As the campus continues to recover from the financial woes of recent years, openings in the upper ranks of the university's administration have been filled, a strategic plan for 2005-2010 has been drafted, and the first steps in the reinvestment process are being taken. The number of chemistry majors continues to increase and our faculty remain dedicated to excellence in teaching and research.

Commencement

President **Timothy P. White** presided over his first University of Idaho spring graduation ceremony on 14 May, the University's 110th Commencement. The commencement address was given by **Thomas C. Wright** ('53 ed, MEd'54), founder and retired CEO of the Thomas C. Wright Foundation, who was also presented with an honorary degree in recognition of his lifetime efforts and accomplishments, especially related to improving educational materials and training for teachers. President's Medallions recognizing contributions and service to Idaho and beyond were awarded to **Delbert Farmer** ('70 an sci), former chairman of the Shoshone-Bannock Indian Tribe and active community citizen; the **Honorable James A. McClure** (JD'50) and **Louise McClure** ('50 mus), both active in politics and community affairs during his three terms in the Idaho legislature and his quarter century in Congress representing the people of Idaho; **Gary G. Michael** ('62 bus), retired from a distinguished business career and former interim UI president; and **Scott W. Reed**, Coeur d'Alene attorney known for his expertise in water and environmental issues.

Chemistry graduates listed in the program for 2004-05 included:

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Dillon Joseph Barrett, Mesa, AZ – Professional
magna cum laude

Timothy Jon Cantrell, King Hill – Professional

Erich Galen Chapman, Fairbanks, AK – Professional

Daniel Tyler Chase, Lewiston – Professional

Jonathan Adam Downing, Coeur d'Alene – Professional

Reinhardt Franz Eder, Idaho Falls – General
summa cum laude

Leif E. Elgethun, Nampa – General (and Mathematics)

John H. Freudenthal, Idaho Falls – Professional

Ryan Lynn Holland, Parma – Professional

Emily A. Hull, Yakima, WA – Professional

Sarah Elizabeth Long, Idaho Falls – General

Chad William McVicars, Lewiston – General

Shannon Marie Reich, Twin Falls – Professional

Nicole Marie Rogers, Sagle – Pre-medical

Aaron Lee Stancik, Smelterville – General

Ty Andrew Walling, Nampa – General



Bachelor's: back - Reinhardt Eder, Dillon Barrett, Ryan Holland, Aaron Stancik Dan Chase, Jon Downing (hidden), John Freudenthal, Ty Walling; front - Emily Hull, Shannon Reich, Nicole Rogers



Master's and PhD: Jen Pollard, Dima Hami, Chun Li, Christina Noradoun, Matthew Pollard*
* August 2005 graduate*

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Jeffrey Felix Berg, Raisin, CA (BS, US Naval Academy) – Major Professor: Peter Griffiths

Stephanie Carole Doan, Idaho Falls (BS, University of Idaho) – Major Professor: Jeanne McHale

Kendra Rae Fickes, Walsh, CO (BS, University of Wyoming) - Major Professor: Frank Cheng

Dima Ahmad Said Hami, Irbid, Jordan (BS, Pharmacy, Jordan University of Science and Technology) – Major Professor: Nick Natale

Chun Li, Harbin, People’s Republic of China (BS, Jiamusi Medical College, China; MS, Heilongjiang University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China) – Major Professor: Ron Crawford

Bindu Shreedharan Nair, Maharashtra, India (BS, MS, University of Mumbai, India) – Major Professor: Ray von Wandruszka (*MS in Environmental Science*)

Catherine Lynn Riddle, Idaho Falls (BS, Idaho State University) – Major Professor: Chien Wai

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Suh-Jane Lee, Pan-Chiao, Taiwan (BA, University of Missouri-Columbia; MS, University of Idaho). “Study of Cyclopentadienylaluminum Compounds: Their Structures and Reactivities” – Major Professor: Pamela J. Shapiro

Christina Elaine Noradoun, Chinook, WA (BS, Principia College, Elsau, IL). “Novel Green Chemistry Approach to Xenobiotic Detoxification Using a Zero Valent Iron/Air/Water System to Achieve Dioxxygen Activation” – Major Professor: Frank Cheng

Shaofen Wang, San Francisco, CA (BS, Hangzhou University; MS, University of Idaho). “Dissolution and Transporting of Metal Species in Supercritical Carbon Dioxide and Potential Applications” – Major Professor: Chien M. Wai

Xihua Zhao, Tianjin, People’s Republic of China (BS, University of Science and Technology of China). “Probing the Effects of Solvent Dynamics in Electron Transfer Using Resonance Raman Spectroscopy” – Major Professor: Jeanne McHale

Alum Reunion

Dr. James D. Hearn (’55 zool), retired physician of Portland, OR, was here with the Golden I’s at the Alumni Reunion. He brought us up-to-date on his brother **Col. Thomas Hearn** (’53), who gave up chemistry in favor of a career in the US Marines and now is retired in Escondido, CA.

Sally Lou Oldham Slate (’55) was listed as a registrant for the 2005 UI alum reunion but did not arrive. She is now retired in Richland, WA, after 20 years with Battelle Northwest. She reports an earlier 5 years as the 5th grade teacher in Granger, WA.

Torleiv Flatebo (’55 civ e) did attend the Reunion with wife Lisa. They live in Ophir, OR, where he is semi-retired as a consulting engineer. His college memories include being on the ski team and later helping construct the Kibbie Dome.

Victor Ransom (’55 ch e) had intended to come to the reunion but did not make it. Biographical notes say that he did graduate studies in applied math at Sacramento State and received a PhD in mechanical engineering after leaving us. He now is an emeritus professor at Purdue and is a member of the Advisory Committee for Reactor Safeguards of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. He developed the reactor transient analysis code used by 32 countries for licensing nuclear reactors.

Students Past

1930s and 40s

Dr. John M. Ayers, Sr. (’39 pre-med), now retired in Las Vegas, reads the UI Friday Letter received by e-mail and keeps up on University news but doesn’t hear much from Moscow. He is well remembered here for his many years as a leading physician.

1950s

Dr. Herbert A. Schroeder (’52 for, MS’55 chem) was not a fluorine chemist when he did his MS research with our late **Professor Elmer Raunio**, but in the **C&EN Newsprints** column he is quoted under the heading “You say fluorine; I say fluoride.” He long has been associated with Colorado State University and he was criticizing a news report in the **FORT COLLINS COLORADOAN**.

Dr. William E. Chetwood, retired Lewiston dentist, was in the class of ’51 as an undergraduate here but finally received his BS degree at Commencement 2005. In his third year as an undergrad he was accepted by the University of Oregon’s dentistry program. After completing the professional training he became eligible for a UI degree, but he neglected to apply. He says now the degree “will be a mark of pride for me.” A daughter and three grandchildren were also receiving degrees last spring, but from other institutions.

1960s

When **Dr. Tom Ratcliffe** (’61, PhD’65) said goodbye to UNOCAL five years ago and settled in Bend, OR, with wife **Mary (Casey, ’64 h ec)** he did not give up professional interest in chemistry. He now teaches it in the local community college with a four-year degree program. Daughter **Linda** and family now live just a mile away. Son **David** and family come visiting from Guatemala now and then. Oregon has become a Ratcliffe center with brother **Dr. James D. Ratcliffe** (’68 pre-med) practicing medicine in Hillsboro, OR, not far away.

Dr. Clifford Schoff (’62, MS’64) has done more “volunteering” than consulting this year. He continued to write a monthly “Coatings Clinic” for the FSCT trade magazine, gave lectures in China, and taught sections of a coatings course as a retiree for PPG, his long-term employer. He enjoyed steam train trips in China and South Africa, and he helped in rebuilding a boxcar on the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad in Mexico. Wife **Joan** works less at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council but more at the La Casa Narcisi Winery.

Dr. Ralph C. Kerns ('68) of San Carlos, CA, has reported that he now is the vice president for business management of Intervac, Inc., a firm that makes the machines that make the disks for hard disk drives. He also provided a handsome family group photograph with wife **Louise**, son **Stephen** (19), and daughter **Jackie** (8). (We trust that family ties will still bring them back to Potlatch now and then.)

C&EN's Newsreports early in 2005 carried a note from **Charles Edinborough** ('69, MS'80 ch e) about a report in the Idaho Falls **POST REGISTER** covering a possible sabotaging at a waste water plant that invented some new chemistry in its explanation. Charles has agreed to become our roving reporter for the Idaho Falls and Pocatello area.

The DuPont annual report this year gave special recognition to 13 DuPont Fellows, recognized leaders in their fields. Our **Dr. V. N. Malli Rao** (PhD'60) was a first choice when the company launched this program of distinction. (Also a winner was **Dr. Leo E. Manzer**, who served as our Almqvist lecturer in 1993.) Malli's wife also is a UI alum: **Vera Lee (Collins, '64 h ec)**. They live in Wilmington, DE.

Dr. Jack DeBaun ('63, MS'65) is getting serious about a second retirement. After retiring from the chemical industry some years ago, he and wife **Janice (Craig, '65)** settled in Sandpoint, where he soon became head of the city water works, and they became pillars of the community.

William J. Ballantyne ('64) has retired from Hewlett Packard after 38 years in the analytical instrument and high tech industries. He and wife **Marie** have been living in Roseville, CA, but intend moving closer to family in Boise.

Dr. Janet (Orr, '65 zool) Randall was honored in April with a Silver and Gold Award by our UI Alumni Association. She has been a biology professor at San Francisco State University with special interest in behavioral ecology in animals and serves as a mentor for women in science. With her for the ceremony was her husband **Dr. Bruce MacEvoy**, also a biology professor at San Francisco State. (She has established a Randall series of lectures here to encourage the participation of women in science. The first lecture was held on 5 May with **Dr. Mary Lake Polan** of Stanford's Medical School speaking on "Evaluating Female Sexual Arousal: Defining a Protocol.")

Laurent Taylor ('64) and wife **Virginia**, now retired in Fairfield, IA, suffered seatbelt trauma Thanksgiving Day 2004 when a car that disregarded a stop sign collided with the car in which they were riding. They spent most of that day in a hospital in Rochester, NY. Virginia had a painful recovery from broken ribs. A '98 Buick now provides transportation. (Their presence near Rochester came when they were homeward bound from the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' historic first flight at Kitty Hawk, an event of special interest to Laurent's family since his grandfather had built the engine for the Wrights' plane.)

Dr. Boyd L. Earl ('66) and **Dr. Richard Hermens** (PhD'63) continue their service in the ACS Division of Chemical Education as members of the committee on regional meetings.

Boyd is a chemistry professor and former department chair at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Dick is a councilor for the Richland section. He has completed service as a Science Educator-in-Residence for Idaho EPSCoR and continues to live in La Grande as a retiree from Eastern Oregon University.

Dr. Brian Hill ('65) is now retired from 3M and has completed his service as president of our UI Alumni Association. He was here for the May Commencement events with wife **Gayle (Kraemer, '65)**. They have since moved from Woodbury, MN, to Portland, OR, where there are closer family ties.

Russell Vansant ('65 for prod), who spent much of his professional life in chemically-related enterprises, also was here for meetings of the Alumni Board that he has served as a member. He and wife **Dr. J. Magda Polenz** have been especially interested in the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festivals and have sponsored beneficial events in New York City where they live.

The family of **Larry Nash** (MS'68) in Bartlesville, OK, is still adjusting to life without him, following his death in 2004, according to wife **Amelia**. Daughter **Mariana** is a graduate student at the University of Oklahoma carrying on the family traditional tie to chemistry. Daughter **Melodie** is operating her Avon business out of the family home.

Dr. Gerald G. Flaskerud (PhD'69) after postdocking in Germany became a leading real estate agent in Longview, WA, but has kept in touch with his professor **Rudiger Mews** by return visits to Bremen University. The Flaskerud son and daughter married wonderful people and have provided two grandchildren who delight Gerry and **Judy**.

Dr. Frederick R. Oyer ('65 zool), radiologist of Ontario, OR, thought that there must be some mistake when wife **Arlene** reminded him that he now was a 40-year alumnus of our university. His educational interests have continued to be large. In summer 2004 he kayaked with friends on the Hulahula River in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and in 2005 he and daughter **Carrie** were kayaking down Idaho's Owyhee River. Carrie is now married to a music professor at California, Berkeley, who also is conductor of the San Francisco Contemporary Music Group and shares the family interest in jazz. This adds interest to the Oyers' visits to San Francisco.

During her May-time visit to DC our **Professor Jean'ne Shreeve** met her former student **Dr. Joseph J. Delfino** (MS'65) at the same meeting. Joe had come to us from Holy Cross and left for a PhD in water chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. This led to a professionally rewarding academic career with appointments at the Air Force Academy and at the University of Florida in environmental science, where he served two terms as chair of the department and now continues as professor. The Delfinos reside in Gainesville.

Dr. Michael L. Olson ('65 e e, MS'66), who did an undergraduate research project with us in the NSF URP program, has had a colorful career in high tech electronics that started as a Fulbright Scholar at Stanford University. This included supporting the ionosphere radioscience researchers by

data collection at the Byrd Station in Antarctica, and he had his Olson name assigned to an off-coast island at 77° 14' S, 153° 17' W. He returned to Palo Alto for a PhD degree in atmospheric science with employment at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO. Special development projects with several small engineering companies were followed by joining Pacific Bell's cellular communication division that was later spun off and acquired by Vodaphone Group where he is in R and D. Professionally he is a senior member of the Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers and socially he is a member of American Mensa. His son **Benjamin** is a law student at George Washington University. The Olsons live in Alamo, CA.

Dr. Frederick Hohorst ('65, MS'67) and wife **Judy** had trips for business and pleasure that took them away from wintertime in Idaho Falls. Some of their extensive foreign trips were done by bicycle in such countries as the Netherlands, Korea, Russia, Germany, etc. Their interests in gourmet, bridge, and competitive swimming were spread out from Seattle to Jacksonville. Professionally, Fred continues his work days at INL.

Dr. John Lundebly ('67 zool) and **Dr. Kevin Johnson** (a WSU graduate) of Palouse Surgical Associates early in 2005 moved their practice from Moscow-Pullman to Coeur d'Alene.

James ('68) and **Cheryl (Jacobs, '60 ed) Shurts** of Richland, WA, were here often in early 2005 to spend time with her father **Harold Jacobs** ('32 ed), who had been a pitcher for the Vandal baseball team in his college years and subsequently became a leading businessman in Moscow. (There was a funeral mass for Harold on 10 May.) Jim and Cheryl in retirement from the Siemens Power Corporation do lots of cross-country traveling to visit widely dispersed children. For hobbies Jim is an ardent golfer and creates fancy knives.

Dr. Dayaldas Meshri (PhD'68) has been appointed to the Oklahoma Science and Technology Research and Development (OSTRaD) Board of Directors, which is the governing board for Oklahoma's technology-based economic development agency.

A news release from Tucson, AZ, reports the 25th anniversary of Desert Analytics, the firm established by **Dr. Richard C. Johnson** (PhD'68). Dick had a postdoc appointment at the University of Arizona after leaving us and gained industrial experience before launching his firm. He has a staff of six scientists, including **Dr. Mazhar Khan** (PhD'66) who directs the metals testing program. The company has built a reputation for quality work and often has an exhibition booth at national ACS meetings.

A star performer in the 100th anniversary of Potlatch, ID, has been **Thomas E. Burg** (MS'68) of Merrill, WI. He gave up academics after leaving us in favor of joining the FBI. Along the way he became a railroad buff and developed a major interest in the WI&M (Washington, Idaho and Montana RR) with headquarters in Potlatch. In retirement he made an in-depth study and wrote the critically praised **WHITE PINE ROUTE: THE HISTORY OF THE WASHINGTON, IDAHO, AND MONTANA RAILWAY COMPANY**. During the celebration he

was part of the authors showcase at the Library and he also made a slide show presentation about the WI&M.

Dr. Randy Beaumont (PhD'68) and wife **Janetta (Hermon, MEd'68)** are still based in Flagstaff. She says that they would be millionaires if they were paid for their volunteer work. He favors adult soccer and singing light opera; she does church work. They share in good fortunes of family spread from Pennsylvania, Minnesota, and cross country.

Kathleen (Marlow, '68) Boller sent e-mail from New Mexico in early 2005 that she had been missing our newsletter. Kathy retired from a career teaching high school physics in 2002 and recalled fond memories of UI chemistry and especially of the kindness of **Dr. Edson Peck** in helping her in struggles with a physics lab that wasn't working. She has never returned to campus so was amazed at the changes she saw in photos shown her by a current UI student on a recent plane trip.

Dennis Albers ('69, JD'72) gave up chemistry in favor of law and now and then makes our newspaper reports from Grangeville where he has long practiced. He serves both private clients and Idaho County and serves as the attorney for towns in the area.

Dr. James Lott (PhD'69) and wife **Sandy (Miller, '65 ed)** a year ago were fighting January floods in New Harmony, UT, and during a June tour through central Idaho they learned that their hometown was threatened by forest fires. James thinks that chemistry teaching, now at Dixie State College, is getting in the way of motor-home travels, and he is considering a second retirement.

1970s

Carol (Frei, '70) Haddock continues her good-citizen activities in Potlatch where she served on the committee planning last July's 100th anniversary celebration for the community. Her special interest is the Potlatch History Society. Husband **James** ('69 ed, MNatSc'75, MEd'78), officially retired from the Potlatch school system, continues to teach math part-time.

Dr. Diana (Cordwell, '77) Johns had been overly long ward-attending at the VA Hospital in Reno when she wrote in May and was heading back to Idaho Falls where husband **Dr. Joseph P. Johns** ('75 bact) practices surgery. Both are now members of the UI Foundation. Diana was concerned about long-term friend **Marie (Haasch, '38) Whitesel**, who had been recovering from a stroke in Coeur d'Alene (Will this affect her watercolor painting?). Diana's physician father and Marie's husband **Dr. Glen M. Whitesel** ('39) long shared medical practices in Kellogg until death intervened. In a more recent update Diana takes family pride in the achievement of nephew **Robert Cordwell**, who won a gold medal when the US team in 2005 placed second in the International Mathematics Olympics for HS students. Robert's father is **Dr. William R. Cordwell** ('75 phys), and their home is in Albuquerque, NM.

At Christmas time **John Atchison** ('74) was continuing his busy assignments in Russia for Washington Group International, working to make the world a safer place. This

permits family travel to foreign shores. They were planning to be in Greece for the holidays this time and were in Italy in the prior year. Their boys rank top in their classes at home base in Strongsville, OH.

Dr. Ronald A. DeMarco (MS'69, PhD'72) and wife **Margaret** now enjoy living in southwest VA after his busy years in DC researching for the Navy, but they moved around a bit before settling on 2.6 acres near Lynchburg. They continue to do volunteering for good works. She is moving from semi-retirement as an office manager to full retirement and favors scrapbooking and painting watercolors. Daughter **Gianna** is in Richmond just two hours away and **Marea** is in NYC. If Penny, their new cat, permitted, they planned to visit Italy and Greece last September.

Stanton Anderson (MS'70) and wife **Bonnie** had enjoyed life in Rochester, NY, with Eastman Kodak but semi-retirement in Idaho Falls is a blessing. Stan serves on the Advisory Board of the **POST REGISTER**, writes some articles, and continues to shoot good photographs. The activities of their children are gratifying.

Dr. Richard "Easy" Swindell (PhD'71), a senior lecturer at Griffith University, Australia, and wife **Maggie** visited us on June 14-15 in course of a cross-country project for exchanging information with leaders in science education. The pause here included discourse with our semi-retired education professor **Dr. Terry Armstrong** but also was a sentimental return to the scene of his graduate research with **Professor Jean'ne Shreeve**. He is now planning his retirement from professional achievements but activity is still at a high level. He recently was an invited speaker at a world conference in Shanghai dealing with education in later life. He has received the Australian Medal for service to education and this year received the singular honor of the Australian Award for University Teaching of large classes.

This US tour also included a stop at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where **Dr. Leon Zaborowski** (PhD'71) is now dean and professor of outreach and e-learning extension. Leon was able to confirm for Rich the stories he had told Maggie about their grad school days.

*Rich had so much fun talking over times past that he is promoting a reunion of fluorine group members from the sixties and seventies. An early enthusiastic responder has been **Professor Dan Babb** (PhD'68), who has survived a tough year with two major surgeries, but who has no intention of retiring from the classes he now loves at Marshall University in Huntington, WV.*

Dr. George H. Sprenger (PhD'74) and wife **Joanne** are enjoying a good retirement in Las Vegas, NM. Their 2004 had been brightened by a visit from **Dr. Kenneth** (PhD'75) and **Ginger (Brodin, '67 ed) Wright**, who are retired north of Coeur d'Alene after his years at North Idaho College and hers teaching in public schools. George now does work at the ranch and Joanne is a local volunteer in wholesome causes. She even preached one Sunday in their church. Daughter **Debra** attends

the local community college and keeps good company. (**Mambo**, a 100-lb Rottweiler entertains them.) Their address is gjsprenger@cybermesa.com.

Dr. Jill Seaman ('77) was quoted in last summer's **NEWSWEEK SPECIAL ISSUE** about health in an article about modern medicine and kala azar, or "black fever." She recounted some of her experiences fighting the disease in her work with Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) in Sudan in the early 1990s.

1980s

The **ACS CHEMISTRY** quarterly newsletter for Spring 2005 included a report on "Chemistry in the Family." This featured the Moshers. Our **Dr. Michael Mosher** ('88), chemistry professor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, led with a photograph. Two of his great-great-uncles were **Dr. William Mosher**, long chairman of chemistry at the University of Delaware, and **Dr. Harry Mosher**, whose wife **Carol** shared with him in distinction at Stanford University. Mike's father, **Dr. Melvyn Mosher** (PhD'68) has joint professional responsibilities as a Missouri State toxicologist and as a chemistry professor at Missouri Southern State University. While an undergraduate here Mike did a research project with **Professor Jim Cooley**, who had been the doctoral adviser of Mike's father. Mel will be general chair for the ACS Midwest Regional meeting this year, answering a second call; Mike will do a second turn as general chair of this meeting in 2008. Mel has sent us a photo of our four PhD grads in 1968 with your contributing editor.



Dan Babb, Richard C. Johnson, Malcolm Renfrew, Ken Pober, and Melvyn Mosher (l to r)

Frederick R. Haynes ('81) and sons **Alexander** (14) and **Anthony** (9) toured our campus on 23 July. At that time Rick was employed by the Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory in Pittsburgh and had been working at INL on a Bechtel project. This involved a second-time home in Idaho Falls where he had been trained by the Navy for service in nuclear powered submarines. He did one long deep-sea cruise, but then joined Texas Instruments in Austin, TX, where he also benefited from

computer science training at the University of Texas prior to the move to Pittsburgh. Effective February 2006 Rick has returned to Austin, TX, where he is employed by Smarter Solutions Inc.

Good wishes to **Dr. Chien Wai** for 2006 from **Dr. Jose Rodriguez** (PhD'81) included the news that Jose was considering accepting a position at Mississippi State University that would involve research in supercritical fluids.

Dr. Ramesh (PhD'82, ex postdoc) and **Dr. Kanta Kumar** both received promotions last year in their high tech jobs with 3M, and they look forward to celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary with a cruise to Alaska. Daughter **Monica** graduated from the University of Minnesota last year and is a biomedical engineer at American Medical Systems of Minneapolis/St. Paul. Son **Nishant** is a chemical engineering freshman at the University of Minnesota.

David Connolly ('84), manager of the MARPAT (Markush) structure database at Chemical Abstracts Service in Columbus, OH, writes that he has completed his PhD in German at Ohio State University. The dissertation topic, two 16th century German books on mining and metallurgy, nicely bridges his interests in language and science.

Dr. Helen Marsden (PhD'86) reports a climbing holiday in Morocco in the Anti-Atlas mountains. She found it interesting to see the significantly lower standard of living, simpler lifestyle, and in some ways a better value system which helps put the rest of life in perspective. Traveling in an Islamic country for the first time was educational. She planned to vacation in Ireland before Christmas.

The business card for **Dr. Wan Ahmad Kamil** (PhD'87) tells us that he is now Dean in the School of Chemical Sciences at Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang, Malaysia.

Dr. Pawan K. Bali (PhD'89) in a letter to **Professor Jean'ne Shreeve** reported that he still is a research associate in Professor Hershfield's laboratory at Duke University dealing with inherited immunodeficiency. His wife **Deeksha** is director of her laboratory at Duke Pediatrics Genetics involved with glycogen storage diseases. Son **Aman** is the shortest and leanest player on his teams in the Chapel Hill school. Son **Karan** spends more time with his X-Box than in school.

Dr. Bryan J. Anderson ('83 microbiol), who now practices general and trauma surgery in Boise, received his MD at the University of Arizona and completed a residency at Michigan State University. His home is in Eagle, ID. His ties to Moscow include his uncle **Dr. Guy Anderson** ('42, MS'47 bact), emeritus professor of bacteriology, who was the first director of the Washington, Alaska, Montana, Idaho medical program, then known as WAMI but now WWAMI with the addition of Wyoming.

Dr. Brian Marron ('83) wrote to congratulate **Professor Nick Natale** on his ACS and Idaho Academy of Science awards as posted on the departmental web site. Brian is now director of chemistry at IcaGen in Research Triangle Park, NC, and reports projects and collaborations are going well. He and wife **Janet**

(**Johnson**, '83) keep busy keeping up with their children's school, sports, Scouts and other activities.

In February 2005 **David Quincy** ('85) received an Elan Award for Excellence for his work against tight deadlines in preparing clinical candidates for toxicology testing in high purity. Elan Corporation, a worldwide neuroscience-based biotechnology company, recognizes outstanding individual employee contributions to company goals with a limited number of such awards each year.

Brenda (Mallett, '85 microbiol, MS'88) Simpson, a self-described "research Mom" to the younger scientists at Bend Research in Oregon, is considering a switch from research chemist to teacher. During her fall 2005 visit to campus, her major professor **Dr. Nick Natale** treated her daughters, ages 6 and 9, to chemistry demos on polyurethane and Multistix.

Dr. Douglas MacTaggart ('82, PhD'91) has joined the staff of NSF in the EPSCoR program with assignments that will take advantage of his experience in academia and industry. He will be concerned with experimental design, statistical methods, and data evaluation. He will serve as central coordinator for co-funding, according to **Dr. Sherry Farwell** (ex fac), who heads the EPSCoR program.

1990s

Dr. Joseph Chimeno (MAT'90), who is teaching chemistry at the College of Eastern Utah in Price, sends us compliments on our newsletter but found an error: our address labeling doesn't recognize his doctorate. We have requested a correction to our database records.

In an email alerting us to a senior scientist position available at the pharmaceutical company where he works in Spokane, **Bruce Tompkins** ('91) also brought us up to date on his activities since graduation. He has worked in chemical quality control at Hollister-Stier Labs since moving back to Coeur d'Alene in 1991 and currently has the title Quality Control Scientist. Wife **Connie** owns a travel company dealing mostly with group travel, and son **Alec** is "still contemplating his direction in life" following HS graduation. Bruce especially remembers Professors Bitterwolf, Natale and Griffiths.



Dr. Jim Fisher (PhD'96) has received tenure at Imperial Valley College in California. Jim has been the college's lone full-time chemistry instructor and was elated when the school secured bond funding that would include a new science building. He has also been the science coordinator for a Title V Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program grant to

implement distance learning education at the college, which services a population of 130,000 over 40,000 square miles.

Dr. Pam Shapiro visited with Jim while she was in San Diego for a crystallography workshop in summer 2004.

Emeritus Professor Jim and Zoe Cooley keep in touch with **Dr. Sanchita Sarker** (PhD'94). Sanchita and family were in Austin, TX, at last report and she was seeking a teaching job. The family news was good.

Dr. Greg Merklin (PhD'96), who left Bruker a year ago, reports a new venture doing semiconductor metrology with co-workers from his former employer On-Line Technologies.

Dr. Tony Bonanno (PhD'93) has also joined the new group after initially serving as a consultant.

Dr. Vinay Wandrekar (PhD'96) in April reported his return to Mumbai, India, after two weeks in London on an assignment from Mahindra British Telecom Ltd. that allowed time for some sightseeing. His email included photos from his visit to Madame Tussad's wax museum.

Dr. Karen (Toews, PhD'97) Howden is still based at Idaho National Laboratory but is now on assignment in Washington, DC, at the Department of Energy headquarters in the advanced fuel cycle initiative program. Husband **Eric Howden** also is on assignment in DC at the DOE Office of National Nuclear Security Administration. His job involves a lot of traveling to Europe. On the personal front they were expecting their first child in August; this would involve some leave time for Karen (see p 16).

Dr. Brenda Waller (PhD'99) reports a job change that results in a longer commute but offers more interesting work. She is now in the training services group for Symyx Technologies, a pioneer in high-throughput experimentation for discovery of new materials for a wide range of industrial applications. Brenda still enjoys the San Francisco Bay area and occasionally sees **Dr. Cindy Phelps** (PhD'97) and her husband **Kelly**, who live a few hours north in Chico. Dr. Kelly Phelps had been an emergency room physician here during Cindy's graduate school days.

2000s

Jeff ('01) and **Sharon (LaMont, '03) Leitch** in December 2004 gave us a rhymed Christmas letter that put a strain on poetic license but reported a good year of personal and professional experiences. They are graduate students at differing Massachusetts universities, he at Worcester and she at Amherst. The year wasn't all work; they made vacation trips to Portland, OR, for family (hers), New Hampshire for autumn leaves, and to Las Vegas for family (his) and shows. Their greetings for 2005, again in rhyming prose, reported publications in process for Jeff and a character-building "speed bump" in research for Sharon. Both had participated in multiple conferences in the fall and Sharon had earned an Honorable Mention for her poster at one. The holidays promised a break with travel to visit family in the West. [*Our faculty have received thank-you letters from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst for recommending Sharon as an applicant to their program.*]

Kirsten Johnson ('02) wrote in January 2005 that she was officially a PhD candidate at MIT though she would soon be moving to the University of San Diego/Scripps because her

major advisor had accepted a position there. She had passed her oral exam in the summer and presented a poster and talk at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco before the holidays. She was considering taking up snowshoeing in light of the blizzard in Boston at the time of her writing.

Ganfeng Cao (ex grad) reports in an email to **Dr. Jean'ne Shreeve** that he left Michigan in 2002 and has been employed by Incyte in Wilmington, DE, ever since. He is currently a senior research investigator in medicinal chemistry. His wife, **Zhang Chenying**, is an accounting student at the University of Delaware.

Brendan Gordon ('04) reported by email in December 2005 that he had turned in his written preliminary at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. He has joined the group of Dr. Kent Mann on a project involving vapochromically-active platinum-containing salts and enjoys TA duties in undergraduate courses. He also plays viola with the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and continues composing with plans for performances of his works in England in spring. He and undergrad mentor **Dr. Tom Bitterwolf** stopped in the office for a photo during his holiday visit to Moscow.



Dr. David Ming Jin Foo ('92, MS'96, PhD'03) organized the inaugural Metallocene Catalysis Symposium held in Singapore in November 2004. **Dr. Pam Shapiro** was an invited speaker at the meeting which included internationally renowned chemistry faculty specializing in organometallic chemistry and catalysis. David is a research chemist at the Institute of Chemical and Engineering Sciences Ltd (ICES) at Jurong Island, Singapore.

Sarah E. Long ('04) was shown pricing merchandise in a story in the local paper in November 2005 covering the two-block move of the Moscow Food Co-op to its new location in the remodeled former Safeway/Gart's Sports building on Washington Street. Sarah is an assistant buyer for the Co-op, but also served as a chemistry teaching assistant in fall semester.

Ryan Holland ('05) has settled in for graduate study at the University of California at San Diego and reports enjoyment of a triazacyclononane synthesis project. His advisor, **Dr. Karsten Meyer**, is considering a move to the University of Erlangen in Germany and Ryan may follow him.

Erich Chapman ('05) has entered the PhD program in chemistry at the University of Oregon, prompting a thank you letter to UI chem mentor **Dr. Ray von Wandruszka** from the UO chemistry department.

Faculty and Staff Past and Present

Professor Peter Griffiths was notified in May that he had been elected to membership on the General Chapters Expert Committee for U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) for the 2005-2010 cycle. USP sets standards for all medicines, dietary supplements and healthcare products made and sold in the US.

Dr. James R. Jeitler (ex vis fac) of North Idaho College made the **Newsprints** column of **C&EN** in October 2004 in a piece about pure, dry nitrogen being better for filling your car tires than plain old air. He supplied the information that tire outlets cross country are offering to replace the air in your tires with nitrogen for \$5.00 each.

A writer of the column early in 2005 was **Dr. Steve Ritter** (postdoc with **Professor Shreeve** in 1994), who now is a senior editor of **C&EN**. He included a story about an experience of Professor Frank R. Stermitz of Colorado State University back in the good old days. This recalled to us an experience here when Dr. Stermitz visited as an ACS lecturer. For some reason the start of the meeting was delayed and Dr. Stermitz treated the restless crowd to a creditable version of "Time on My Hands" at a piano that happened to be in our chemistry lecture room.

When President George W. Bush at the White House presented the National Medals of Science and of Technology to awardees on 14 March 2005, among those present for the ceremony was our **Professor Jean'ne M. Shreeve**, who as a presidential appointee had chaired the committee that recommended those honored. **Dr. G. Brent Dalrymple** of Oregon State University and **Dr. Riccardo Giacconi** of Johns Hopkins University were the winners in physical sciences.

Professor Nick Natale and **Dr. David Burkhart** (PhD'02) are the authors of research featured on the cover of **CURRENT MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY** (Vol. 12/No. 5 2005), the international journal covering the latest developments in medicinal chemistry. Their paper is titled "Isoxazole Ionotropic Glutamate Neurotransmitters."

Research reported by **Dr. Gus Davico** in **J. PHYS. CHEM. A** was featured in the "Science and Technology Concentrates" column in **C&E NEWS** for 18 April 2005. His work on gas-phase studies using iodine cations to activate methane to form methanol could lead to more economical and environmentally friendly fuel production.

Anne (Rustenholtz) Farawila, former visiting researcher in the Wai group, successfully completed her PhD presentation at the University Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg, France, in June.

Dr. Chien Wai had earlier hosted a visit from Anne's major professor, **Dr. Isabelle Billard**, to UI and PNNL in Richland.

Students in the spring carbon compounds class at their final class meeting for the semester joined family members in giving **Dr. Robert Kirchmeier** a retirement sendoff not soon to be forgotten. Bob stopped by the office with wife **Nancy** to share the moment and mementos after the party.



Bob's retirement was also a part of the festivities at a post-Commencement celebration at **Dr. Peter Griffiths'** home in May. Bob has retired after 18 years of service on the chemistry faculty, first in a research appointment and more recently as a teaching and research faculty. He has especially enjoyed his continuing contacts with students he had mentored in Research Experience for Undergraduates programs during his faculty tenure. Bob received his bachelor's degree at the University of Montana in 1968 and completed his PhD here in 1975. After graduation he worked in industry, starting with the US Atomic Energy Commission's National Reactor Testing Station in Idaho Falls, before founding West Analytical Laboratory in 1981. In retirement Bob and Nancy plan to divide their time between their cabin on Lake Coeur d'Alene and their home in Florida.

Dr. Neil Smart (affil fac) has a new position as a nuclear engineer for the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) in West Cumbria, UK. His new duties include managing NDA funded research and identifying technical issues and areas for innovation. He completed 14 interesting years at British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) during which time he had been a visiting faculty here for two years working closely with **Dr. Chien Wai** on BNFL sponsored research.

Emeritus professor **B. S. Thyagarajan** (ex fac) is now retired from the University of Texas, San Antonio, and has time for happy memories of times past. His former students brighten his days with visits and letters. He is pleased that his endowment fund makes academic life easier for some of them. (He also has made a generous gift for our department's endowments.)

On Veterans' Day 2005 the **LEWISTON TRIBUNE** did a front-page story about **Elna Grahn**, emeritus professor of math whose late husband was **Dr. Edgar H. Grahn** (MS'48) of our chemistry faculty, who retired as Dean of the Graduate School. Elna at 92 still resides at Good Samaritan Village in Moscow and was recalling her experiences in WWII as a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary. (Her book **IN THE COMPANY OF**

WACS has described secret duties as a female in the mostly male service.) UI students will remember her pioneering development of “math by TV” that helped us in a period of faculty overload.

Dr. Jing-Jing Yang (ex postdoc with Professor Shreeve) reports that she is still working at Microbia and has a compound in a Phase II study and one in a Phase I study. Her husband **Dr. Huaibin Wang** is employed in Connecticut by Chemtura Corporation, formerly Crampton. Son **Alan**, a junior in HS, is taking all honor or AP courses, tutors at the Academy Center, and is editor of his school newspaper. He plans to pursue pre-med studies.

Emeritus professor **Dr. Verl Garrard** ('45 ch e, MS'52 chem) and wife **Georgia** have enjoyed cruises to Alaska and Pacific waters with daughter **Dr. Sandra Garrard**, who is completing a residency at the Family Medicine Center in Provo and lives close by. Daughter **Cheryl** and family live in Colorado but have extra ties to Provo with a son at BYU. Son **Gary** and family live in Mesa, AZ, where he is employed by an engineering firm.

Dr. Immanuel Selvaraj (ex postdoc) reports completing 5 years with GE Advanced Materials - ASIA in Bangalore. He is now involved in handling multiple projects in his role as technology lead for a product line in plastics. **Immie** and **Anita** are welcoming the new addition to their family (see p 16); son **Jeffrey** attends pre-school.

Dr. Ralph Zehnder (ex res asst) has joined the faculty at the University of Louisiana in Monroe. He received his PhD from the University of Siegen in 2003 with major professors **Dr. Bernd Wenclawiak** (ex vis fac) and **Dr. Pam Shapiro** and worked two years at Los Alamos National Laboratory as a postdoctoral research associate.

Dr. Beizhan Yan, postdoctoral fellow working with **Dr. Daphne Stoner** (res fac) in Idaho Falls, was pictured in a feature story on the Idaho National Laboratory web page (www.inl.gov/featurestories) in April. Their research project aims to develop methods to determine whether life has existed on extraterrestrial rocks and was to be discussed at the international Goldschmidt Conference on our campus in May 2005 (see p 19).

Sarah Swett, the wife of **Professor Dan Edwards**, continues to win honors for her skillfully woven tapestries. One of her creations was in Boise for a Triennial Exhibition last summer.

Dr. Henrik Juve ('50, MS'54, PhD'83, ret fac) helped organize a 62-year reunion for the Moscow High School class of '43 in June. Twenty members of the class posed for the reunion picture. Hank reports that reunions get better with repetition.

Dr. Merland W. Grieb ('42, MS'49 emer fac) writes that according to his doctor he is a “young 85” but he suffered a small stroke that has impaired his speech. He has given up singing in the Seattle Men's Chorus, a nationally performing group but he continues as a supporter. Currently he is involved in gardening and that keeps him busy enough.

Dr. Sherry Farwell (ex fac), who heads the national EPSCoR program in NSF, has reported that **Dr. George Rubottom** (ex fac) has retired from the National Science Foundation after years of service in the chemistry programs.

Douglas Winberg joined our staff in August as our new electronic instrumentation specialist, replacing **Rick Jonas** who resigned to return to the Seattle area. Doug arrived with two degrees in electronics and work experience in a variety of technological applications.

Dr. Eric Brauns, a biophysical chemist, joined our faculty in July. Eric completed his undergraduate training in biochemistry at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and received his PhD in physical chemistry from the University of South Carolina, where he received awards for both teaching and research. He comes to us from a postdoctoral fellowship at Los Alamos National Laboratory and is interested in establishing a research program involving biomolecular imaging and spectroscopy. He and wife **Laura Gessner** are finding Moscow a good place to live.

Grants supporting programs in our department awarded for the period July 2004 through June 2005 included:

- T. Bitterwolf**, \$32,362 in supplements from PNNL for synthesis and catalytic studies on functionalized mesoporous materials; \$29,000 from PNNL for ammonia oxidation using mesoporous silica supported catalysts.
- F. Cheng**, \$64,000 from NSF-REU for year 3 of “Green Chemistry on the Palouse.”
- F. Cheng and C. Wai**, \$100,000 from EII for carbon nanotube-supported catalytic nanoparticles for fuel cell applications.
- P. Griffiths**, \$29,582 supplement from US Army APG for diffuse reflection studies relevant to standoff detection of warfare simulants; \$114,000 renewal from USDA for gaseous emissions from animal feeding operations; \$62,106 from DOD-APG for diffuse reflection infrared spectrometry in and on absorbing matrices; \$23,328 from Honeywell for micro-spectrometric detection of GC analytes on special surfaces.
- P. Griffiths** (with **P. Shapiro**, **C. Wai**, **L. Bergman**, and **Y. Qiang**), \$133,091 from DOE EPSCoR subcontract from ISU for synthesis and characterization of wide-band-gap semiconductors.
- N. Natale**, \$400 supplement from FOE for research on Alzheimer's disease; \$30,903 supplement from DHHS-NIH for isoxazoles to explore glutamate receptor.
- P. Shapiro**, \$45,399 from NSF-Idaho EPSCoR for research infrastructure improvement.
- P. Shapiro and E. Aston** (chem e fac), \$99,487 from EII for synthetic approaches to new photovoltaic materials for high efficiency solar cells.
- D. Stoner**, \$191,503 from NASA for year 2 of search for life on worlds around other stars.
- C. Wai**, \$6,000 supplement from Framatome for super-critical fluid dissolution of uranium waste and scrap.

Total grant dollars received for FY2005: \$990,269

Seminars

Speakers at departmental seminars in the year ending 30 June were **Dr. Spiro Alexandratos**, City University of New York; **Dr. John Amend**, MicroLab, Inc.; **Dr. Colin Andrew**, Eastern Oregon University; **Lacey Averett** (grad); **Dr. Eric Brauns**, Los Alamos National Laboratory; **Stephanie Doan** (grad); **Dr. Richard Ernst**, University of Utah; **Dr. Andrew Ewing**, Pennsylvania State University; **Carlos Fernandez** (grad); **Kendra Fickes** (grad); **Gary Gresham** (grad), Idaho National Laboratory; **Dima Hami**, (grad); **Jamie Herman** (grad); **Dr. Mazdak Khajepour**, University of Pennsylvania; **Dr. Toni Kline**, Seattle Genetics; **Dr. Joseph Krasnec**, Scientific Instrumentation Specialists, Moscow; **Dr. Alexander Li**, Washington State University; **Chun Li** (grad); **Dr. Chuanbin Mao**, University of Texas, Austin; **Dr. Robert Minto**, Miami University of Ohio; **Justin Nairn** (grad); **Jared Nelson** (grad); **Dr. Heino Nitsche**, University of California, Berkeley; **Christina Noradoun** (grad); **Philippe Perroin** (grad); **Jennifer Pollard** (grad); **Matthew Pollard** (grad); **Cathy Riddle** (grad), Idaho National Laboratory; **Kevin Rider** (grad); **Jeremy Riggle** (grad); **Dr. Brad Rowland**, Dugway Proving Grounds; **Dr. Jill Scott**, Idaho National Laboratory; **Dr. Andrea Stierle**, Montana Tech; **Dr. Stefan Vetter**, Scripps Institute of Oceanography; **Shaofen Wang** (grad); and **Dr. Bernd Wenclawiak**, University of Siegen.

The Washington-Idaho Border Section of ACS brought in two tour speakers during the year. **Dr. Kenneth Kolb**, Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, gave a general seminar titled "Glass: Its Many Facets" in September covering the basic chemistry of glass and its formation as well as some of its interesting and puzzling aspects observed over the last 5,000 years. In April **Dr. Warren V. Bush**, Shell Development Company (retired) and long-time ACS volunteer career consultant, gave practical information for job seekers in his talk "How Do I Find a Job?: Managing the Job Market."

Professor Isiah Warner of Louisiana State University, our Almquist Lecturer in 2003, has received the 2005 Charles E. Coates Memorial Award of the Baton Rouge Section of AIChE. The University of Washington also recently recognized him with a Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Also past Almquist lecturer **Dr. Mary Good**, who now serves as a member of the Idaho EPSCoR Projects Advisory Board, was recognized this year by the National Science Board with the Vannevar Bush Award based on her "lifelong contributions to science, engineering, and technology, and for leadership throughout her multifaceted career."

Dr. Clayton F. Callis, who served as our Almquist lecturer in 1988, died on 9 March at the age of 81. He was a past president of ACS and was active in the society for 50 years, especially in St. Louis where he became the R and D director for two of Monsanto's divisions. After retirement he became vice president of Chelan Associates, a consultancy.

Honors

Professor Chien Wai received the S. T. Li Prize for Achievement in Science and Technology for 2004 and 2005 in recognition of his long record of accomplishment in supercritical fluid research. This award from the S. T. Li Foundation provides unrestricted research funds in support of a research project of the winner's choice. Other recent recipients of the award include professors **Larry E. Overman** from the University of California-Irvine, **Zhong Lin Wang** from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and **Leo A. Paquette** from Ohio State University.

Dr. Peter Griffiths has received a Humboldt Research Award for Senior US Scientists in recognition of his accomplishments in research and teaching. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation funds about 100 such grants annually for candidates with internationally recognized qualifications and invites recipients to participate in research collaboration with colleagues in Germany. Peter will travel to Dresden in August to spend 10 months at the Technical University of Dresden working with Professor Reiner Salzer on research to develop approaches for medical diagnosis and treatment using vibrational spectroscopy and hyperspectral imaging.

The annual Staff Awards Reception to recognize the dedication and hard work of UI staff was held in the SUB ballroom on 25 April 2005. The 2005 winner of the Lawrence McBride award for exemplary service by non-faculty staff at the University was **Sue (Watts, '78 bus) Eschen**, director of trusts and gift investment management. Sue is a daughter of **Joe Watts**, the now deceased former financial vice president, and his wife **Arlene**. The award is named for **Larry McBride** ('67), who after service in the US Navy returned first as assistant to the chair in chemistry and at retirement was assistant to the vice president for research and graduate studies. Among the recipients of longevity awards were **Christopher LaPaglia** ('94), scientific aide in PSES, with 10 years of service, and **Suzanne Aaron**, chemistry department manager, with 15 years.

Chun Li (grad) received a Teaching Excellence Award for 2004-05 from the Graduate Student Association at the GSA Annual Awards Banquet on 15 April 2005. The award recognized her outstanding efforts in teaching organic chemistry labs and included a monetary reward.

Dr. Michael Laskowski, UI biology professor and research faculty in the WWAMI medical education program, was selected the 2005 Distinguished Scientist by the Idaho Academy of Science. He is the director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) Program and has been awarded a five-year \$16.1 million grant to expand the program – the largest biomedical research grant in Idaho's history. The award recognizes both his research accomplishments and his leadership in developing research opportunities in biomedicine for students and faculty throughout Idaho.

Graduating seniors recognized by our department
this year for special academic achievement



Reinhardt Eder
Idaho Falls

BS General

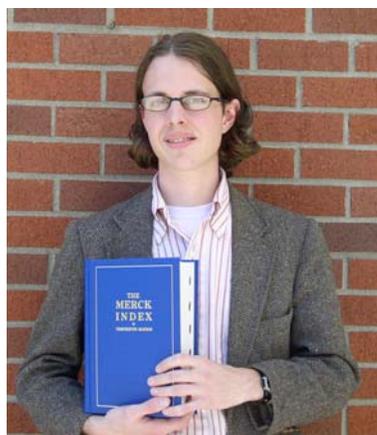
WILLIAM H. CONE
AWARD



Dillon J. Barrett
Mesa, AZ

BS Professional

MERCK AWARD



John H. Freudenthal
Idaho Falls

BS Professional

MERCK AWARD

[John also received the
College of Science Dean's
Award for the outstanding
senior in the Department
of Chemistry.]



Daniel T. Chase
Lewiston

BS Professional

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CHEMISTS AWARD

From the program booklet for the Honors Convocation on
15 April 2005 we have listed the names of students who are
identified as chemistry majors.

PHI ETA SIGMA

Kathleen Chirgwin, Gresham, OR
Shanda Dahlen, Nikiski, AK
Cheng-Cheng Ma, Kellogg
Hannah Qualls, Moscow
Amaris Rosario, Eagle River, AK
John Sturgeon, Eagle

PHI ETA SIGMA

Paris Humphries, Boise

GOLDEN KEY

Dillon Barrett, Mesa, AZ
Simon McAllister, Hayden
Julie Zohner, Idaho Falls

ENTERING STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

Alexis Jones, Enterprise, UT
Suzanne Lanier, Moscow
Cheng-Cheng Ma, Kellogg
Hannah Qualls, Moscow
Amaris Rosario, Eagle River, AK
Luke Rosen, Vancouver, WA
Michael Rush, Idaho Falls
John Sturgeon, Eagle
Amber Thomas, Anchorage, AK

DEANS HONOR LISTS (Fall 2004 and Spring 2005)

Brooke Anderson, Idaho Falls; **Jeffrey Arnzen**, Lewiston;
Dillon Barrett, Mesa, AZ; **Kirsten Canady**, Hayden; **Erich
Chapman**, Fairbanks, AK; **Kathleen Chirgwin**, Gresham,
OR; **Jeff Davis**, Prosser, WA; **Theron De Smet**, Coeur
d'Alene; **Bryson Dye**, Kimberly; **Reinhardt Eder**, Idaho
Falls; **Leif Elgethun**, Nampa; **Joseph Erickson**, Post Falls;
Bryan Foutch, Fairfield, WA; **Jeremy Foutch**, Moscow;
John Freudenthal, Idaho Falls; **Kristopher Grows**, Saint
Anthony; **Patrick Haben**, Idaho Falls; **Perry Hanson**,
Boise; **Miranda Haralson**, Cataldo; **Mary Harbert**, Boise;
Felicia Holmquist, Silverton; **Paris Humphries**, Boise;
Alexis Jones, Enterprise, UT; **Carson Kachelmier**,
Clarkston, WA; **Maylean Kauwe**, Boise; **Erin Kee**, Boise;
Hubert Limbaugh, Sagle; **Cheng Ma**, Kellogg; **Simon
McAllister**, Hayden; **Kelly McFarland**, Coeur d'Alene;
Lindsay Nagelmann, Meridian; **Danielle Olson**, Eagle
Creek, OR; **Bart Plocher**, Parma; **Hannah Qualls**,
Moscow; **Nicole Rogers**, Sagle; **Amaris Rosario**, Eagle
River, AK; **Michael Rush**, Idaho Falls; **Michael Stroh**,
St. Maries; **John Sturgeon**, Eagle; **Amber Thomas**,
Anchorage, AK; **Ryan Toolson**, Nampa; **Shane Wells**, Oak
Harbor, WA; **Mark Williams**, Kooskia; **Matthew Yahvah**,
Helena, MT; **Megan Yates**, Sagle; and **Julie Zohner**, Idaho
Falls.

Entertainment at the Honors Convocation was again provided
by the U of I Jazz Choir I with chemistry majors **David Knerr**
of Moscow in the bass section and **Bart Plocher** in baritone.

RAUNIO UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS for 2004-2005 went to **Ryan Holland**, working with Dr. Pamela Shapiro, and **Megan Yates**, working with Dr. Nick Natale.



Jim Cooley, Jeremy Riggle, Justin Nairn, Hank Juve

Jeremy Riggle and **Justin Nairn** received Cooley-Juve Awards for fall 2004 in recognition of their outstanding teaching performance in the spring 2004 semester.



Derek Laine received the award in spring 2005 for his efforts in fall semester 2004. Retired professor **Hank Juve** presented the award on 29 March 2005.



Tim Cantrell was the winner for his teaching in spring semester 2005. Professor emeritus **Jim Cooley** made the presentation on 15 November 2005.

Recipients of MALCOLM M. AND CAROL CAMPBELL RENFREW SCHOLARSHIPS for summer 2005 were **Fasasi Ayuba**, **Przemyslaw Brejna**, **Tim Cantrell**, **Durga Prasad Chalasani**, **Lan-Chun Chang**, **Jamie Herman**, **Derek Laine**, **Chun Li**, **Wei-Sheng Liao**, **Todd Pankratz**, **Parul**, **Matthew Reback**, **Kevin Rider**, **Jeremy Riggle**, **Chrystal Sheaff**, **Brandon Steele**, and **Monika Szabon**.



The CHIEN AND LILY WAI DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP for 2004-05 was awarded to **Simon McAllister** from Hayden. Simon also received the 2005 Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry sponsored by the ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry.

BILLY AND MARGERIE BUSH SCHOLARSHIP recipients were **Suzanne Lanier** of Moscow and **Ryan Toolson** from Nampa.

RENFREW-LONG SCHOLARSHIPS were awarded to **Julie Zohner** from Idaho Falls and **Paris Humphries** from Boise for the full academic year and to **Jeff G. Davis**, Prosser, WA, for spring semester 2005.



Brooke Anderson, freshman chemistry major from Idaho Falls, received the 2005 CRC Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award for her academic performance in freshman chemistry.

Students Present

Lacey (Keniston, '03, grad) Averett was elected to a two-year term as the student representative to the Executive Committee and Governing Board of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy (SAS). Her duties as the voice for graduate students in the national society began in October with attendance at SAS functions at the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies (FACSS) meeting in Quebec.

Trinidad Villalobos, senior chem major, placed third in oral competition at the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) 27th Annual National Conference held in Charlotte, North Carolina, on 2-4 November 2005. Her talk, "Structure-Based Drug Design of Glisoxepid Analogs," covered her research in the Natale group. Trina, an American Chemical Society Scholar, was also invited to participate in a panel discussion sponsored by the ACS, where she shared her reasons for studying the chemical sciences and her plans to use her knowledge to improve life in general and in Native American communities in particular.

Christian Lohrey, junior chem major and able ChemStores assistant from Hayden Lake, left Moscow early in fall semester to help with recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina. He expected to begin work at a "hardship shelter" somewhere in the New Orleans area.

Participants in the third summer of "Green Chemistry on the Palouse" in the NSF-supported REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) program at UI were **Skylar Ferrara** from Bard College in New York, working with Dr. Tom Bitterwolf; **Jeremy Foutch** from the University of Idaho, working with Dr. Gus Davico; **Amanda Meier** from Winona State University in Minnesota, working with Dr. Richard Williams; **Anne Raymond**, from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, working with Dr. Ray von Wandruszka; and **Sarah Stranahan** from Texas A&M, working with Dr. Nick Natale. At WSU **Matthew Handwerk** from Concordia College in Minnesota worked with Dr. Sunny Zhou, **Christopher Jones** from Florida State University worked with Dr. Jeff Jones and Dr. Matt Hudelson, **Rock Mancini** from the University of Pittsburgh worked with Dr. Alex Li, **Maribel Montejano** from St. Mary's

University in San Antonio and **Daniel Vanderbilt** from Whitman College worked with Dr. Paul Benny. The students and their faculty mentors met in Renfrew Hall for orientation on June 6. Research results were presented in a final poster session in the UI Commons on August 11. During breaks from research, participants enjoyed a get-acquainted picnic in Moscow and a one-day raft trip on the Salmon River.

Dr. Frank Cheng served as UI project coordinator with assistance from graduate student **Jamie Herman** and undergraduate **Jeremy Foutch**.

Officers of our ACS Student Affiliate chapter for 2005-06 are:

President: **Hilary Robbeloth**, international studies and anthropology major from Orofino

ASUI Rep: **Kirsten Canady**, chem major from Hayden

Secretary: **Lucas Knowles**, chem major from Anchorage, AK

Treasurer: **Jamie Freeman**, business major from Ririe

Demo Coordinator: **Marie Freeman**, chem minor from Idaho Falls

Webmaster: **Michael Beery**, chem major from Nampa

The chapter was recognized in September with an Honorable Mention award from the ACS for its activities during the 2004-2005 academic year.

New students entering our graduate program in spring 2005 were **Ayuba Fasasi** from the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, **Durga Prasad Chalasani** from the University of South Florida and Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University in India, **Todd Pankratz** from the University of Idaho (biology), and **Matthew Reback** from the University of Wyoming. New students in fall semester were **Joseph Amend** from Washington State University, **Emily Hull** from the University of Idaho, **Wei-Chun Hung** and **Ying-Ying Lin** from National Tsing Hua University in Taiwan, **Rubha Ponraj** from Madurai Kamaraj University in India, **Trideep Rajale** from the University of Pune in India, and **Aaron Stancik** from the University of Idaho.

Good News for Chemistry

Robert W. Holder (53, MS'59) has redirected earnings from his established Excellence Endowment to help meet wide-ranging chemistry department needs as identified by the department chair. The endowment had funded scholarships for members of TKE until the UI fraternity was disbanded. Bob is remembered as an outstanding football player on both sides of the line during undergrad days when Idaho was a member of the Pacific Coast Conference, and he has also established a scholarship endowment to benefit athletics. Following service as a Naval officer, Bob had returned to campus for his master's in chemistry, and he has long been involved with the UI Foundation. Following a long career with Merrill Lynch in Spokane, he retired as vice president, and he and wife **Jeanne** now live on Bainbridge Island near their son.

Gifts

The generosity of our loyal alums and friends continues to help us provide our students with the quality education and facilities they deserve. Scholarship support for our majors remains vitally important as education costs continue to rise.

Unrestricted gifts to the department are used to subsidize general operations in many areas, including research support and travel to professional meetings for students, seminar series expenses, teaching assistant registration fees, computer equipment and software, recognition for outstanding students, and publication of this newsletter. All donations are sincerely appreciated.

Notification of gifts from the following have been received for the period 1 July 2004 through 30 June 2005:

Suzanne Aaron (staff) and **Dr. Mickey Gunter** (fac geol), Moscow, ID; **Dr. Karlis Adamsons** (MS'80), Wilmington, DE; **Dr. Aleck** ('38 ch e) and **Pauline Alexander**, Overland Park, KS; **Dr. Roger** ('51) and **Paula Allen**, South Portland, ME; **Ghulam and Naseem Ansari**, Galveston, TX; **Tyrone** ('92) and **Rebecca Arnold**, Sebastopol, CA; **Dr. James W.** ('58, pre-med) and **Mary Asaph**, Portland, OR; **Donald E. Baker** (MS'51), Richland, WA; **Dr. Pawan** (PhD'89) and **Deeksha Bali**, Chapel Hill, NC; **Dr. Charles Barinaga** ('74, PhD'88), Richland, WA; **Dr. Julie Barrows** ('73), Bethesda, MD; **Dr. Tim Bays** (PhD'97) and **Dr. Amy Bjerke** (PhD'99), New Windsor, NY; **William and Diana Beaulieu**, Bartlesville, OK (matched by Chevron Phillips Chemical Company); **Dr. Randolph** (PhD'68) and **Janetta (Hermon, MEd'68) Beaumont**, Flagstaff, AZ; **Lynn (Searby, MS'77)** and **Brian Beckmann** (MS'77), Andover, NJ (matched by GlaxoSmithKline); **Dale** ('49, ch e) and **Garnet (Storms, '49) Benjamin**, Vancouver, WA; **Barbara (Benjamin, '73)** and **Edward Bickford** ('72 ag econ), Enumclaw, WA; **William** ('58, MS'60) and **Janet Bills**, Boise, ID; **Dr. Thomas** (fac) and **Dr. Caroline** (PhD'98 ed) **Bitterwolf**, Moscow, ID; **Dr. Joseph** (PhD'70) and **Mary Ann Blazeovich**, Manchester, WA; **Dr. Ben Bostick** ('94, MS'97 soil), Hanover, NH; **Joycelyn Braham**, Sturgis, MI; **Darol Brown** ('70), Portland, OR; **Ruth (Anderson) Bunch** ('64), Snohomish, WA; **Robert** ('42) and **Lillian Burchell**, Point Richmond, CA; **Thomas** (MS'68) and **Patricia Burg**, Merrill, WI; **Ann and William Burke**, Greenwich, CT; **Dr. Craig** (PhD'77) and **Mary Burton**, Woodbury, MN (to be matched); **Dr. Corder** ('63 pre-med) and **Karen Campbell**, Clifton, VA; **Dr. Robert Carmody** ('60), Santa Barbara, CA; **Lee and Brenee Carvell**, Bartlesville, OK (matched by Chevron Phillips Chemical Company); **Dr. Frank Cheng** (fac), Moscow, ID; **Coastal Bend Community Foundation**, Corpus Christi, TX; **David** ('84) and **Mona (Rightmeier, '86 ed) Connolly**, Hilliard, OH; **Carol Cram**, Old Greenwich, CT; **Dallas** ('66) and **Geraldine (Smith, '60 pre-nurs) Cross**, Issaquah, WA; **Dr. Clyde** ('41 zool) and **Vieno Culp**, Rochester, MN; **Dr. Paul** ('58) and **Mary Cunningham**, Los Alamos, NM; **Dr. Jack** ('63, MS'65) and **Janice (Sennett, '65 ed) DeBaun**, Sandpoint, ID; **Dr. Timothy** ('86) and **Dr. Jennifer DeBlicke**, Boise, ID; **Dr. Ronald** (MS'69, PhD'72) and **Margaret DeMarco**, Huddleston, VA; **Dr. Ward** ('57 pre-med) and **Marion (Hoover, '56 h ec) Dickey, Jr.**, Boise, ID; **Dr. Debra Kay (Heckendorn) Dillner** ('80), Annapolis, MD; **Dr. Gary** ('63) and **Beatrice Doty**, Puyallup, WA (matched by Boeing); **Jeanne Elliott**

(’86), Boone, IA; **Leif** (’81 c e) and **Julie (Sherrodd, ’82 ch e)**
Erickson, Kennewick, WA; **Dr. Troy Falck** (’91), Roseville, CA;
Dr. John Fellman (PhD’82 biochem) and **Harriet Hughes**,
 Moscow, ID; **Finn Dixon & Herling LLP**, Stamford, CT;
Dr. Gerald (PhD’69) and **Judy (Moss, ’67, MS’69 bact)**
Flaskerud, Longview, WA; **Roy** (’47, MS’49) and **Florence**
(Hinckley, ’42 h ec) **Flay**, Concord, CA; **Robert Foley** (’53 ch e),
 Irving, TX; **Dr. George Fraser, Jr.** (PhD’67), Newbury Park, CA;
Dr. Thomas Frey (PhD’71), San Luis Obispo, CA; **Dr. Dennis**
 (PhD’82) and **Ellen Gage**, Evansville, IN; **Leonard** (’74) and
Diane (Cochrane, ’74) Getrum, Sherman, TX; **Ltc. Clair Gilk**
 (’84) and **Ltc. Danita McAllister**, Albuquerque, NM; **Paul**
Gillespie (’69), American Fork, UT; **The Goergen Foundation,**
Inc., Greenwich, CT; **Garold Gresham** (MS’00, grad), Idaho Falls,
 ID; **The Alan E. and Lois A. Grey Family Trust**, Idaho Falls,
 ID; **Dr. Merland Grieb** (’42, MS’49, fac emer), Seattle, WA;
Dr. Peter (fac) and **Marie Griffiths**, Moscow, ID; **K. D. Gupta**
 (MS’85), Jaipur (raj), India; **Dr. Jon** (MS’64 phys) and **Fredeswinda**
Hagen, Arecibo, PR; **Dr. Randy and Dr. Mary Jane**
Hagenson, Humble, TX; **Dr. Jeffrey** (PhD’80) and **Linda**
(Medley, ’78 hist) **Harkness**, Windsor, NJ; **Thomas** (’43) and
Florence Harland, Eugene, OR; **Dr. Douglas** (ex phys fac) and
Rose Marie Henderson, Sandy, UT (to be matched); **Charlotte**
Hill (’77), Pasadena, CA; **Dr. Frederick** (’65, MS’67) and **Judith**
Hohorst, Idaho Falls, ID (matched by Bechtel); **Robert** (’53, MS’59)
 and **Jeanne (Jones, MEd’58) Holder**, Vashon, WA (matched by
 Merrill Lynch); **John and Teri Hottovy**, Bartlesville, OK (matched
 by Chevron Phillips Chemical Company); **Dr. Tim Hubler** (MS’88,
 PhD’92), Benton City, WA; **Dr. Chen-Hwa Hui** (MS’68, PhD’72),
 Cary, NC (matched by GlaxoSmithKline); **Dr. Ken Ishida** (ex res
 staff), Huntington Beach, CA; **Delbert** (’81) and **Carol Johnson**,
 Idaho Falls, ID; **Dr. Cecil** (’44 pre-med) and **Margaret (Bacon, ’44**
ed) Jones, Palm Springs, CA; **Henrik** (’50, MS’54, PhD’83, ret fac)
 and **Dolores Juve**, Clarkston, WA; **Marguerite (Ogle, ’39 ed)**
Kelly, Roswell, GA; **Dr. Yung** (MS’63) and **Young Kim**,
 Libertyville, IL (to be matched); **Barbara and William King**,
 Riverside, CT; **Dr. Robert** (PhD’75, fac) and **Nancy Kirchmeier**,
 Moscow, ID; **Robert and Ellen Kreiling**, Johns Island, SC; **John**
 (MS’71) and **Elizabeth (Wallin, ’72 h ec, ed) Krsul**, Idaho Falls,
 ID; **Glen and Mary Lanier, Jr.**, Moscow, ID; **Matthew Laug**
 (MNuSc’72), Idaho Falls, ID; **Dr. Kenneth** (ret fac) and **Elaine**
Laurence, Moscow, ID; **Dr. In Quen Lee** (MS’90), Montebello,
 CA; **Eugene Libey** (’83), Hannibal, MO; **Daniel** (MS’80) and **Jan**
Liebowitz, Wilton, CT; **Claire Lieske** (’54), Vallejo, CA;
Dr. Richard Loeppky (’59), Columbia, MO; **William J. and**
Shirley A. Maeck Family Foundation, Idaho Falls, ID;
Dr. Kathryn (Davis, ’57 pre-med) and William Mahaffey, St.
 Thomas, VI; **Dr. Brian** (’83) and **Janet (Johnson, ’85) Marron**,
 Durham, NC; **Marian (Smith, ’39 ed) Martin**, Moscow, ID;
Donald (’61) and **Carol Martinson**, Cypress, CA; **Richard**
 (MS’65) and **Wanda McAtee**, Idaho Falls, ID; **Ronald** (’68) and
Marlene McCartney, Portland, OR; **Ltjg. Tim** (’88) and
Margaret McKinley, Freemont, CA; **Dr. Dayaldas** (’68) and the
 late **Dr. Indurani (Chainani) Meshri**, Catoosa, OK; **Michael**
 (’91) and **Judith (Moulton, ’90 zool) Miller**, Spokane, WA;
Dr. Bruce Mincher (MS’90, PhD’97), Idaho Falls, ID; **Dr. Amin**
Abubaker Mohammad (PhD’93) and **Monica Mancilla**,
 League City, TX; **Dr. Melvyn** (MS’64, PhD’68) and **Donna**

Mosher, Joplin, MO; **Amelia Nash**, Bartlesville, OK (matched by
 Chevron Phillips Chemical Company); **Alison** (’89 Engl, IRF staff) and
Joseph Nowakowski, Genesee, ID; **Anita and Thomas**
O’Sullivan, Greenwich, CT; **Dr. Frederick** (’65 zool) and **Arlene**
Oyer, Ontario, OR; **Harvey** (MS’61) and **Myrna Palmer**,
 Richland, WA; **Dr. Robert Palmer**, Marsing, ID; **Dr. Carolyn**
(Cleare, ’47 pre-med) and James Palmgren, Evanston, IL;
Paperwork Production, Merrill, WI; **Dr. John Pearson**
 (PhD’74), Big Rapids, MI; **Dr. Dallas Pence** (’54, MS’59), Buhl, ID;
Dr. Keith Peterman (PhD’76), Spring Grove, PA; **Dr. Eugene**
and Margaret (Deggendorfer, ’48) Pflug, Bellevue, WA;
Dr. Kenneth (PhD’68) and **Patricia (Taylor, ’64, MS’68 geog)**
Pober, Houston, TX (matched by Halliburton Foundation); **David**
Quincy (’85), Fremont, CA; **Dr. V. N. Malli** (PhD’66) and **Vera**
Lee (Collins, ’64 h ec) Rao, Wilmington, DE; **Dr. James** (’68 pre-
 med) and **Reta Ratcliffe**, Sherwood, OR; **Dr. Tom** (’61, MS’64,
 PhD’68) and **Mary (Casey, ’64 h ec) Ratcliffe**, Bend, OR;
Margaret (Kelly) Raunio (MA’67 Engl), Moscow, ID; **Dennis**
Reece (’73, MS’75, MS’77 hydr), Baton Rouge, LA; **Dr. Edgar E.**
Renfrew (’36 phys), Lock Haven, PA (to be matched); **Dr. Malcolm**
 (’32, MS’34, ret fac) and **Carol (Campbell, ’35 econ) Renfrew**,
 Moscow, ID; **Richard Reumann** (’63), Tarkio, MO; **Donald E.**
Roberts Estate, Alexandria, VA; **Dr. Clifford** (’62, MS’64) and
Joan Schoff, Allison Park, PA; **Dr. James** (’77) and **Cynthia**
Schreiner, Sedalia, MO; **Dr. Brett** (’84) and **Sally Schulte**,
 Grants Pass, OR; **Zella Schwartzenhauer**, Manzanita, OR;
Ronald Sestero (’72 pre-med), Boise, ID (matched by Abbott
 Laboratories); **Dr. Pamela Shapiro** (fac), Moscow, ID;
Dr. Jean’ne M. Shreeve (fac), Moscow, ID; **Richard**
 (MNatSci’68) and **Ina Shropshire**, Lowman, ID; **James** (’68) and
Cheryl (Jacobs, ’60 ed) Shurts, Richland, WA; **Joseph and**
Roseanne Shveima, Bartlesville, OK; **Bobbie (Rice, ’90) and**
Aubrey Smith, Boise, ID; **Clark B. Smith** (’90), Denver, CO;
Dr. Wayne (’55) and **Janet Solomon**, McCall, ID; **Dr. Michael**
Spangler (’90, ’88, MS’90, PhD’97 met engr), Soap Lake, WA; **Craig**
 (’71 pre-med) and **Jane (Eidemiller, JD’96) Spencer**, Grangeville,
 ID; **Dr. George** (PhD’74) and **Dr. Joanne Sprenger**, Las Vegas,
 NM; **Dr. John Streiff** (PhD’98), Rochester, MN; **John** (MS’62) and
Phyllis Taylor, Richland, WA; **Laurent** (’64) and **Virginia**
Taylor, Fairfield, IA; **S. E.** (ex grad) and **Doris (Urbahn, ’73**
journal) Thomas, Eagle River, AK; **Charles Thompson** (’63), Santa
 Cruz, CA; **Dr. James** (’58, MS’60) and **Arlene Throckmorton**,
 Woodbury, MN (matched by 3M Foundation); **Prof. Budalur S.**
Thyagarajan, San Antonio, TX; **John and Alice (Compton)**
Townsend, Moses Lake, WA; **Robert** (MS’63) and **Annette**
Tromp, Idaho Falls, ID; **Gary** (’68) and **Kristeen Troyer**,
 Richland, WA; **Russell Vansant** (’65 for prod) and **Magda**
Polenz, Glenville, PA; **Vector Research Company**, La Grande,
 OR; **Dr. Chien** (fac) and **Lily (libr fac) Wai**, Moscow, ID;
Dr. Dean (’42) and **Elaine Watt**, Omaha, NE; **Cptn. Mark** (’73)
 and **Gail Westin**, Burke, VA; **Dr. James Wheeler** (PhD’77),
 Davis, CA; **Charles Wilds**, Greenwich, CT; **Charles** (’68 mech e)
 and **Marie (Warnholz, ’68 ed) Williams**, Pocatello, ID; **Sandra**
and John Wilson, Greenwich, CT; **Dr. Terry Wilson**
 (MNatSci’71), Annandale, NJ; **Voe E. Wilson**, Houston, TX;
Dr. George W. (’59) and **Carolyn Woodbury, Jr.**, Lopez
 Island, WA; **World Reach, Inc.**, Bethesda, MD; **Dr. Leland**
(Trace, PhD’98) and Julie Yates, Springdale, AR; **Dr. Warren**

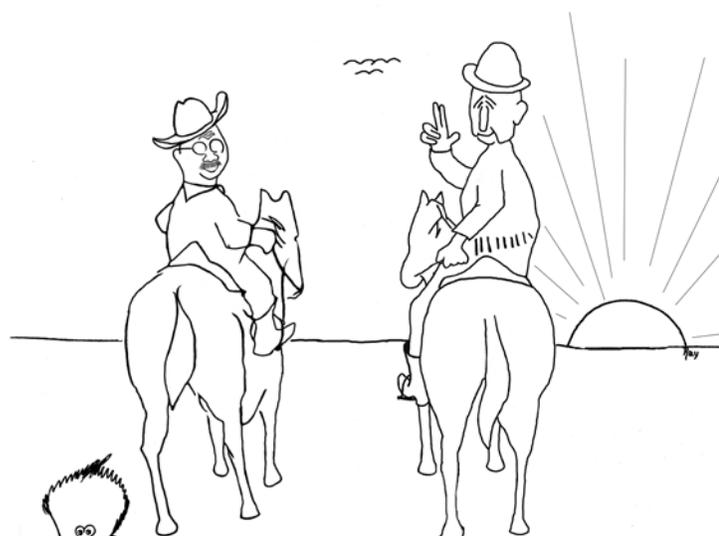
('66) and **Dr. Laura Yeakel**, Flat Rock, MI; **Col. (Ret.) Douglas and Jean Young**, Henderson, NV; **Marilyn (Ravenscroft, '65)** and **John Young**, Pasco, WA; and **Dr. Changjiang Zhu** (PhD'95), Bel Air, MD.

Matching gifts have been received from:

3M Foundation, Inc. (matching the gift of Dr. James Throckmorton); **Abbott Laboratories** (matching the gift of Ronald Sestero); **Bechtel Foundation** (matching the gifts of Dr. Frederick Hohorst and Delbert Johnson); **The Boeing Company** (matching the gift of Gary Doty); **Chevron Phillips Chemical Company** (matching the gifts of William Beaulieu, Lee Carvell, John Hottovy, and Amelia Nash); **Chevron Texaco Corporation** (matching the gift of Robert Burchell); **GlaxoSmithKline Foundation** (matching the gifts of Brian Beckmann and Dr. Chen-Hwa Hui); **Halliburton Foundation** (matching the gift of Dr. Kenneth Pober); **IBM International Foundation** (matching the gift of Dr. Douglas Henderson); **Merrill Lynch & Company Foundation** (matching the gift of Robert Holder); **Philips Electronics North America Corporation** (matching the gift of Dr. Edgar Renfrew); **PPG Industries Foundation** (matching the gift of Dr. Clifford Schoff); **Raytheon Company** (matching the gift of Leonard Getrum); **Shell Oil Company Foundation** (matching the gifts of Billy Bush); **Tyco International Ltd.** (matching the gift of Tim McKinley); and **World Reach, Inc.** (matching the gifts of Laura Harbart).

Gains and Losses

Idaho's loss was Texas's gain after we did not admit **Jai Nagarkatti** to our graduate program when he applied over thirty years ago. Dr. Nagarkatti became president and CEO of Sigma-Aldrich on 1 January 2006.



Bob Kirchmeier and Leszek Czuchajowski
ride off into the sunset...

*Meanwhile, Eric Brauns (biophysical chemistry),
pops up.*

Curricular Cousins

Dr. Douglas Henderson, who back in the sixties was a member of our physics faculty, added chemistry to his professional competencies. Currently a member of the chemistry faculty at Brigham Young University, he was selected for the 2005 ACS Utah Award by the Central Utah Section of the Society. (His new book on stochastic differential equations was due on the market last August.)

Dr. Marion Shinn (EdD'72), a master teacher and former mayor of Lewiston, made headlines in the **LEWISTON TRIBUNE** for 5,000 hours of community service, receiving the President's "Call to Service Award" as a result. The news report told how he first was a teacher in a one-room school, later taught chemistry in high school, and became the first instructor in the vocational program at Lewis-Clark State College, where he served for years. Now in retirement he and his wife enjoy traveling and visits with former pupils. Some of these who became chemists as a result of his inspirational teaching include **Dr. Richard Loeppky** ('59) and **Dr. Keith Watenpaugh** ('62).

Dr. Stephen P. Schmidt ('66 ag), a professor of animal sciences at Auburn University in Alabama, credits our Chem 103 class in his freshman year here with being a strong force in his professional life. After graduating he attended the University of Wisconsin for a PhD in nutritional science and then did postdoctoral work in nutritional physiology at Iowa State University. This led to his faculty appointment at Auburn thirty years ago. He has been honored there for good teaching.

Dr. Gary L. Bennett ('62 phys, MNucSci'66) was in DC in fall 2004 to participate in a videotaped round-table discussion of space nuclear power and propulsion sponsored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics; he is a fellow of the Institute. Gary was here in October 2005 to give a physics seminar on nuclear space science. He is now retired from NASA and living in Emmett but carries on an active consulting business. His novel **THE STAR SAILORS** (St. Martins Press) that was critically praised has now been reissued as a paperback by Choice Press. Gary is concerned about the threat that Intelligent Design will become a requirement in Idaho high school science classes and is willing to testify in opposition.

Dr. Jon Hagen (MS'64 phys) in April was reaching 65 in Arecibo, PR, where he has been exploring outer space with "the big dish" for some years. The need is not critical but he is potentially interested in a part-time teaching job. He loves our newsy **VANDALCHEMIST**. His e-mail address is <hagen@naic.edu>.

Emeritus professor **Lawrence Johnston** of physics on 14 July joined other scientists invited by the National Academy of Sciences to recall the 1945 detonation of the first nuclear weapon. Larry had witnessed the test on 16 July 1945 and subsequently saw the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki as a scientific observer. He played a key role in developing the trigger mechanisms and also was active in early radar research in the war effort. He continues to live with his wife **Millie** in Moscow.

Andrew McKenzie ('03 mmbb) visited his former colleagues in the Natale research group in June to share slides from his ascent of Mt. McKinley in a climb sponsored by the UI Outdoor Program. Three of the climbers successfully reached the summit after spending a week in their tent at 17,200 feet in 50-mph winds. Andrew recently finished his MS at the University of Colorado and has begun his search for professional employment. [Dr. Natale was relieved to learn that Andrew had found the mole he earlier promised to send for the "Periodic Table of the Moles."]



Andrew McKenzie on Mt. McKinley

Vital Statistics

MARRIAGES

Kendra Koeller (MS'04) and Robert Fickes (for prod) were married on 16 March 2004 in Reno, NV.

David Sargent (staff) and Ramona Whybark were married at the Middlebrook Chapel in Lewiston, ID, on 2 October 2005.

Dr. Piet-Jan Sinnema (ex postdoc) and Kumudihi Jayarathne were married in Sri Lanka on 18 December 2004. They left their hotel in Sri Lanka just two hours before the tsunami hit.

BIRTHS

Ruby Rae, firstborn daughter, to Bethany (Armstrong, MS'03 env sci) and Jared Nelson (grad) on 2 May 2005 in Moscow.

Oliver Timothy Palmer, firstborn son, to Ashley Martens and Noel Palmer (MS'00, grad) in Moscow on 4 May 2005.

Grayce Louise, firstborn daughter, to Tina (Andro, MS'96) and Hubert Houle on 28 December 2004 in Torrance, CA.

A son, Marcus Benjamin, to Amberlyn and Sean Arritt ('05 ch e, ugrad res) on 7 February 2005 in Moscow.

A daughter, Jazlyn, on 17 June 2005 to Dr. Immanuel (ex postdoc) and Anita Selvaraj in Bangalore, India. She joins brother, Jeffrey.

A daughter, Anjali, on 5 June 2005 to Dr. Vinay (PhD'96) and Rajashree Wandrekar in Mumbai, India.

A daughter, Rachael, on 26 July 2005 to Dr. Karen (Toews, PhD'97) and Dr. Eric Howden in Washington, DC.

A son, Gerry Gao, on 23 October 2005 to Dr. Haixiang Gao (postdoc) and Wenfeng Zhou in Moscow.

A daughter, Audrey Mae, to Jennifer (PhD'05) and Matthew Pollard (PhD'05) on 16 August 2005 in Moscow. She joins big brother Dylan.

A daughter, Sophia Elizabeth, to Glennis (ex staff) and Travis Stott ('98 ag ed) on 22 November 2005 in Spokane.

DEATHS

Emeritus professor Randall Hamm (91), who did helpful service here after retirement from Washington State, died in Oregon in late December 2004. He was trained at the University of Washington and after Navy service during World War II taught chemistry at the University of Utah prior to his appointment. He continued professional activities until ill health prompted a move to be near family in Portland, OR, where he died.

Dr. Robert E. Jensen, MD ('38 pre-med) died on 25 March 2005 in Spokane, where he long was a leading urologist. Bob grew up on a family farm near Moscow. He briefly taught math here and coached in Lewiston and Glenn's Ferry in those depression years before attending St. Louis University for his medical degree. He interned at the US Naval Hospital in Long Beach, CA, and did active duty in the Pacific theater. He then specialized in urology again at St. Louis University. He met wife Ruth Williams in St. Louis. Their marriage of 61 years produced four children: Dr. Jan Goss of Dallas, TX, Jean Blalock of Spokane, Professor Bob Jensen of Johns Hopkins, and Julie Aoki of Bothell, WA. He also is survived by his wife at their Spokane residence and by two brothers and a sister in Moscow. Suggested memorials included the Jensen Scholars Endowment at our university.

Scott M. Plaisted (MS'78) died in Kalamazoo, MI, on 24 July 2004. He came to us from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, where he had graduated with honors. He joined the research staff of Upjohn and stayed with them for 26 years through mergers, retiring from Pfizer. He had been an Eagle Scout and was an avid outdoorsman. As a fisherman he learned fly tying during student years here. He was a bow hunter, a gardener, and a nature conservationist. He is survived by parents, a brother, and a sister and by many co-workers and friends in Kalamazoo.

[We thank Dr. Marvin Grostic (PhD'65) for informing us about Scott's death. Marvin was an associate in their Upjohn years. He is now officially retired but works part time at AvTech Labs as a QA vice president.]

Major General Kenneth D. Orr, MD, US Army (ret) died in Converse, TX, on 8 February 2005. He was born in Moscow and went from Moscow schools into the UI, completing his BS (pre-med) in '35 and the MS'36 in zoology. His medical degree was obtained at the University of Chicago, Rush Medical College, and he then served 40 distinguished years in the Army. He is survived by his wife Helen with children and grandchildren. His honors included membership in our UI Hall of Fame.

Dr. Gilbert Joshua Matare (PhD'00) passed away in Ohio on 12 November 2005 at the age of 39. Gilbert had completed

his doctorate in organometallic chemistry under the direction of Dr. Pam Shapiro and was employed at Chemical Abstracts Service in Columbus, OH, at the time of his death. Gilbert is survived by his wife Jana and three sons, Nathan, Benjamin and William. Burial was to be in Zimbabwe.

Dr. Fred C. Brown ('50 pre-med), who long practiced dentistry in his hometown Kamiah, ID, and became a beloved citizen there, died at his home in Nampa on 19 September 2005. He is survived by a sister, two sons, 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Dr. Indu Dayal Meshri, 60, died at her home in Tulsa, OK, on 16 May 2005. She and Dr. Dayaldas Meshri (PhD'68) had been married here in Moscow on 20 June 1966. Indu earned her PhD in geochemistry at the University of Tulsa in 1981 and led a distinguished career as a research associate and manager at Amoco Production Company, retiring in 1996. Her proudest accomplishments were family centered. She is survived by her husband Dayal, son Sanjay and daughter Dr. Gita, three granddaughters, and one brother.

Dr. Wilford R. Young ('31 bus) died on 8 February 2005 at his home in Greenwich, CT. He received the MS from Columbia in '35, the JD from Fordham Law School in '40, and an honorary Doctor of Law from UI in '75. He had joined Equitable Life on leaving the university and subsequently spent four years with Scoville, Wellington, Inc. en route to a CAP. He joined the legal department of Texaco in 1942 and rose through the ranks to become General Tax Counsel and Vice Chairman, Board of Directors. On retirement from Texaco, he became Of Counsel for Finn, Dixon, and Herling of Stamford, CT. He held offices in professional societies, was a member of academic boards, and president of the Advisory Committee to the Pastor of St. Michael, the Arch Angel Church, Greenwich. While with Texaco he had encouraged the company's long sponsorship of radio broadcasts of Metropolitan Opera productions.

During student days here Wilford was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity, was a UI athletic manager, played clarinet in the Pep Band, and met Lillie Gallagher ('31, MS'34, bus), who later became his wife. Lillie early in their marriage was a faculty member of the prestigious Katherine Gibbs School in NYC. They were loyal UI alumni and established an endowment here that funds scholarships in business and in chemistry. Will also had been responsible for Texaco scholarships that for some years benefited our majors in chemistry and chemical engineering.

Preceding him in death were Lillie and a son Dennis. He is survived by daughter Catherine, her husband Harold Finn, and four grandchildren. The obituary suggested memorial gifts for our Wilford and Lillie Young endowment.

Dr. Joseph Dana McCown ('62, MS'64) died 27 July 2005 in Austin, TX. Dana earned his PhD degree at the University of Iowa in 1967 and then began a 30-year career with 3M, starting at the research center in St. Paul. He later

spent four company years in England and then was moved to Austin. In 1995 he was diagnosed with brain cancer and over subsequent years survived many major surgeries. He held a number of patents and had the job title of technical director when he retired. Dana married JoAnn Marie Keilen in St. Paul, and she survives him along with a son, daughter, and grandchildren; a sister Cathy; and a retired radiologist brother Dr. Allan McCown ('62) of Naples, FL.

Meetings

At the winter collection of the ACS Fluorine Division's members in St. Petersburg, FL, in early January 2005 our **Professor Jean'ne Shreeve**, a former chair of the division, recognized the following with ties to UI: **Dr. Douglas Armstrong** (ex vis fac), **Dr. Jerry Foropoulos** (ex postdoc), **Dr. Gary Gard** (ex vis res assoc), **Dr. Fred Hohorst** ('65, MS'67), **Dr. Robert Kirchmeier** (PhD'75, fac), **Dr. Tariq Mahmood** (PhD'87), **Dr. Steve Ritter** (ex postdoc), **Dr. Rajendra Singh** (ex res assoc), **Dr. Ashwani Vij** (ex postdoc), and **Dr. Bill Wilson** ('69). Bob Kirchmeier further reports that Gary Gard claims retirement, but not really; **Judy Hohorst** says she is very busy but Fred is not; and Jerry Foropoulos sees **Dr. Scott Kinkead** (PhD'85) now and then at Los Alamos. Ashwani Vij planned a family visit to Idaho; wife **Tini** collaborates with scientists at Montana State University in Bozeman. Tariq Mahmood reported his Galaxy Chemicals is doing well in new larger facilities in Tulsa.

Dr. Nick Natale presented three papers at the annual Idaho Academy of Science meeting in April in Nampa, and his undergrad student researcher **Trina Villalobos** won the IAS scholarship for the UI. **Dr. J. D. Wulfhorst**, UI faculty in rural sociology, was elected IAS president for 2005. The March 2006 meeting will be held in Moscow.

Professor Richard Williams attended the spring meeting of ACS in San Diego as Councilor for the Washington-Idaho Border Section and as a member of the Committee on Chemical Abstracts Services. He recognized the following alumni in attendance: **Dr. Amy Bjerke** (PhD'99) and **Dr. Tim Bays** (PhD'97), then at West Point; **Dr. Richard Hermens** (PhD'63), retired from the faculty at Eastern Oregon University; **Dr. Richard C. Johnson** (PhD'68) and **Dr. Mazhar A. Khan** (PhD'66) representing Desert Analytics; **Dr. Mike Mosher** ('88), faculty member at University of Nebraska, Kearney, accompanied by his wife **Kristie**; **Dr. Skip Gallagher** (PhD'97), employed by both USDA and the University of New Orleans in Louisiana; and **Dr. Shane Addleman** (PhD'99) from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, WA. Also attending were **Professors Frank Cheng and Pam Shapiro** and **Dr. Mark Wall** (ex postdoc) from Thermo Electron Corporation.

Dr. Nick Natale reported seeing several UI alums at the ACS Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM) in Fairbanks, AK, in June. **Dr. Tim Hubler** (MS'88, PhD'92) from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, WA, was re-elected as NOR Board chair; **Dr. Lisa Hoferkamp** ('86),

assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau, was session chair for the undergraduate research poster session; **Dr. René Rodriguez** (PhD'87), professor of chemistry at Idaho State University, made presentations and attended the NOR Board meeting; and **Dr. Jason Stenzel** (PhD'95, ex vis fac), assistant professor of chemistry at Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA, represented the Inland Northwest Section at the NOR Board meeting. **Dr. Richard Hermens** (PhD'63) was photographed on duty in the vendor booth for www.microlabinfo.com. **Trina Villalobos** ('06) presented a poster at the meeting and co-authored two abstracts, and **Jared Nelson** (grad) was a co-author on three of the four abstracts from the Natale research group.

Professor Jean'ne Shreeve was an invited speaker at the 17th International Symposium on Fluorine Chemistry in Shanghai on 22-28 July 2005. Participants with Idaho connections whose names appeared on the program or who were seen included **Dr. J.-C. Xiao**, **Dr. C. Ye**, **Dr. Dayal Meshri**, **Dr. Rajendra P. Singh** (ex res assoc), **Dr. H. Gao** (postdoc), **Dr. C.-M. Jin** (postdoc), **Dr. W. Peng** (ex postdoc), **Dr. Burkhard Krumm**, **Dr. Tomoya Kitazume** (ex postdoc), **Dr. Tariq Mahmood**, **Dr. Wenbiao Cen**, **Dr. Cai-Yun Guo**, **Dr. Debao Su**, **Dr. Kiyoshi Tanaka**, and **Dr. Takashi and Noriko Abe**. **Burkhard Krumm** (ex postdoc) continues to be employed at the University of Munich.

Kiyoshi Tanaka (ex postdoc) is full professor at Seikei University, Japan. His two sons are now 22 and 24.

Cai-Yun Guo (ex postdoc) is employed by the Shanghai HongShen Company where she carries out literature searches for new compounds that would be useful pharmaceutical intermediates – both fluorine- and nonfluorine-containing. She retired from the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry in 2001.

Debao Su (ex postdoc) continues to be employed by Unilever China Research and looks forward to the company's expansion in 2006 to a new modern research facility near the airport.

Wenbiao Cen (ex postdoc) is retired from the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry and works at the Sunve Pharmaceutical Research Department which is housed in the latter facility. His wife **Dr. Xuezheng Dai**, who worked for **Professor Tom Bitterwolf**, retired from Tong Ji University in 1998 and now is employed at the Hong Kong Pharmaceutical Company in Shanghai. Their daughter, **Xiaolo Cen**, will graduate with a degree in global business from Sanda University in 2006.

Takashi Abe (ex postdoc) is retired from the Nagoya Government Research Institute and is currently employed at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology in Tsukuba, Japan. He works on CFC alternatives and assists in computer-based calculations on ozone depletion. Wife **Noriko** continues with her painting and writing Japanese poetry. Daughter **Yuriko** is a policewoman and son **Kyoichi** works for the Toyoto Motor Company-supported fundamental East Fuji Institute where he designs electronics for automatic car control.

Dayal Meshri (PhD'68), owner/founder of Advance Research Chemicals in Tulsa, was taking advantage of the acupuncture

capabilities provided in this city while seeking help for troubling knees. He had come from Mumbai where he had handled some personal business and worked on expansion of his company to Indian soil via a di- or tri-joint venture.

Tariq Mahmood (PhD'87), president of Galaxy Chemicals in Tulsa, was encouraging the Chinese and others to use his company as a producer of some needed chemicals and also was seeking information concerning their abilities to supply his company with raw materials.

Dr. J.-C. Xiao (postdoc) presented a lecture describing work done by him and other members of the fluorine group.

At the 230th ACS National Meeting in Washington, DC, held 28 August-1 September **Dr. Richard Williams**, who was again attending as Councilor for WBS and as a member of the Committee on CAS, spotted alums **Dr. Richard Hermens** (PhD'63), who staffed the MicroLab, Inc. exhibit; **Dr. Tim Hubler** (MS'88, PhD'92) from PNNL; **Dr. George Rubottom** (ex fac), now retired from National Science Foundation; and **Dr. Matt McCarroll** (PhD'98), who is a member of the faculty in the chemistry and biochemistry department at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Also attending from UI were faculty **Tom Bitterwolf**, **Pam Shapiro**, **Jean'ne Shreeve**, and **Chien Wai**; postdoctoral fellow **Dr. DeLyle Eastwood**; crystallographer **Dr. Brendan Twamley**; and graduate students **Carlos Fernandez** and **Philippe Perrotin**, who received a Student Travel Award from the ACS Inorganic Chemistry Division to attend the meeting. Dr. Shreeve noted **Dr. Gilbert Matare** (PhD'00) from CAS (see p 16) and former postdocs **Dr. Jing-Jing Yang**, who now is employed by Microbia; **Dr. Steve Ritter**, who works for C&E NEWS; and **Dr. Utpal Majumder**, who gave an oral presentation in the organic division. Dr. Majumder is currently a postdoc at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City and reported satisfaction with a recent five-month visit to Bangladesh to see family after many years' absence.

National Chemistry Week

Activities at UI during National Chemistry Week in October 2004 included a mini-symposium featuring discussion and research involving plants used for traditional medicine by the Nez Perce and others in the Pacific Northwest. **Dr. Steve Gill**, Washington State University, spoke on "Use of Native Plants as Medicines," and **Trinidad Villalobos** (undergrad) presented "Chemical Analysis of the Constituents of Qaws-Qaws." Our **Professor Nick Natale** presented "A Periodic Table of the Moles: Building Bridges to Native American Students" as part of the University Interdisciplinary Colloquium series.

"The Joy of Toys" was the theme for NCW 2005. Among the festivities were demonstrations that included a polyurethane mushroom demo and others related to the week's theme, prepared by ACS Student Affiliates under Dr. Natale's supervision and presented for local 4-H clubs. In cooperation with the Native American Student Association, the ACS-SA also presented colorful demos, some involving gummy bears, for children and parents as a part of Native Youth Day. They ended the show with the perennial favorite - ice cream made with the help of liquid nitrogen.

Goldschmidt Conference

Scientists from all over the world converged on the University of Idaho campus in late May for the 15th Annual Goldschmidt Conference, the premier meeting in geochemistry and mineralogy. Well over 1,000 participants attended sessions on over 80 wide-ranging topics and had choices for scientific field trips that included visits to the Columbia River basalts, the Coeur d'Alene mining district, and the Idaho batholith among other options.

Two graduate students with chemistry ties were among the 12 recipients of fellowships, provided by the Inland Northwest Research Alliance, that paid registration fees and conference expenses. **Jeremy Riggle** (MS'02 env sci) is working on a PhD in chemistry with **Dr. Ray von Wandruszka** as his major professor. **Bindu Nair** ('04) received her master's degree in environmental science under Dr. von Wandruszka's direction.

Participants were favorably impressed with the conference and the surroundings. **Dr. Ben Bostick** ('94, MS'97 soil sci) praised the overall organization and planning for the meeting. His off-schedule arrival at Spokane airport at 3:00 am was met with Conference vans waiting to transport attendees to Moscow. Key members of the local organizing committee were geology department faculty members **Dr. Mickey Gunter** and **Dr. Dennis Geist**, department head. The committee also included our **Professor Ray von Wandruszka** and **Dr. Leslie Baker** (ex vis fac).

View from the Top

This will be my last *View from the Top*, as I will be stepping down as chair at the end of this semester. As you may remember, I came to the University of Idaho as Chair in 1989 and stayed in this position for 8 years. Chien Wai then took over the reins and had a productive 5-year stint running the department. At the end of his term, I was asked to re-assume the role of chair. I agreed to do it, not knowing that by the time I had moved back into the department office, the university's dire financial woes would have become apparent. The last three and a half years have been "interesting" (as in the old Chinese proverb "May you live in interesting times") but we have survived pretty much intact and in many ways have become stronger as a department.

Our operating expense budget bore the brunt of the cuts that were assigned to the department, although the financial (but not the academic) situation would have been far worse had we not lost Jeanne McHale to WSU and Leszek Czuchajowski and Bob Kirchmeier to retirement. Many items that used to be purchased from our state budget are now paid for using the fraction (~30%) of the indirect costs generated from grants awarded to our faculty that comes back to the department. This means that the only truly discretionary account that the chair has under his control any longer is the account that contains all the donations made to this department by our loyal alumni and friends (*i.e.*, you!) It is these funds that have kept our head above water and allowed us to continue to move forward. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. They have made my

life easier by not having to say "no" to every request for travel funds, expenses for our seminar speakers, instrument repair, and a plethora of unexpected expenses that arise every week, and they have allowed the department to maintain the high-quality undergraduate and graduate programs that we have always tried to provide.

This year, with so many natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and its predecessors, the earthquake in Pakistan, and the devastating tsunami in the Indian Ocean, charitable donations nationally are at an all time high. Tom Bitterwolf, who was raised in New Orleans, took it on himself to coordinate the acquisition of materials that were donated from our community for distribution to the residents of New Orleans. After completely filling his garage with these donated goods, he put pressure on our state government to ship everything to Louisiana. The generosity of our community was absolutely amazing!

The only downside has been that everyone's budgets can only stretch so far, and donations to our department are significantly lower than they have been in the past. If you are able, please don't forget your annual or occasional donation to this department. The UI is climbing out of its financial hole but it's going to take at least another couple of years until we can expect to see our operating budget start to increase again. In the meanwhile, your contributions are vital.

Now for the good news! Dr. Eric Brauns joined our faculty in August 2005. Eric is a biophysical chemist who held a staff position at Los Alamos National Lab after receiving his PhD from the University of South Carolina. Eric's research interests are in the mechanism and kinetics of RNA unfolding. He was thrown into the deep end in his first semester, teaching the first semester of our physical chemistry course while waiting for the renovations to his research lab to be completed. I am happy to report that not only was his course well received by the students but he had set up his lab by New Year's Day. Eric will be a really strong addition to our faculty.

We will also be joined at the end of the summer by Dr. Patrick Hrdlicka (pronounced "hurdlichka"). Patrick received his BS and PhD from the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, Denmark. His research is in the synthesis and properties of some unusual nucleic acids and he will be part of our organic chemistry faculty. Our department made a decision that any new hires would have an expertise in the "bio" side of chemistry and I am absolutely delighted that we have greatly strengthened our expertise in bio-physical and bio-organic chemistry through the addition of Eric and Patrick.

As a final note, I would like to thank many people for their contributions to the UI Department of Chemistry. I would first like to acknowledge the incredible staff that we have in this department. LeNelle McInturff, Barb West, Suzanne Aaron and Gary Knerr have been with us for at least 15 years; Teresa Million and Doug Winberg joined us less than 2 years ago; while Dan Stelck, Alex Blumenfeld and Dave Sargent fall somewhere in between. Their role in making the department run smoothly is vital. Finally, and once again, I would like to thank all of you for your generosity and for sending us updates of what you have been doing with your lives since leaving the

UI. Please keep it up. The next *View from the Top* will be from Ray von Wandruszka, who will take over in July. I know that he will do a great job.



Peter R. Griffiths
Chair

REMINDERS

**Idaho Academy of Science: 23-25 March 2006 at the
University of Idaho in Moscow**

UI Alum Reunion (Golden I): 28-30 April 2006

**ACS Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM):
25-28 June 2006 in Reno, NV**

**UI 12th Annual Life on Wheels RV Conference:
9-14 July 2006 (www.lifeonwheels.com)**

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