



USF Chemistry NEWS

News of Interest to
Friends of the Department of Chemistry
University of South Florida

Volume 15, No 4
Late Summer 2017

Faculty news--- Awards

NSF Awards

Dr. **Wayne Guida** announced the remarkable news that five chemistry faculty members were PIs of seven NSF awards

Dr. **Shengqian Ma**: Functional Porous Organic Polymers as Advanced Decontamination Materials for Water Purification, \$329,947; (1/17-7/31/2020);

and

Crystallographic Studies on co-Crystals; Colgate Palmolive Company; \$70,000 (2/1/17-1/31/2020)

Dr. **Xiadong (Mike) Shi**: Achieving Challenging Transformations with 1, 2, 3-Triazole Based Novel Metal Catalysts \$405,000 (9/1/17-8/31/2020)

Dr. **Jennifer Lewis**: Collaborative Research: Mapping Change in Higher Education-Social Networks and STEM Reforms, \$558,531; (10/1/17-9/30/2020)

and

NSF I-USE - Collaborative Research: Student Engagement in a Community-based, Blended Learning Environment: Perspectives from a Minority Serving Institution, Spelman College (via NSF) \$204,570 (3/24/17-9/30/17)

Dr. **Jeff Raker**: Collaborative Research: Improving inorganic chemistry education through a community-developed student-centered curriculum, \$303,577 (9/1/17-8/31/2022).

and

Collaborative Research: Evaluating the uptake of research-based instructional strategies in undergraduate chemistry, mathematics, & physics. \$211,914 (9/1/17 – 8/31/20)

N.B. This work will be conducted in collaboration with researchers at Western Michigan University (Lead Institution), Virginia Tech, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and the University of Colorado.

Dr. **Juan Del Valle**: *N*-Amino peptide-derived beta-sheet mimics, \$418,108 (8/1/17-7/31/2020)

Dr. **Jiangfeng Cai**: Development of unimolecular antibacterial nanomaterials. \$390,000 (8/1/17-7/31/2020)

and

NIH RO1 Awards

Dr. **Jianfeng Cai** (Co-PI) Dr. **Chuanhai**, (College of Pharmacy): Gamma-AApeptides as novel biomaterials inhibiting Abeta peptide aggregation \$1,799,703, (09/01/2017-5/31/2022).

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Dr. **Shengqian Ma**, Department of Interior (Desalination and Water Purification Research Program), *Efficient Nutrient Recovery from Urine to Prevent Downstream Water Costs and Resale of Valuable commodities*, \$150,000; 2years

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The lecturers are supported by a supplement to the seminar program provided by an endowment created by Dr. **Stewart Schneller** and his wife Ms. **Aina Schneller**.

Dr. Schneller has been a professor of chemistry and biochemistry at Auburn University (1994- present). He was a USF chemistry faculty member (1971-94) and department and chair (1986-94) before accepting the position of Dean, College of Sciences Mathematics at Auburn (1994-2010).

The 2017 Schneller Legacy Lecture was Dr. **Jeffrey Johnston** Department of Chemistry,

Meetings are held annually, with a different scientific discipline chosen each year. This year chemistry, the “central science”, took center stage!

Over 400 students and 28 Nobel Laureates, in total representing over 70 nationalities, gathered in Lindau, an island city in Germany, at the end of June.

New Grad student reception

Ms. **Kaitlyn Kroner** organized and coordinated a reception for the 27 new graduate students on August 7th with faculty (11:00-12:00) followed by all available graduate students and faculty at noon. It was held in Traditions Hall, the main meeting room of the Alumni Center.



This was a first such reception in memory.



Faculty and graduate students chatting after lunch. In the right foreground are Drs. Shi, Evans-Nguyen, and Del Valle

WOW events



(Announcement by Ms. Christina Nelson)

The annual chemistry event is a chance for students in the Department of Chemistry to come and chat with the advisors in a casual setting while getting important information about the various opportunities offered by the Department of Chemistry.

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Thanks to the generous support of the Department of Chemistry, this year's WOW Event was particularly successful as advisors met the many students who had registration questions and who were interested in getting involved with Chemistry undergraduate research and Peer Leading.

More about Chemistry...

**Donors to Department of Chemistry:
January 1 – June 20, 2017**

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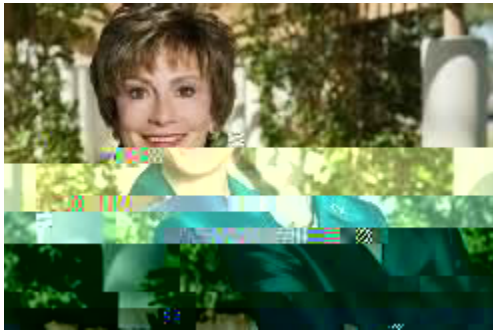
Theresa Evans-Nguyen, Ph.D.

Kimberly Bliss Fields, Ph.D.

Campus News

More About USF

President **Judy Genshaft**, USF System president, presided at three commencement ceremonies on May 5th and three on May 6th. Over 6000 degree were awarded, over 5000 in the Tampa campus. Students came from 43 states and 83 nations.



President Genshaft

Dr. **Judy Genshaft** is cited as co-inventor of patent number D793944 by the U.S. Patent and Trademark office, and is the first USF president to be noted for this achievement.

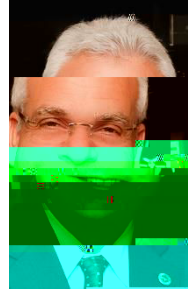
President Genshaft was also instrumental in the launch of the National Academy of Inventors, Florida Inventors Hall of Fame, and she has supported the continued growth of the USF Chapter of NAI.

Under the leadership of President Genshaft, USF has experienced a notable shift of culture toward the recognition and celebration of academic inventors.

USF Innovation Enterprise

Paul Sanberg, M.D., Ph.D., (Senior VP for Research, Innovation, and Knowledge Enterprise), shared information concerning a survey conducted by Washington Economics

Group that dealt with the impact of USF's Innovation Enterprise.



Dr. Sanberg

\$400+million statewide impact annually
\$395+ million estimated annual impact on the Tampa Bay region
\$224 million added in direct gross domestic product value
\$149 Million annual household Income produced
\$52+ million returned in local, state, and federal tax revenue
Sustains 3,000+ jobs

