

# USF Chemistry NEWS

**Dr. Richard Braman**  
 (Professor of Chemistry and Interdisciplinary Oncology) served as a speaker at the College of Arts and Sciences “Lunch with a Scholar”. His topic was “New Developments in Drug Discoveries at USF” and included a discussion of a new drug that is being used to help those afflicted with Chrono’s Disease.

**Barbara and Diana Braman** completed 20 years service as editors of the Florida Scientist (published by the Florida Academy of Sciences) in December, and were re-appointed to another two-year term by the FAS Council.

### ***A tradition continues...***

The seventeenth Annual Undergraduate Awards Banquet was held April 7 at the Embassy Suites Hotel. Dr. Richard Pierce (.B.A’ 67, M.S. ‘69) was given the 2004 Outstanding Alumni Award. Dr. Pierce is Senior Scientist and Director of the Center for Ecotoxicology at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota. Pictures of undergraduate awardees are available on the Department web page, thanks to Mr. Jason Hair, our Webmaster.

Among the guests were retired faculty members Drs.



*Roberto Avergonzado.*

Braman (and Mrs. Braman), Owen, and Stanko. Dr. Owen personally presented the T. C. Owen Undergraduate Research Award to Mr. Casey Cosner.

### ***Staff members you should know...***

**Roberto Avergonzado** (SCA 411) is a key staff member in the Department. He handles course scheduling and management, space scheduling liaison, key card requests, telecommunication liaison, student evaluation forms for all courses, change of grade forms, Drop/Add the first two weeks of class, and preparation of combined section examinations. And he does it with unflinching

cheerfulness and good humor.

He was born in Inchon City (where General Douglas MacArthur landed during Korean Conflict), Republic of Korea. His father was a chief engineer in the US Army stationed in Korea where he met his mother. He has two brothers: his elder brother is in the Navy stationed in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and will be retiring in two years with 20 years in service (if he retires). His younger brother works for Disneyland as a network and web specialist. Both were also born in Korea.

*He added:*

“My wife (Filipina) works in the College of Education, secondary education department as office

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assistant (full-time OPS). She graduated in Philippines with a degree in Business Management and also graduated with a degree in Business Administration (Management Information Systems-MIS) in USF last year.

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“I have two children, Brian (18) and Katrina (12). Brian is a senior in Gaither High School. He enjoys playing basketball. Katrina is in sixth grade in Ben Hill Middle School. She likes to read, and she plays the viola.

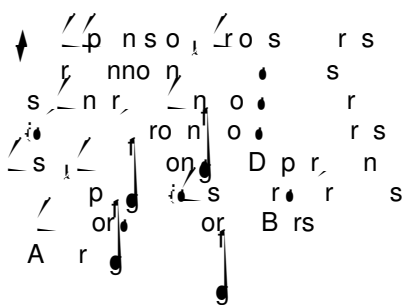
“I have an associate degree in Aviation Electronics (Avionics) and General Radio Communications from Philippine Aeronautics Technical/Training Institute in Manila. While pursuing my studies I worked full time as a reservation/interpreter staff with Korean Airlines. Even though, I was born in Korea I spent most of teenage and my adult life in Philippines.

“My mother migrated to Guam in 1980. We three brothers followed her in 1984. I worked as front office staff in Guam Dia-ichi Hotel for two years. I join the United States Air Force in 1986. I was stationed in Dayton, Ohio, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. I

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Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, the Tharpe Travel Award, and the George Bursa Award for Outstanding Graduate Achievement in Chemistry. His work at USF has resulted in five national ACS meeting poster presentations, and over 12 publications including *Journal of Chemical Education*, *Journal of Organic Chemistry*, and *Chemical Communications* under the supervision of Dr. Bisht. Eric defended his dissertation last summer and accepted a position as a tenure track assistant professor of organic chemistry at Eastern Kentucky University in Lexington Kentucky, where he will teach and conduct research.

***The joy of our present, the hope of our future...***



***The Alexiou Award***

**Young Chul Park** is a graduate student from Korea. He obtained his M.S. with honors in chemistry from Dankook University, Seoul, Korea in the year 1990. He



*Awardees. From left to right, Young Chul Park, Christina Ridley, Jarrod F. Eubank, Greg McManus.*

then worked on natural products chemistry and also on total synthesis of natural products in Esung pharmaceutical company, Korea for 8 years. He joined the Department of Chemistry at Florida Institute of Technology in 1999 for his PhD under the supervision of Dr. Bill J. Baker. His doctoral research was based on the isolation of secondary metabolites from Antarctic marine organisms and total synthesis of natural products. He relocated along with his supervisor Dr. Bill J. Baker to Department of chemistry, University of South Florida in 2001 to continue his Ph.D. program. He was graduated in May 2004.

***Theodore and Venette Askounes Ashford Graduate Fellowship***

**Christina Ridley** was born in Oberlin, OH and raised in Temple Terrace, FL. She was graduated summa cum laude with a BA in Chemistry and Economics from the University of South Florida in May 2000. In Fall 2001, she returned to USF as a Presidential Doctoral Fellow. Christina is working on her Ph.D. under the supervision of Professor Brian Space. Her research interests include developing time correlation function theories for various types of spectroscopy and performing molecular dynamics simulation of organic molecules and small peptides. She hopes to finish her Ph.D. in 2005 and pursue postdoctoral studies.

### *The George Bursa Award*

**Barry F. Egan** was born in Union County, Kentucky and attended Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. His studies included scientific research in multiple areas, including organic chemistry under the supervision of USF alumnus **Dr. Joseph**

**Carroll** (Ph.D. '01). He was graduated Magna Cum Laude in May 2002 with a B.S. in both Chemistry and Recombinant Gene Technology. The following fall he joined the department of chemistry at USF to pursue his Ph.D. in chemistry, and he joined the group of **Dr. Joseph Carroll** to work in the specific area of metal-organic chemistry. Currently, his research involves the design and synthesis of stable, porous metal-organic frameworks for various applications, as well as the design and synthesis of new organic ligands to be utilized in such frameworks.

### *The George Bursa Award*

**Gregory C. Egan** was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island in 1980. He attended the University of Prince Edward Island where in 2002 he obtained his B.Sc. with honors in chemistry under the supervision of Dr. Brian Wagner. Greg attended the Departmental Open House in March of 2002 and subsequently decided leave the ice and snow of Canada behind and in August of 2002 he joined **Dr. Joseph Carroll's** research group here at USF. Greg is currently finishing up the second year of his Ph.D work involving crystal engineering, nanoscience, and x-ray crystallography. He presented a paper describing his research at the Spring National ACS in Anaheim, CA in April.

### *We hear from alumni...*

**Joseph Carroll** (Ph.D.'04), having served as a visiting faculty member at Eckerd

College, accepted a postdoctoral position at the University of Iowa.

**Chris Carroll** (Ph.D., '03) accepted an offer of an assistant professorship at Texas A & I University, Kingsville starting with the fall 2004 term.

**Joseph Carroll** (Ph.D. '00) presented a paper on fuel cells based on biomass at the 68th annual meeting of the Florida Academy of Sciences (Orlando, March) and at the National ACS meeting in Anaheim

**Christopher Carroll**, M.D. (M.S.'86) is now practicing medicine in Detroit, Michigan.

**Joseph Carroll** (Ph.D. '78) is now Principal, Dooris & Associates, LLC, an environmental consulting firm, St. Leo Florida.

**Joseph Carroll** (Ph.D.'99) was featured in an issue of the North Carolina State University's news page. She was pictured setting up equipment in the new state-of-the art teaching laboratory (organic chemistry).

**Chris Carroll** (Ph.D. '94), Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Central Florida, served as Co-chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 68th Annual meeting of the Florida Academy of Sciences held at UCF in March. She is currently serving as President of FAS.

**Elizabeth D. Gross** (Ph.D. '94) is still very busy with Delta Kappa Gamma. In April, for example, she was scheduled for district meetings on three of the four Saturdays. At these meetings, she holds two-hour workshops to train members who will be chapter presidents in 2004-2006. In addition to other related activities and May, June, and

July, she was scheduled to attend the international convention of the organization in July in Minneapolis. She wrote, "It is an interesting job, and I get to see many friends that I have met over the years".

**Dr. Donald Davis** (Ph.D.'00) is Manager of Research, Development, and Engineering at Bausch & Lomb in Tampa.

**Dr. Michael J. Moran** (B.A.'00) worked as an analytical chemist for about 18 months before going to law school. She now practices patent law in Tampa at Carlton Fields, P.A. **Dr. Christopher J. Moran** (B.S.'03) is a graduate student in chemistry at Louisiana State University where one of his research projects deals with modeling peptide sequences for drug design in collaboration with his research advisor and a biochemist.

**Dr. Joseph Stanko** (B.A.'66; M.S.'68) was co-recipient of highest honor of Semiconductor Equipment and Material International. He and his co-inventor were recognized for Safe Delivery Source ® technology used in modern wafer fabrication processes. Dr. Olander was one of the five founders of ATMI in 1986. He held senior management positions at Lord Corporation's

Chemical Products Division, American Cyanamid Co, PPG Industries, and General Electric. He has also been a key developer of new business ventures, according to ATMI (Danbury, CT). He received the Department's first Outstanding Alumni Award on April 18, 1988.

**Dr. Victoria R. Parr** (Ph.D.'01) is a Senior Scientist with Gilead Sciences in Foster City, CA. He wrote that they specialize in anti-infectives, specifically HIV and hepatitis B/C. He lives in San Francisco.

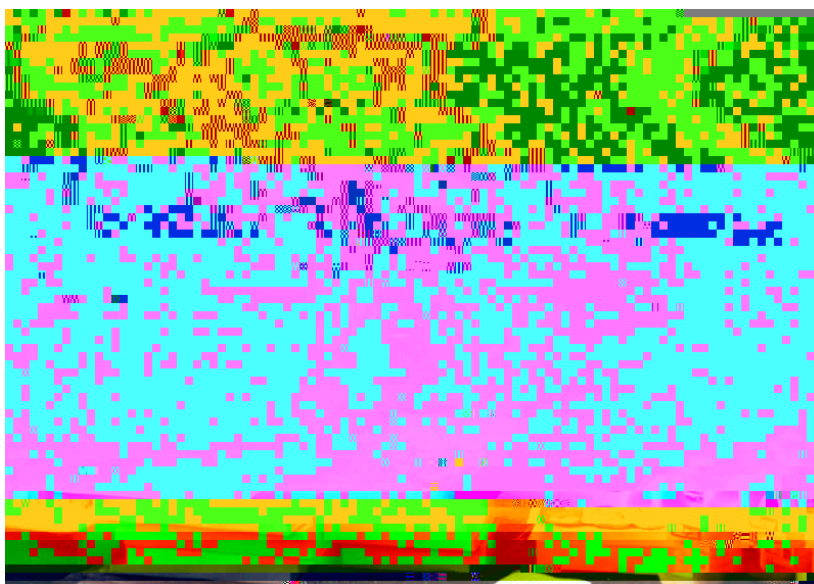
**Dr. Jennifer R. Parr** (Ph.D.'99) described the "Use of Cooperative Learning Groups in a General Chemistry Laboratory Courses at HCC Brandon Campus" a program that she devised and implemented

(68<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Florida Academy of Sciences, Orlando March 12).

**Dr. David R. Parr**, Capt. U.S. Army, (Ph.D.'96) is stationed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where he serves as editor of Inquiring Minds (News and notes from the Department of Clinical Investigations) among other duties.

### ***Seen in passing...***

At the recent FAME 2004 (80th annual), we got to visit with **Dr. Robert J. Parr** (Ph.D.'03), **Dr. Jennifer R. Parr** (Ph.D., '03), **Dr. Brian J. Moran** (Ph.D., '03), **Dr. Christopher J. Moran** (Ph.D., '02), and **Dr. Joseph Stanko** (Ph.D., '97). All were giving papers, and it was a pleasure to have a chance to visit with them.



*Chemathon'94. Off to a good start. Dr. Joseph Stanko welcomed participants to donuts and juice or coffee.*

## ***Remember when?***

For a number of years an Associate Chair, Dr. Terry Oestreich or Dr. Andy Zektzer (Ph.D. '85) would coordinate a Chemathon with the cooperation of various faculty members. High school chemistry teachers would be invited to come for presentations, guided tours, and chemistry quiz contests. Prizes were given at the end of the day. Pictured here are candid shots from Chemathon'94, (not all from the Department of Chemistry).

## ***What are they up to?***

Please look at our web page ("Graduate Alumni") and see if you (and or your friends and fellow alumni) are accurately listed. It is hard to keep up with growing list of alumni (would you