



# USF Chemistry NEWS

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

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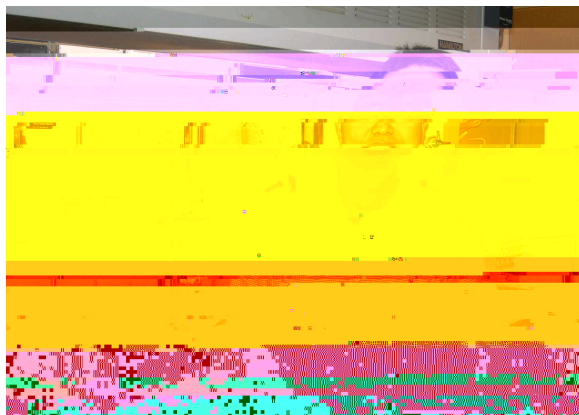
## ***Introducing a new faculty member...***

*Dr Jianfeng Cai Assistant Professor of Chemistry* wrote:

“I was born in an out-of-the-way village at the foot of beautiful Jinyun Mountain located in Beibei, a suburb of Chongqing, which is now one of five municipalities directly under the Central Government in China. My father was an electrician in a metallurgical construction company, and my mother was working as a countryside pharmacist. My childhood was full of happy memories, and even now I still often let my thoughts run back to those ‘good old days.’ I always reminisce about the refreshing fragrance pervading the mountain in spring when all the flowers were blooming, and golden fruits hanging on the trees in autumn when people were harvesting rice in farmlands. There were a lot of kids of my age back those days in the village, and we grew up together and played almost all the time.”

“I had high career goals even before I got into elementary school. In those times, there was a huge difference between urban- and rural-registered residences in terms of quality of life. Therefore my original goal in being a good student was to go to college because a college graduate would be assigned urban residency and a job with cadre appointment. Such a firm and strong will sustained me to study hard all the time and be a student with good performance, even though I had no clue what type of person I would like to be after I grew up.”

“The competition became much more intense in high school, which was also when I started to like chemistry more than other subjects, because it came more naturally





## ***Eighth Raymond N. Castle Student Research Conference...***

The Conference continues to be organized by students for students and continues to promote Dr. Castle's goals of scientific collaboration and scientific education.

*Castle Conference Committee members*  
were: *To* *n* (Co-chair), *C*  
*n*, *on* *Yo n* (Co-chair), *B* *o*  
*B* *n* *C* *n* *C* *o*  
*n*  
*C* *n*  
*n*  
*To* *C* *o* *n*  
*q* *X* *no* *X* and  
*n* *o* *z* *o* .



Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program in the Department is going strong. This Spring we had 80 students participating in undergraduate research in the Department and 20 faculty mentors. To , n was the Teaching Assistant for the Program this Spring and will continue on this summer and the 2010/2011 academic year. This Spring semester we offered workshops on abstract writing, scientific writing, poster making and poster presentation skills. Most of our students presented at the Department of Chemistry Raymond N. Castle Student Research Conference. This summer we have 35 students participating either for credit or as a volunteer. The Office of Undergraduate Research has generously funded the Teaching Assistantship since 2005 for the Academic Year as well as the summer for the past year. The Office of Undergraduate Research is a strong supporter of our program.”

## **Campus changes --- past and future...**

The Tampa *Tribune* recently described a “building boom” at USF Tampa Campus. This includes:

**on C n, C n, o o**  
**o , on** 71,700 ft<sup>2</sup> plus a large auditorium, \$24.9 million (gift from Dr. Patel plus State matching funds), scheduled completion: December 2010.

**B n** 13,500 ft<sup>2</sup>, \$46.6 million, includes 500-seat concert hall, 100-seat recital hall, practice rooms, and classrooms. Estimated completion: January 2011.

**n, n, n, n, n**  
**B n** : 238,500 ft<sup>2</sup>, \$92.8 million, two 300-seat classrooms, additional

smaller classrooms, and laboratories. Estimated completion: August 2011. This will be USF’s largest building, taller than the University Library.

**on C n, n on** 51,000 ft<sup>2</sup>, \$14.9 million (from student fees), and will include recreation and dining facilities.

Though there is a recession, most of the \$179 million in construction costs comes from “State publication capital outlay funds using tax revenue budgeted years ago specifically for construction.”

“Given ~475,000 ft<sup>2</sup> additional space, it is useful to remember a State analysis that projected USF would in 2012 rank last among Florida public universities for having enough space for the teaching and research responsibilities (especially research laboratories).”

[Our thanks for an informative article by Tribune Staff writer Mr. Richard Danielson: [https://www.tampabay.com/news/education/8\(u\)-0.958048\(1\)](https://www.tampabay.com/news/education/8(u)-0.958048(1))]

***Graduate degrees, May 2010...***

## ***Did you know?***

“USF is only one of 38 programs across the county that has all three (Army, Navy/Marine, and Air Force) ROTC programs. In 2004, USF established the ‘only’ Joint Military Leadership Center (JMLC) in the nation... The JMLC and ROTC programs are consolidated in the

*Environmental Applications of Nanoscale and Microscale Reactive Metal Particles*, ACS Symposium Series, Vol. 1027, published in December 2009.

Dr. **nm**, Associate Professor of Chemistry, “will be taking the helm of the Women’s and Gender Studies Department as Interim Chair beginning in the fall,” Dr. **n**, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, announced on May 5. He added, “Her interest in gender issues in science and progressive forms of pedagogy make her a perfect fit for the job.”





Two additional awards (in cash) are named after two past department chairs:

1. **Dr. J. Q. O. O.**

We hope to build up the funds so the amount of the awards can be increased.

### ***Other opportunities for helpful giving (Do as we do?)***

The 2009-2010 Faculty/Staff Fund Drive may be considered a success, thanks to the participation of Chemistry faculty and staff members.

This is a drive to encourage faculty and staff members all over the University to make a donation to USF, e.g., one of funds listed under "Make a Gift". Cash donations or pay-roll deduction were two of the other opportunities that were available.

How did we do? Quite well. Over 94 percent of the faculty and staff members of Chemistry either donated or pledged so far.

The percentage likely places Chemistry ahead of all other departments of any size in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS).

**Dr. J. Q. O. O.** and a retired chemistry faculty member were among the