



Remarks by the Chair



Yes, for those of you who have known me at some point over my seventeen years at William and Mary, I know what you are thinking. As a matter of fact, I recently received an e-mail from an alumnus (Subject: Big Kahuna?) that stated "I distinctly remember a conversation we had years ago that said that there was no way in (expletive deleted) you wanted to become department head." Apparently my mind has once again failed me, but let me assure you that I am honored to take on the challenge, just as I hope that all of you have continued to accept the challenges associated with your careers, family, and society.

I feel that some reflections on my tenure at William and Mary are in order to consider the challenges for the next five years as chair, as I have been witness to phenomenal growth and success with respect to our students and faculty. I have seen the faculty grow from eleven to fifteen full-time faculty. We have a number of energetic younger faculty who will undoubtedly have bright careers, and they are an excellent addition to the very successful senior faculty that we have within the department. In fact, for the first time in this department's history, the chemistry faculty were awarded over one million dollars in external support from a wide variety of state, federal, and private sources in the 1999-2000 fiscal year.

I have seen a number of faculty hired, retire, or leave during my time here. Our most recent loss was Kathleen Morgan, an organic chemist who had just received her tenure last fall. Although Kathleen displayed a strong commitment to the department through curricular improvements and an active research program, her commitment to her husband, an anthropology professor at Tulane, was understandably stronger. She has accepted a

faculty position at Xavier in New Orleans, and we wish her all the success that she enjoyed while in our department. We also would like to extend a warm welcome to Lisa Landino, our newest faculty member. Lisa's biochemistry background and experience in undergraduate chemistry while at Middlebury College should significantly enhance those areas of our curriculum.

The number of students that have passed through our halls over the years has grown as well. A number of additional sections of general and organic lecture and lab sections have been added, and at one time even night labs in Instrumental Analysis and Physical Chemistry were needed to handle the demand, when the number of majors peaked at 70 in 1996. Although the numbers have gone down somewhat in recent years, we can still proudly state that we have been one of the top ten producers of ACS certified chemistry degrees in the nation throughout the past decade. Considering that the remainder of the top ten is dominated by large Ph.D. granting institutions, this is a statistic I continue to be amazed by, given the size of the College. In fact, a recent survey sponsored by Research Corporation indicated that we were the number one producer of chemistry majors over a ten year period for the 136 predominately undergraduate institutions participating in the study.

The summer undergraduate research program has experienced phenomenal growth, due in part to the generosity of the administration in providing free housing and College grants and programs which have supported summer research stipends. My early years saw perhaps 10-15 students participating in our summer program, but over the past ten years, we have averaged between 40 and 45 students every summer in research (and the evening games of softball). Many undergraduates are regularly cited as co-authors in publications and presentations, due in part to the summer research experience, and our

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success as faculty is largely the result of the countless hours of undergraduate research conducted in our laboratories.

Revenue growth within the Commonwealth of Virginia in the mid-to-late 1980's was a tremendous blessing for the department with the establishment of the Equipment Trust Fund (ETF). Numerous instruments were replaced with state of the art equipment and new types of instrumentation were introduced. Faculty grants over the years have augmented these holdings as well. Equipment needs within the lower division labs expanded significantly and were enhanced by ETF funding. Unfortunately, the recession of the early 1990's, coupled with diminishing state support and investments by the College into new programs, has created difficult allocation decisions over recent years, which has put the department in the position we faced upon my arrival at William and Mary. The vast majority of the instrumentation purchased in the late 1980's is either obsolete, in some state of disrepair, or marginally functional. The College now recognizes the need to develop a long-term recapitalization program for the basic sciences. I am excited by these prospects, and look forward to developing a plan with the department that will continue to put us in the forefront of undergraduate research with state of the art instrumentation.

We are also very excited about the prospects for the renovation and expansion of Rogers Hall. Over this past summer a pre-planning study was done calling for the complete renovation of the current structure and an addition of approximately 25,000 square feet. Once completed, all chemistry faculty would enjoy significantly improved research space within Rogers Hall, and teaching laboratories and ventilation will be improved to meet modern standards (remember those organic lab days on the first floor?). Our best shot at this becoming a reality in the near future is for the state to issue a bond referendum for public approval similar to the one responsible for the completion of McGlothlin-Street Hall. If that becomes a reality and you are still a resident of Virginia, vote yes! That alone could result in an out-

standing facility being completed within the next 5–7 years and serving our next generation of young chemists.

I hope that, five years from now when I write my last column as chair, my visions for the department have been achieved and we continue to be one of the premier undergraduate chemistry programs in the country. The department has always been extremely impressed with the quality of the chemistry majors we have produced over the years, and knows that will continue with future graduating classes. You are our best medium through which future generations can be made aware of the opportunities that await them within Rogers Hall. I have told many of you over the years that when you reflect upon your past you will eventually realize that some of your most independent and “care free” years were at William and Mary. You are our past and your children our future; and as we reflect upon the past, you will always be in our memories. Please keep in touch, even if only to torment the Big Kahuna. Cheers!

Gary Rice

Current Faculty

Chris Abelt, organic
Garrett-Robb-Guy Professor
cjabel@wm.edu

Carey Bagdassarian, biophysical
ckbagd@wm.edu

Debbie Bebout, biochemistry
dcbebo@wm.edu

Randy Coleman, organic, biochem
Director, Fresh/Soph Advising
racole@wm.edu

Gary DeFotis, physical
gcdefo@wm.edu

Rob Hinkle, organic
rjhink@wm.edu

Dick Kiefer, radiochem, polymer
rlkief@wm.edu

Steve Knudson, physical
skknud@wm.edu

Dave Kranbuehl, physical, polymer
dekran@wm.edu

Lisa Landino, biochemistry
lmland@wm.edu

Bob Orwoll, physical, polymer
raorwo@wm.edu

Bob Pike, inorganic
rdpike@wm.edu

J. C. Poutsma, analytical
jcpout@wm.edu

Ted Putnam, dept administrator
tdputn@wm.edu

Gary Rice, analytical, chair
gwrice@wm.edu

Bill Starnes, polymer
Gottwald Professor
whstar@wm.edu

Dave Thompson, inorganic
Chancellor Professor
dwthom@wm.edu

Emeriti

Alfred Armstrong, 1976

Ed Katz, 1980

Trevor Hill, 1992
tbhill@wm.edu

Cirila Djordjevic, 1992

Faculty Changes

Promotions

Kathleen Morgan (but, see below)

On leave for 2001–2002

Debbie Bebout 2001–2002 (Research Leave)

Bob Pike Fall 2001 (Research Leave)

Part-time faculty, 2001–2002

Gary Hammer Fall 2001

Kathy Sturgeon Fall 2001

Homer Smith Fall 2001

Bon Voyage!

Kathleen Morgan leaves the department after a very successful six years and the receipt of tenure.

Unfortunately, a position for her anthropologist husband Trent, who teaches at Tulane, could not be found here. Not wishing to sustain a long-distance marriage, Kathleen has joined the faculty of the Chemistry Department at Xavier University of Louisiana, in New Orleans. Kathleen's outstanding teaching and excellent research will be much missed.

Welcome!

We welcome Lisa M. Landino as Assistant Professor of Chemistry this fall. Lisa received a B.S. in chemistry from Nazareth College in Rochester, New York and a Ph.D. (1994) in organic and biochemistry from the University of Virginia, where she worked with T.L. McDonald. Lisa did postdoctoral work in biochemistry at Vanderbilt, working with L.J. Marnett; she also successfully initiated research at Middlebury College, receiving substantial grant support and directing the research of several thesis and other undergraduate students. At William and Mary Lisa plans to continue research into how oxidative damage to proteins affects structure and function, and into the ways in which the protein tubulin interacts with cytochrome c. Lisa's arrival definitely enhances the biochemistry part of the Department's program.



Selected Research Profiles

Carey K. Bagdassarian



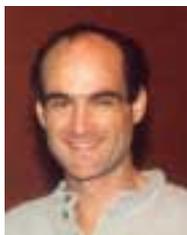
I am interested in the ways order originates in fluctuating and potentially chaotic systems. A specific focus of my group's work has been to understand how fluctuations in an enzyme molecule's three-dimensional structure contribute to catalysis. We introduce correlated fluctuations—a level of order arising from the immense interconnectivity of any large biomolecule—into an enzyme's "breathing modes" to explain a possible source of its enormous catalytic power. Our work, at the intersection of chemistry, physics, biology, mathematics, and computer science, marries paper and pencil theory and computer modeling through molecular dynamics simulations and artificial intelligence. We have recently developed an interdisciplinary team (Bagdassarian (Chemistry), Kranbuehl (Chemistry and Applied Science), Mike Trosset (Mathematics), and Patty Zwollo (Biology)) to get to the heart of the matter. I am also very interested in origins of broader types of order—such as consciousness and its evolution.

Recent Publications

M. Singla ('01) and C.K. Bagdassarian, "Dynamical Tuning of Enzymatic Conformational Fluctuations for Maximal Catalytic Velocity" submitted to *Protein Science*.

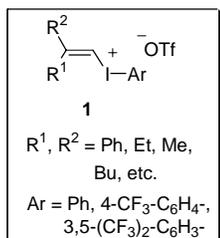
K.O. Alper ('99, M.S. Computer Science '01), M. Singla ('01), J.L. Stone ('00), and C.K. Bagdassarian, "Correlated Conformational Fluctuations During Enzymatic Catalysis: Implications for Catalytic Rate Enhancement" *Protein Science*, **10**, 1319-1330 (2001).

C. K. Bagdassarian and R.D. Astumian, "Conformational Fluctuations and Protein Function: the Thermodynamics of a Brownian Motor", in *Thermodynamics in Biology*, ed E. Di Cera, Oxford University Press (2001).



Robert J. Hinkle

Our research examines the chemistry of highly-reactive vinylic iodonium salts (e. g., 1). Iodine can adopt several oxidation states and this class of compounds contains I(III). The positive charge on iodine renders the vinylic C-I bond labile enough to make these compounds prone to fragmentation, rearrangement and substitution. Since my arrival, we have extensively investigated the fragmentation and rearrangement reactions and are continuing to develop new reactions using organozinc reagents as nucleophiles. We have begun to examine the effects of structure (especially Ar) on reactivity as well as investigate a number of reactions between iodonium salts and organometallic reagents other than those containing zinc.



Recent Publications

Hinkle, R. J.; McDonald, R. ‡, “(Z)-2-Methyl-1-buten-1-yl(aryl)iodonium Triflates Containing Electron-Withdrawing Groups on the Aryl Moiety.” Submitted to *Acta Cryst. C*.

Bykowski, D. ‡; McDonald, R. ‡; Hinkle, R. J.; Tykwinski, R. R. ‡ “Structural and Electronic Characteristics of Thienyl(aryl)iodonium Triflates.” Submitted to *J. Org. Chem.*

McNeil, A. J. (’99); Hinkle*, R. J.; Rouse, E. A. (’00); Thomas, Q. A. (’98); Thomas, D. B. (’98) “Vinyl Carbocations: Solution Studies of Alkenyl(aryl)-iodonium Triflate Fragmentations,” *J. Org. Chem.* **2001**, *66*, in press.

Hinkle, R. J.; Leri, A. C. (’00); David, G. A. (’00); Erwin, W. M. (’99). “Addition of Benzylzinc Halides to Alkenyl(phenyl)iodonium Triflates: Stereo-selective Synthesis of Trisubstituted Alkenes,” *Org. Lett.* **2000**, *2*, 1521-1523.

Hinkle, R. J.; McNeil, A. J. (’99); Thomas, Q. A. (’98); Andrews, M. N. (’99) “Vinyl Cations in Solution: Kinetics and Products of Alkenyl(aryl)iodonium Salt Fragmentations,” *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1999**, *121*, 7437-7438.

Hinkle, R. J.; Thomas, D. B. (’98) “Facile Fragmentations of Alkenyl(aryl)iodonium Triflates,” *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 7534-7535.

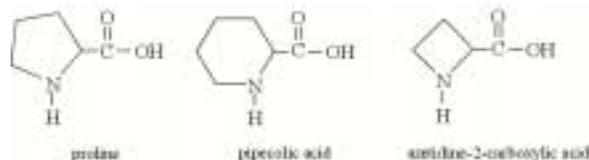
‡University of Alberta



J. C. Poutsma

I am a gas phase ion chemist, and am interested in the structure and energetics of small organic and biological molecules. By performing chemistry in the gas phase, in the absence of solvent, we can access the intrinsic reactivity and thermochemistry of the molecules of interest. My group uses a quadrupole ion trap tandem mass spectrometer to perform our studies. In addition, we use computational chemistry to give us predictions for the thermodynamic quantities that we are measuring in the lab. We are currently studying non-protein amino acids (NPAA), that is, amino acids that are not used by humans for peptide and protein synthesis. Many of these species are similar in structure to one or more of the twenty protein amino acids (PAA). As such, NPAAs can compete with their PAA analogs in biological pathways and some can even misincorporate into peptides and proteins. We want to understand how the structure of an amino acid affects its chemical properties in hopes of shedding light on the toxicity of these species to humans.

We have recently completed a study of the gas phase basicity of a series of proline analogs. We find that there is a correlation between the size of the ring and the basicity at the nitrogen atom. We are currently studying analogs of lysine, arginine and alanine in order to gain a greater understanding of the effects of simple substitutions on the chemistry of these biologically interesting molecules.



Recent Publications

A. F. Kuntz (’00), A. W. Boynton (’00), G. A. David (’00), K. E. Colyer (’01), and J. C. Poutsma “The Proton affinity of Proline Analogs Using the Kinetic Method with Full Entropy Analysis” Submitted for Publication to the *Journal of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry*.

J.C. Poutsma, S. D. Upshaw (’99), R. R. Squires, P. G. Wenthold “The Absolute Heat of Formation and Singlet-Triplet splitting for HCCN” Submitted for Publication to the *Journal of Physical Chemistry A*.

Flad, J. E., Everest, M. A.; Poutsma, J. C.; Zare, R. N. “Vibrational and Collision Energy Effects in the Reaction of Ammonia Ions with Methylamine” *J. Chem. Phys.* **2001**, *115*, 124.

Faculty Attract Nationally Competitive Research Funding

As in last year's newsletter, we make mention here of a few of the grants received by chemistry faculty that were especially large and/or competitive.



Gary DeFotis

Gary DeFotis received his fifth consecutive multi-year grant from the National Science Foundation, for a little over \$200,000 for three years. This may be the largest NSF grant to a single individual received in the department. It enables DeFotis to continue his work on various kinds of mixed and dilute magnetic systems. A great many undergraduate research students have already participated in such research over the years.

Dave Kranbuehl received a National Science Foundation International Grant, cosponsored by the French government, for \$20,000 over three years.



Dave Kranbuehl

Bill Starnes received the third installment (\$110,00) in a three-year grant from the Edison Polymer Innovation Corporation for \$345,000 total.

As in the past, several faculty have obtained American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund grants or grants from the Jeffress Memorial Trust. Others receive support from NASA and Virginia state agencies. All of these grants have been crucial to providing the wherewithall to maintain the department's research efforts at a level competitive with the very top predominately undergraduate departments in the country. As always, additional support for the upgrading of equipment, and, no less important, equipment maintenance, is much needed. Regular financial contributions from alumni and friends of the department are crucial in helping us fulfill our educational mission. We hope you will consider allocating a regular portion of your charitable contributions to the department to help us maintain the success of our program.



Bill Starnes

Starnes Elected to Fellowship in Society of Plastics Engineers

Gottwald Professor of Chemistry William H. Starnes received a signal honor this past year in being elected a Fellow of the Society of Plastics Engineers, which was bestowed at an awards luncheon at the Annual Technical Conference of the Society in Dallas. The SPE is the oldest and largest organization of plastics professionals in the world, and includes chemists, physicists and other scientists working with plastics (2000 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry Alan M^{ac}Diarmid is a member). Of some 31,000 SPE members, including many internationally based scientists, only 155 have ever been elected to Fellowship. Starnes continues to serve as a charter member of Chemistry Advisory Council of VPI&SU in Blacksburg, as well as consultant to European government/scientific communities.

Programmatic Notes

Two significant developments in the academic program should be mentioned. One is a joint B.S./M.S. degree program which has been approved by the department and now enters subsequent review stages. The idea is to offer high caliber students who come in with a large number of advanced placement, transfer or other credits the opportunity to obtain the higher level degree with only a modest additional commitment of time at the College (one summer following graduation). Not every detail will be listed here, but the essence is that such students can obtain a head start in chemistry courses beyond the freshman level immediately upon arrival, and can also complete nonchemistry bachelors degree graduation requirements by the end of their third year. The fourth year and the following summer are essentially directed toward satisfying the normal requirements for a masters degree in chemistry. It is believed that this program will not only enhance the prospects of joint degree students as they leave William and Mary, but will also help to attract additional top students to the department.

The other new development, which has been approved at all levels, is a joint M.S./Ph.D. program in Chemistry and Applied Science (the latter is now a department). The new degree would be offered jointly by the two departments, with integrated participation by faculty from each. Incoming students would be approved and admitted by both departments and would begin by completing a masters degree in Chemistry. Course work in the Chemistry M.S. program will satisfy the Ph.D. requirements in Applied Science. The goal is to make it attractive for more "chemically" inclined prospective students to pursue an Applied Science Ph.D.

Undergraduate Research Activities

As has been the case for decades, very large numbers of chemistry majors are engaged in research during the academic year and during the summer in collaboration with faculty members. This was once again reflected in the now traditional September (2000) event, the Verizon Undergraduate Science Research Symposium, held Friday, September 15 in the University Center, the seventh annual one in the series. As in several recent years, separate oral sessions were held focusing on especially biological, chemical or physical topics, followed by a general poster session. Thirteen oral and eighty-two poster presentations were made. As in the past, chemistry had the most presentations, with biology a close second. Debbie Bebout again organized and oversaw the symposium.

Several undergraduates also presented their work in external venues. **Kate Colyer** displayed a poster at the American Society for Mass Spectrometry National Meeting in Chicago, in June 2001. Four other students of Professor Poutsma also attended this meeting. **Katie Hogdon** gave an invited student talk at the 67th Annual Virginia Section of the American Water Works Association meeting, in Williamsburg, on October 2000, based on her work with Professor Rice.

Mention should also be made of the impressive success of **Ann Mikowski** in winning both a Goldwater Scholarship and Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation Scholarship. She presented her work with Professor Hinkle at the Third Annual Beckman Scholars Symposium held in Irvine, CA, in July 2001. Beckman scholars and their mentors were gathered at this event, and Ann had the opportunity to hear such world renowned figures as 1995 Nobel Laureate Sherwood Roland discuss their work.

Funding for student travel to meetings is necessarily limited, and it should be mentioned that many, many additional undergraduates appeared as coauthors on presentations made by department faculty at a host of national and international meetings.

Dow Scholars Program at William and Mary

The Chemistry Department at the College is one of only 18 undergraduate programs nationwide selected by Dow Chemical for its Dow Scholars program. Each year, with the generous support of the Dow Chemical Foundation, two Dow Scholars are selected from the incoming class. Their selection is based upon their high school academic achievements and their intent to major in chemistry. Dow scholars receive \$2,000 tuition scholarship during each of their four years in college, and support from Dow for carrying out summer research with a faculty member in the department. Many of our Dow Scholars stay to do research during two summers.

The Dow Scholars program at the College was instituted in 1990. Since then, 17 students have graduated as Dow Scholars. We are extremely proud of these alumni, most of whom have gone on to pursue careers in chemistry. They have enrolled in graduate programs at Cal Berkeley, Cal Tech, Cornell, Duke, Harvard, Illinois, Northwestern, North Carolina, Stanford, Virginia and Yale.

William and Mary chemistry graduate Dr. Michael Edens ('73) has recently been appointed to oversee the Dow Scholars program at the College. Mike serves as a Technical Leader in Dow's Polyglycols Research and Development Division in Freeport, TX. This past spring, the Department welcomed Mike back for his first visit to meet our current Dow Scholars and see how we have grown and prospered since he was a student at the College.

Chemistry Class of 2001 and Their Destinations

Beth Rachele Adams	medicinal chemist, Merck
Bethany B. Barone	graduate studies in epidemiology, Johns Hopkins (chem/kinesiology)
Andrew Wayne Boynton	not reported
Elizabeth M. Cornell	seeking employment in D.C., then master's in chemistry, W&M
Geoffrey Alan David	studies at U. Montpellier, France, then at U. Lucerne, Switzerland
Kathleen Erin Dejong	Americorps
Mark Alois Fashing	graduate studies in computer science, Duke (computer science/chem)
Aven Walker Ford	not reported (chem/rel)
Christopher Cho Fox	not reported
Melissa Marie Garland	(Dec '00) medicinal chemist, Merck
Peter Freeman Godenschwager	graduate studies in chemistry, Cornell
Kathryn Ann Guy	graduate studies in chemistry, U. Illinois at Urbanna (chem/math)
Daniel Keith Havey	graduate studies in chemistry, U. Colorado, Boulder
Katie Ellen Hodgdon	undecided
Brian Matthew Hopkinson	graduate studies in marine chemistry, Scripps
Ronald James Travis Houk	graduate studies in chemistry, UT Austin
Timothy Jason Johnson	undecided
Meisa Silviane Khoshbin	graduate studies in chemistry, Northwestern
Andrew Frederic Kuntz	medical school, UVA
Michael Lewis Laccheo	medical school, U. Kansas School of Medicine (phil/chem)
Emily Fields Landon	pharmacy school, VCU
Steven Nathan Leff	(Dec '00) working in No. VA
Bradley Thomas Marts	graduate studies in physics, Duke (chem/math)
William Stuart McBride	graduate studies in mechanical engineering, Northwestern (physics/chem)
Donald Ryan McGlothlin	graduate studies in chemistry, Stanford
Joshua Ona Miranda	dental school, MCV
Sarah Zayat Prunier	English teacher in South Korea for a year
Michael Logan Rawlins	medical school
Stephen Eugene Rolando	(Dec '00) account executive, Boland Services, Rockville, MD
Elizabeth Ashley Rouse	medicinal chemist, Merck
Inder Paul Singh	medical school, MCV, or master's in public health, GWU (bio/chem)
Manish Singla	medical school, Georgetown (chem/math)
Rebecca Lynn Smith	seeking employment
Stacey Allison Smith	year off, then medical school at EVMS
Amy Elizabeth Sprinkle	graduate studies in forensic science, GWU
Christopher James VandenBussche	MD/PhD program, Georgetown (chem/bio)
Kristin Lawrence Weidner	undecided
George Stuart Blair Williams	undecided
Zachary Nathan Woodward	Officer's Candidate School, USN

Masters Candidates and Their Destinations

Christine Howard (Sept '01) begins work as a medical scribe in Richmond and hopes to enter MCV in Fall '03.

Yue (Lucy) Hu (Jul '01) has entered the Ph.D program in Applied Science at William and Mary.

Yao Lin (Dec '00) is in the Ph.D program in chemistry at Michigan.

Jonathan Maeyer (Jul '01) is as yet undecided.

Andy Meyer (Dec, '99) is a scientist at Wyatt Technologies in Santa Barbara, CA.

Lynda Payne (May '01) is an R&D chemist for Biovail Tech. in Chantilly, VA.

Katherine Ross (Dec '00) has accepted a job in the chemical industry.

Eugene Ward (Dec, '99) did not report his plans.

Julie Warner (M.S. Sept '01) has entered the Ph.D program in Applied Science at William and Mary.

Departmental Awards

William George Guy Prize in Chemistry	Ryan McGlothlin
Virginia ACS Award	Chris VandenBussche
American Institute of Chemists Award	Ashley Rouse
Alumni Undergraduate Research Award	Brian Hopkinson
Hypercube Award	Meisa Khoshbin
Merck Index Award	Bethany Barone, Andy Kuntz

PBK Awards

Bethany Barone	Mark Fashing
Kathryn Guy	Brian Hopkinson
Meisa Khoshbin	Andy Kuntz
Ryan McGlothlin	Manish Singla
	Chris VandenBussche

Monroe Scholars

Beth Adams	Meisa Khoshbin
Mark Fashing	Michael Laccheo
Kathryn Guy	Ashley Rouse
Katie Hodgdon	Manish Singla
Brian Hopkinson	Blair Williams

Dow Scholarships

Kathryn Guy	Ashley Rouse
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Honors in Chemistry

Geoff David	Andy Kuntz
Melissa Garland	Michael Laccheo
Pete Godenschwager	Ryan McGlothlin
Kathryn Guy	Logan Rawlins
Dan Havey	Manish Singla
Brian Hopkinson	Becky Smith
Ron Houk	Chris VandenBussche
Meisa Koshbin	Zach Woodward

News of Our Alums

Kutay Alper ('99, Comp. Sci. '01) is a programmer for IBM, with a salary twice that of his research mentor.

Pam Arnold ('95) completed her Ph.D. in chemistry at Cornell in January, and will be doing a postdoc at the University of Ottawa in Ontario, Canada.

Heather King Baker ('97), after working in industry for a while and teaching science in the Massachusetts New Teachers Program, is now pursuing graduate work in the Chemical Biology program of Cornell University.

Emily Buehler ('96), while finishing up her thesis in chemistry at Chapel Hill, has done a mini-grand tour of Europe, served as an intern with the National Academy of Sciences in Washington (in the Office of Public Understanding of Science), and is exploring a possible career as a writer.

After receiving her Ph.D. in organic chemistry at UCLA, **Ellen Burns** ('91) has taught at Bowdoin College and The College of Wooster, where she is currently on leave, and is a congressional and science policy fellow of the American Chemical Society, working in the office of Rep. Nick Smith (R-Mich.).

Stuart Chaffee ('96) completed his Ph.D. in chemistry at Yale and now works as a chemist at Amgen in Thousand Oaks, CA.

Richard Chamberlain ('91) received his Ph.D. in chemistry from Berkeley, and is now a research scientist at Eastman Kodak in Rochester, NY.

Jim Comey ('82) runs the U.S. Attorney's Office in Richmond.

Randy Culp ('78) is an orthopedic hand specialist in the Philadelphia area whose outstanding work has been recognized in *Philadelphia Magazine's* "Top Doc" Honors Poll.

William Harris ('66), after serving as Director for Mathematical and Physical Sciences at the NSF, holding the Directorship of Columbia's Biosphere 2, and the vice-presidency for research at the U. of South Carolina, will now head the new Science Foundation of Ireland.

Maria Huacani Hamilton ('95) has completed her Ph.D. in biochemistry at Duke, and is enjoying a postdoc in pharmacology at the Medical University of South Carolina.

After completing his Ph.D. in chemistry at Illinois and doing a postdoc at Harvard, **Brian Hubbard** ('94) has a position at Millennium Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, MA.

Chris Kontos ('84, M.A. '85) practices cardiology at Duke.

Sharon Lee ('98) spent some time doing research at the Cancer Center of the UVA Medical School.

Matt Manning ('92) completed his residency in radiation oncology at MCV this summer and has accepted a position in private practice at a cancer center in Greensboro, NC.

David Mantus ('85), after obtaining his Ph.D. in chemistry from Cornell, postdoced at the U. of Washington, worked for Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals, and is now Director of Regulatory Affairs at BioChem Pharma, Inc. in Northborough, MA.

Since completing her Ph.D. in chemistry at Northwestern, **Ellen McGhee Meyer** ('86) has become a Senior Research Scientist in the Water Management Group of BetzDearborn, Inc., in Trevese, PA.

Jon McMahon ('97) is working for the internet advertising company Teknosurf.com.

Matt Miller ('99), previously working, is now a graduate student in chemistry at UMass, Amherst, where he does research with Richard Vachet ('93).

Shawn Mulvaney ('97) has received his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from Penn State and has an NRC postdoc position at the Naval Research Laboratory, Surface Nonoscience and Sensor Technology Section.

Amy Narducci ('95), after obtaining her Ph.D. in chemistry from Northwestern and postdocing at SmithKline Beecham, is working at Bruker AXS.

Aileen Nicoletti ('92) earned her Ph.D. in biological chemistry from Michigan and did a postdoc at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals before joining Defined Health, consultants in pharmaceutical business/franchise development headquartered in Millburn, NJ.

Caryn Prairie Outten ('95) completed her Ph.D. in chemistry at Northwestern and has assumed a postdoctoral position at Johns Hopkins in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences.

After receiving his Ph.D. in chemistry at Stanford, **Spencer Pugh** ('81) has long been associated with Eastman Kodak, where he is a team leader for several dozen researchers in the Image Research and Advanced Development Division.

Eric Remy ('88) is now Instructional Technology Coordinator at Randolph-Macon Women's College in Lynchburg, VA.

Beatrix Slomiany ('94) received her Ph.D. in pharmacology from the Medical University of South Carolina, and continues in a postdoctoral position there.

Steve Tang ('82) is president and CEO of Millenium Cell, a development-stage alternative energy company in Eatontown, NJ.

Tamara Tieman ('91, M.A. '92) finished her Ph.D. in pharmacology at Columbia and is working at Pfizer in New York City.

Jennifer Todd ('99) worked for Whitehall Robbins in Richmond before becoming a teacher in the Richmond school system.

Rich Vachet ('93) is a chemistry professor at UMass, Amherst.

Robert Weise ('87), after a stint at Chicago and a long period in the working world (Alberto-Culver, Amway Corp., where he received their R&D Creativity Award for applying LeChatelier's Principle), decided on business school as an avenue to new opportunities.

Ivana Verona Yang ('96) has completed her Ph.D. in chemistry at Chapel Hill and is doing a postdoc at the Institute for Genomic Research in Rockville, MD.

Other News

2000 Chemistry Reception

Chemistry was delighted to host a number of alums at our fall reception during last year's Homecoming. Among them were Bill Mathes and John Marsh, both Class of '55, Patti Pound Berry ('63), Bill Gillespie and Ken Nowell ('70), and Joe Stubbs, Bill Barnes and Constance O'Dorherty Barnes ('75). The Class of '80 was well represented: David Brown and his wife Elizabeth, Jim Ewing, Carol Humphries Lindsay, Cindy Darling, Susan Rappe Sullivan, Bill Weiser and his wife Sarah, Kerwin Dobbs and Kathy Lloyd Dobbs. Eugene Aquino ('88) also attended, as did Charles Gray ('96) and Jason Macko ('96, M.A. '97).

Alfred Armstrong Turns 90

On a pleasant afternoon this past July, members of the Department joined the Armstrong family and many other friends at the Armstrong's house on Newport Avenue to help Alfred Armstrong celebrate his 90th birthday. The weather was cooperative, and we gathered on their screened back porch and spilled out into the back yard for conversation and good food.

For those of you who graduated before 1995, Professor Emeritus Armstrong needs no introduction. Our more recent graduates may not know that his is the longest association with our department in its history, from his arrival as a freshman in 1928 until the mid nineties, when he retired from teaching. He holds a special place in the hearts of many of us. Happy birthday, Alfred!

Staff news

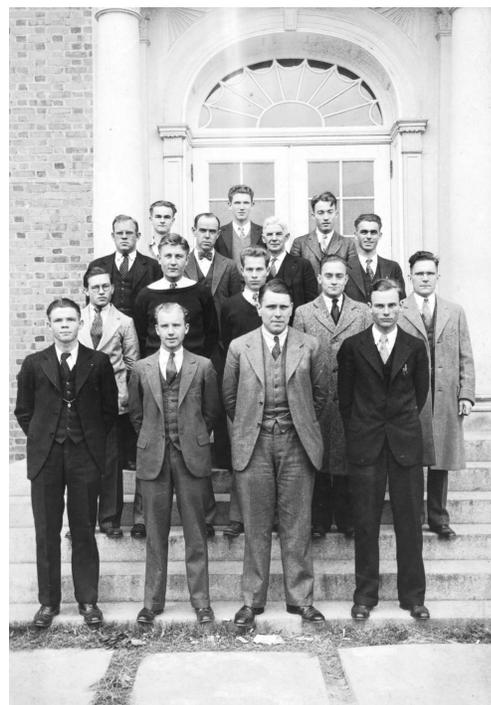


Pat Hilger joined us in October 2000 as our new Departmental Secretary. Originally from New York City, Pat moved to Williamsburg after living in Georgia, Guam and Pennsylvania. Her prior work experience was at law firms specializing in intellectual property law, so working on a college campus and for the state is definitely a big change for her. (We assume a good one, since academicians can't be as difficult to work with as attorneys, right?) Pat reports that she, her husband Gregg

and their son Philip are enjoying the Williamsburg area and looking forward to the completion of their new home.

A Loss

Sadly, we have learned that Norma Katz, whose husband Ed ('36) was Department Administrator and Instructor for many years, passed away in August of 2000. After Ed's retirement in 1980, the Katzes escaped from the rapidly growing Williamsburg area and settled into their present home in Seven Lakes, North Carolina.



Do you recognize the student on the right end of the first row in this photo of the Chem Club in 1932?

Old Rogers Recollections

Lern How to Spel

Indeed an embarrassing correction is required from the “Old Rogers Recollections” column in our last issue of the Newsletter (2000). To my astonishment, someone actually read the column and wrote us pointing out the misspelling of pigeon, which appeared as pidgeon. One would presume, after correcting literally dozens of people over many years on the spelling of Rogers (versus Rodgers), that surely the writer could manage the beast: pigeon.

In all fairness, Pidgeon is absolutely the correct spelling as found in the Random House Dictionary, which the writer looked up before writing last year’s column! He simply neglected to read the entry:Walter, born 1898, U. S. movie actor born in Canada. Deeming that all spellings of similar sounds come out of the same tap, surely there was no need to search the dictionary any further. The writer regrets the rather crass error.



Walter Pidgeon



Rogers Pigeon

Still and all, the Rogers vs. Rodgers problem will not go away. Some years ago our administration decided to place some lovely new signs, with backgrounds of (William and Mary) green with gold lettering, outside the major campus buildings for purposes of easy identification: you guessed it, ours read “Rodgers Hall”. Fortunately the name was not cast in stone or steel (a popular preoccupation on academic campuses), but on wood which was easily burned in the fireplace with few to know the difference.

Working Conditions in Old Rogers

In the early '60s, the only air conditioner in the whole building was in Professor Armstrong’s office. This meant that the rest of the building was uncomfortable indeed, particularly during the laboratory summer sessions of the hot and humid summer months. Opening the laboratory windows did little to alleviate the situation; and besides, a lot of the windows were stuck in the shut position anyhow. One day I wandered in to find students in elementary laboratory, all with Bunsen burners ablaze, and whistling a rousing chorus of “Frosty the Snowman”.

The safety conditions left one with an uneasy feeling: On my first day at W&M in the chemistry department I found about two liters of chlorosulfonic acid in an open container sitting beside a laboratory sink. (The stuff reacts violently with water.) In the cluttered stockroom there was a large bottle of benzoyl peroxide being treated as if it were table salt, and our caretaker saw no problem in sweeping the floor with an ignited cigarette in his lips: when I explained how fast his trip to heaven could be, he never smoked in the stockroom again. In one instance a faculty member demonstrated to me how the sink drains actually supported combustion; it was frightening! I must admit these recollections provide no surprises, in that old Rogers caught fire sometime in its earlier history.

...And we recently noticed this label on a campus network hub installed in the Chemistry office—
an alarming trend!

