

chemistry *distillations*

Newsletter of the Department of Chemistry at the College of William & Mary • www.wm.edu/chemistry • Fall 2013



Chemistry Faculty and Staff 2013



From left to right, front row: Kristin Wustholz, Elizabeth Harbron, Bill McNamara, J.C. Poutsma, Randy Coleman, Lisa Landino, Beverly Laws, Debbie Bebout, Jonathan Scheerer, DerHong Shieh, Bob Orwoll

Back row: Doug Young, Tyler Meldrum, Chris Abelt, Dick Kiefer, Jeff Molloy, Bill Starnes, Gary DeFotis, Dave Kranbuehl, Gary Rice, Rob Hinkle, Bob Pike, Claudia Smith, Janet Hopkins

Not present: Carey Bagdassarian, Steve Knudson, Susan Mulholland and Dave Thompson

Current Faculty

Chris Abelt , organic <i>Chancellor Professor and Chair</i>	<i>cjabel@wm.edu</i>
Carey Bagdassarian , biophysical	<i>ckbagd@wm.edu</i>
Debbie Bebout , biochemistry	<i>dcbebo@wm.edu</i>
Randy Coleman , organic, biochem	<i>racole@wm.edu</i>
Elizabeth Harbron , organic	<i>ejharb@wm.edu</i>
Rob Hinkle , organic	<i>rjhink@wm.edu</i>
Lisa Landino , biochemistry <i>Garrett-Robb-Guy Professor</i>	<i>lmland@wm.edu</i>
Bill McNamara , inorganic	<i>wrmcnamara@wm.edu</i>
Tyler Meldrum , physical	<i>tkmeldrum@wm.edu</i>
Bob Pike , inorganic <i>Floyd Dewey Gottwald, Sr. Professor</i>	<i>rdpike@wm.edu</i>
J.C. Poutsma , analytical <i>English-Stonehouse Professor</i>	<i>jcput@wm.edu</i>
Gary Rice , analytical	<i>gwrice@wm.edu</i>
Jonathan Scheerer , organic	<i>jrscheerer@wm.edu</i>
Kristin Wustholz , physical	<i>kwustholz@wm.edu</i>
Douglas Young , bioorganic	<i>dyoung01@wm.edu</i>

Emeritus Faculty

Gary DeFotis , 2013 <i>Garrett-Robb-Guy Professor Emeritus</i>	<i>gxdefo@wm.edu</i>
Cirila Djordjevic , 1992	
Dick Kiefer , 2003	<i>rlkief@wm.edu</i>
Steve Knudson , 2010	<i>skknud@wm.edu</i>
Dave Kranbuehl , 2009	<i>dekran@wm.edu</i>
Bob Orwoll , 2010	<i>raorwo@wm.edu</i>
Bill Starnes , 2006 <i>Floyd Dewey Gottwald, Sr. Prof. Emeritus</i>	<i>whstar@wm.edu</i>
Dave Thompson , 2012 <i>Chancellor Professor Emeritus</i>	<i>dwthom@wm.edu</i>

Professional Faculty

Jeff Molloy	<i>jcmolloy@wm.edu</i>
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Staff

Janet Hopkins	<i>jlbhopkins@wm.edu</i>
Beverly Laws	<i>bllaws@wm.edu</i>
Susan Mulholland	<i>smulholland@wm.edu</i>
DerHong Shieh	<i>dxshie@wm.edu</i>
Claudia Smith	<i>csmith01@wm.edu</i>

From the Chair

Eight years ago Gary Rice began the chair's letter saying "Well it's been quite a ride over the last four years as chair of the department, and I would guess, assume, speculate that this will be my last letter as chair..." The next year he began with "In last year's column I gave the impression that it would be the last time I would write as chair of the department. Amazing how things can change in a few months." I find myself in a similar situation, and I am determined to learn by Gary's experience. I am not going to tempt fate by saying that this is the last letter I will write as chair. A bold, brash statement like that has a way of coming back to bite you. I can say unequivocally that this will be the last time I write as chair under the five-year contract issued by then Provost Geoff Feiss in 2009. This term will end with the department looking very different than when the term began. In particular, there have been five assistant professors and five staff members hired since 2009. Given that the faculty and staff total to twenty-one, this represents nearly half of the personnel changing in the last four years. Search for faculty and staff has been so constant that I will feel that something is amiss in the upcoming year because it will be the first one without a search or at least so far.



We are happy to welcome Tyler Medrum as our newest addition to the faculty. Tyler is a physical chemist who is replacing Gary DeFotis who retired, at least formally, in May. Gary continues to work on six or seven papers from the reams of data he and his students have collected over his thirty-three years at the College. We were extremely fortunate to be able to hire Tyler. Another candidate had accepted the position in December, but then declined it several months later. Being a government institution, it would not have been trivial to begin a search from scratch again. Not only that, but the effects of reallocation were being felt at the end of spring, so a new search may not have even been authorized. Unlike the rest of the candidates, Tyler was abroad (Germany) for a postdoctoral stint. It is quite typical that those taking a postdoctoral position abroad end up taking subsequent postdoctoral position in the States before landing a permanent position. The reason is simply economics. The cost of interviewing candidates that are abroad is daunting. When the search reactivated, both his strong credentials and extra money from the Dean overcame our worry about the cost of the international flight. Tyler

should fit right in with the four other faculty who have children under the age of two. Julia (Elizabeth Harbron and Carey Bagdassarian) and August (Jonathan Scheerer) have now been joined by Emily (JC Poutsma, born March 13) and Flavia (Tyler Meldrum, born March 12).

The construction of ISC3 is still on track to begin next year. The first "shovel in the ground" should occur in February or March. There have, thankfully, only been a few meetings of the building committee this year. The biggest changes in the plans occurred when they went to Richmond to be reviewed. Just as in our search, the Commonwealth was concerned about controlling costs while maintaining function. As a result, the project funding was reduced by some ten million dollars. Nearly all of the changes were cosmetic. The south face of Rogers Hall that was to be hidden by a walkway façade will now remain unchanged. Most importantly, the café that is in direct line of site of the chair's office was retained.

Fortunately, the theme of government budget constraints was not extended to our quest to upgrade our nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer. We had submitted our third proposal in January to the Major Research Instrumentation program of the National Science Foundation. Not too long afterwards the dreaded word 'sequestration' was all over the news. The impact at the NSF was going to be a thousand fewer grants awarded. The prospects for upgrading our NMR facility were looking grim. To our surprise, the grant was awarded, but not before negotiating the requested amount down by twenty percent. We hope to have the upgrade in place before the end of the year.

I am also happy to report that it was a good year for Elizabeth Harbron, JC Poutsma and me. Elizabeth was awarded an Arts and Sciences 2013 Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence and made the list of Top Women Professors at Affordable Colleges. JC was appointed an English-Stonehouse Fellow for the next two years. I won an Arts and Sciences 2013 Governance Award and was designated a Chancellor Professor.

We should be settling into a relatively stable personnel configuration over the next few years. Last year there was a complete turnover in the Dean's office. Just to keep us on our toes, it seems, the Dean's office swapped our contact deans. We will now report into Virginia Torczon who was appointed the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in August. Just like last year I will end by saying that I am looking forward to the new continuity in the Dean's Office.

Chris Abelt

Professor DeFotis Retires

For **Gary DeFotis'** retirement this spring, David Holmes, Emeritus Professor of Religion and a friend and former colleague, drove down from Charlottesville to deliver the following remarks at the last meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences for 2012–2013.



Here is an excerpt from David Holmes' speech:

"The first thing you learn when you speak about the career of Gary DeFotis is that he has simply achieved too much to summarize swiftly. If the goal is a two-minute talk, you can't get there from here. Music, for example, is very important to him. Art, art history, select novelists—he is interested in all of them. He routinely reads literary journals. He is national-class in chess. He likes to shoot pool. As he himself once said, "I've been interested in almost everything since an early age." But today we can only touch on those matters.

Gary DeFotis took his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry at the University of Chicago. He joined William & Mary's faculty in 1980. He was hired as a capstone to the growth in quality and research that had steadily occurred in that prizewinning department. In his 33 years here, Gary has taught a variety of chemistry courses, including courses that introduce students to research. He has supervised more than 100 student projects. He has written nearly 70 articles co-authored by students. In the words of a colleague, Gary "has had an incredibly consistent record of involving students in research and of seeing them into major graduate programs."

Three awards—the Alumni Teaching, the Plumeri, and the Outstanding Faculty Award of Virginia—have recognized Gary's teaching. "Carefully constructed . . . , meticulous in their clarity. . . . No confusing wording. . . always concisely focused on the main scientific point." So a colleague has described Gary's classroom lectures.

And the beat of his awards goes on:

- Phi Beta Kappa Award for the Advancement of Scholarship;
- Visiting Senior Scientist at world-class research institutes in four countries;
- Garrett-Robb-Guy Professor of Chemistry for two terms.

In research, Gary has:

- presented 27 invited scholarly talks and at dozens of professional meetings,
- chaired numerous sessions at conferences,
- raised just shy of one million dollars in grants from outside

sources,

- reviewed 280 journal articles and research proposals, worth 14 million dollars overall.

In 1989, Gary became the first professor at a public institution in America to receive a Dreyfus Mentorship/ Fellowship. That award recognizes outstanding research and dedication to undergraduate education. Eight years later, he became the first member of the Chemistry faculty to win the American Chemical Society Award for Research at an Undergraduate Institution.

Gary DeFotis is retiring this year after a distinguished career. His extensive committee work has helped shape life on this campus. Few have been more faithful in their attendance at faculty meetings. Throughout, Gary has displayed—in the words of a colleague—"an independence of mind, a willingness to question the PC sacred cows of academia, and a willingness to articulate what [other] people think, but are cowed into not saying." For over three decades, William & Mary has had a professor able to compete with the top international scholars in his field. He has done so with none of the graduate students major universities routinely provide to faculty. His equipment, his chemicals, his money for undergraduate support—all such funding has come from his own efforts over most of his career.

Gary came to the College at a time in which dedicated faculty worked long hours to bridge the gap between low funding and the goal of keeping America's second oldest college from being just another state university. He has continued and honored that tradition."

We Welcome Our New Faculty Member



Tyler Meldrum joined the Chemistry Department this August as an Assistant Professor. He earned his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley in 2011 where he developed xenon-based molecular sensors using large, superconducting magnets. He then had an appointment as an Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Research Fellow at RWTH University in Aachen, Germany working with handheld permanent magnets and studying cultural heritage across Europe (both professionally and personally). Professor Meldrum's areas of expertise include NMR methodologies, portable instrumentation and cultural heritage. He studies material

properties and chemical processes in cultural heritage applications such as curing of paint, effects of coatings on porous materials, conservation treatments as well as non-destructive profiling of objects of cultural heritage for characterization and preservation.

In a personal note, Tyler writes: "An unsubstantiated fear of a lack of adventure in the US led Tyler and his wife, Sara, to bring back a special souvenir from Germany: the now six-month old, incomparably beautiful Flavia. The inspiration for the name "Flavia" comes primarily from the Flavia de Luce novels by Alan Bradley that feature an 11-year-old Flavia as the sassy chemist/poisons expert/sleuth/protagonist. In his advice to Tyler and Sara, Mr. Bradley encouraged them to "provide [Flavia] with a suitable laboratory as soon as possible. It's never too soon for genius." Expect to see Flavia in the ISC soon."

Professor Abelt Receives Two Recognitions

This year Chris Abelt, Professor and Chair of Chemistry, has been recognized with the an Arts and Sciences Faculty Governance Award this spring. The citation that accompanied the Governance Award reads as follows:



Professor Abelt has contributed extensively to faculty governance in ways notable for their integrity, thoughtfulness, and broad impact. At the College-wide level, he has served on the Procedural Review and Personnel Policy committees and as Vice President and President of the Faculty Assembly. As President, he helped to guide formulation of the post-tenure review policies and phased-retirement program, along with a Faculty Assembly resolution in support of the Charter Initiative that redefined the relationship between the College and the Commonwealth of Virginia. As co-chair of the Dean's Advisory Council (now the Council of Chairs and Program Directors) and a member of several ad hoc committees, he helped to develop and articulate fund raising priorities for Arts & Sciences as well as creative approaches for addressing the Provost's mandated reallocation of 5 percent of the A&S budget. From 2008 to 2011 he served on the A&S Retention, Promotion, and Tenure Committee. Over the course of eighteen years of service as Director of Graduate Studies in the Chemistry Department, he preserved and enhanced the department's master's degree program, carefully managing funds to both recruit well-qualified students and support the research needs of the Chemistry faculty. As department chair since 2008 2009 he has won the respect of his colleagues for his efficiency and transparency in managing the financial and personnel affairs of the department and also the introduction

of fees for laboratory courses as part of the evolving financial model for the College.

Chris Abelt has also been named Chancellor Professor. While the position of Chancellor (currently held by Robert Gates) was established by the Royal Charter, Chancellor Professors were established relatively recently. This designation was made possible through the Chancellor's fund that was created by former President John Stewart Bryan when he became Chancellor in 1942. In the 1960s Chancellor and former President Alvin Duke persuaded the Board of Visitors to create the position of Chancellor Professor and to have the Chancellor's fund provide for the honoraria that goes along with the title. The honoraria is for a seven-year term, but the title remains even in retirement; for example, Dave Thompson is Chancellor Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus. The award is made for sustained, significant contributions in service, scholarship and teaching.

Congratulations to Professor Harbron



Elizabeth Harbron has received many awards since joining the Chemistry Faculty. This year she can add the Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence and a Plumeri Award to her list of achievements.

Professor Harbron has taught more than 1,400 students in courses ranging from freshman organic chemistry to senior- and graduate-level organic spectroscopy, consistently earning both excellent student evaluations and becoming one of the highest-rated faculty member in the Chemistry Department. Her teaching and mentoring of students extends into the laboratory, where she regularly incorporates student coworkers into her research projects. Since arriving at William & Mary in 2002, Elizabeth Harbron has developed an active research program in organic photochemistry. She is working to develop ways to use fluorescence modulation for imaging and sensing applications. She mentors nearly 10 student researchers during the academic year. Fourteen students have appeared as co-authors on her publications, 11 of whom had worked with Harbron since their freshman or sophomore year. During the summer, she averages six students engaged in full-time research.

Recognized as an outstanding teacher, Harbron has established a program of peer mentorship which pairs young, inexperienced students with older, more experienced students. Her success in developing young women scientists was highlighted in a 2011 Associated Press story, which was published by news outlets across the country. This summer she was listed as one

of the Top Women Professors on the Affordable Colleges On-line website.

Harbron is a reviewer for several journals in her field and serves on the advisory board of the Inter-American Photochemical Society. In the past she was the recipient of the William & Mary Arts & Sciences Award for Teaching Excellence, the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award, the William & Mary Arts & Sciences Award for Teaching Excellence, the Alumni Fellowship Award and was named a Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar.

Professor Poutsma Receives Fellowship



This year J.C. Poutsma has been named English-Stonehouse Professor, a Fellowship that has been made possible by the generosity of Cory English of Alexandria, Virginia. It also honors the memory of his wife, Katchen Stonehouse. The award provides a stipend for faculty to be used for research-related expenses. Professor Poutsma is a physical chemist and his current research is focused on using mass spectrometry and high-level theoretical calculations to study the intrinsic properties of gas-phase biomolecules. His lab is especially interested in the chemistry of so called "non-protein amino acids" which are naturally-occurring compounds that are not coded by RNA. These species serve as model systems for the lab to understand the subtle interplay between structure and function in biological molecules.

Congratulations to Professor Wustholz



Kristin Wustholz has been appointed as the Dean's Distinguished Lecturer and Coco Faculty Fellow for 2013-2014. The appointment as Coco Faculty Fellow carries with it an award in support of her research and is made possible by a generous gift from alumnus Edward Coco. As Dean's Distinguished Lecturer, Prof. Wustholz will give a lecture on a topic of broad interest to the Christopher Wren Association's Town and Gown for Arts and Sciences. The Town and Gown series has proved an excellent way for Arts and Sciences to demonstrate the importance of research and scholarship to an audience of strong supporters of the College. Prof. Wustholz has received this award in recognition of her excellent record of teaching and research.

Chemistry Club

It's been another successful year for the Chemistry Club! Our chapter was recognized with an Honorable Mention by the American Chemical Society, which is especially impressive considering that we are just in our second year after re-activating the Club. Moreover, based on our efforts during Green Chemistry Week, we received an ACS Green Chemistry Certification. Much of the success was due to the hard work of our officers Jackie Blake-Hedges ('13), Natalie Wong ('14), Desmarie Sherwood ('13), Sharon Hartzell ('14) and faculty advisors Kristin Wustholz and Doug Young. The Club participated in numerous activities throughout the year including demonstrations at Matthew Whaley Elementary School, Chemistry Egg Hunts, and a Halloween Magic Show. Finally we have been actively fundraising by selling chemistry beaker mugs to support these numerous activities. Overall it's been a great year, and we're looking forward to another one!

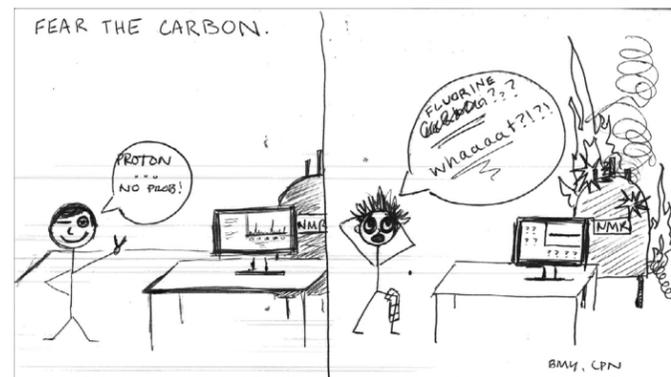
Support Chemistry!

If you are interested in contributing to the needs of the department on a one-time, regular or annual basis, please consider donating to the Chemistry Fund (Account 2967) or the Alfred Armstrong Fund. There are two mechanisms through which you can make such contributions. Online donations can be made by going to the chemistry web site at www.wm.edu/chemistry and clicking Support Chemistry in the left navigation bar. To contribute by mail, please make your check payable to The College of William and Mary Foundation. Please be sure to note how you are designating your gift in the check's memo area.

Mailing address:

The College of William and Mary Foundation
P.O. Box 1693
Williamsburg, VA 23187

Students' Doodle



Chem Doodles Robert D. Pike

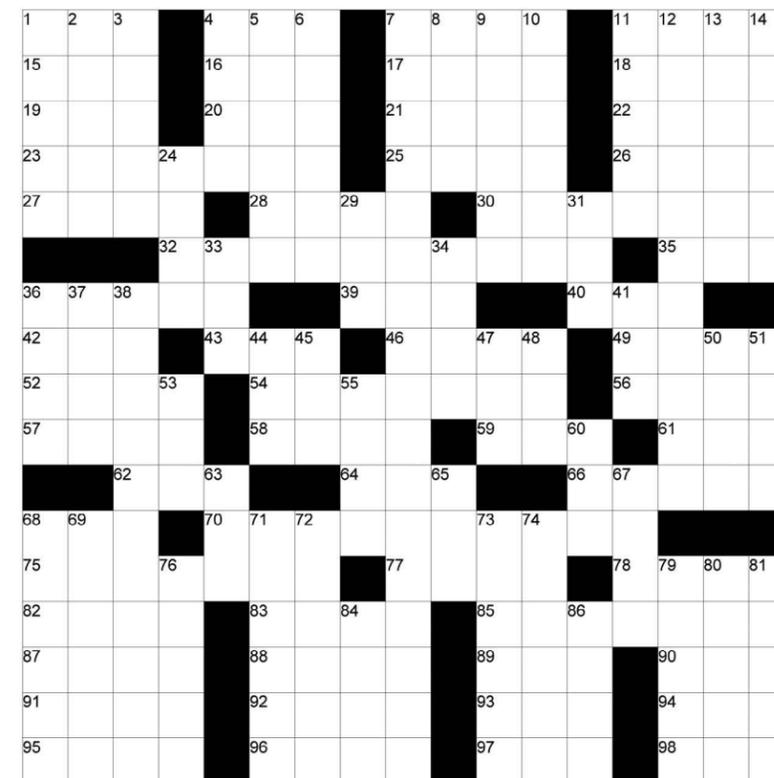
ACROSS

- Head gesture
- Consumed
- Begged
- Wound legacy
- Here in Paris
- Fiat ____ (Gen. 1:3)
- City built on seven hills
- It may be carried by an artist
- The SAT people
- Unstable tetrasubstituted aromatic compound
- City on Utah Lake
- Energy units
- Doodle I
- Anti-fur grp
- Jazz singer Fitzgerald
- The alternative
- A green-eyed monster
- Several were cataloged by Alanis Morissette
- Doodle II
- Govt agency that often funds PBS shows
- Florida player
- Protein prefix
- A gamete
- Mass spec instrument type (abbrev)
- Freudian personality component
- Very long periods of time
- Goals
- Lab sample container
- Doodle III
- Lab synthesis
- "The Simpsons" Mrs. Krabappel

- Supremes classic "____ in the Name of Love"
- Mandela org.
- Canoeing need
- Rejuvenation locale
- Self-proclaimed "The Greatest"
- Fran Drescher character
- The year Innocent I became pope
- Doodle IV
- DNA-packaging protein
- Tied
- Part
- Tax-advantaged IRA
- Finger of land
- Doodle V
- Organic lab problem
- Every one
- Poetic preposition
- Serious driving citation, abbrev
- C.S. Lewis book "____ Christianity"
- Woody plant
- Physicians' org.
- It might be Am. or Brit.
- In Latin Hamlet's soliloquy would begin thus
- Adv. degree
- Cooking meas.
- "Owner of a Lonely Heart" band

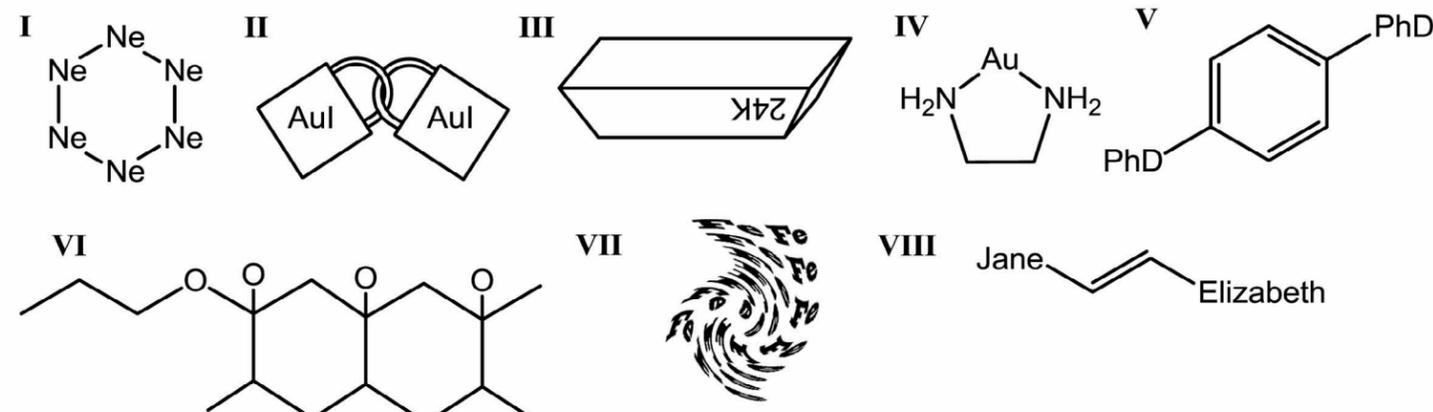
DOWN

- Sister's daughter
- Eight carbon radical
- Information platters
- Harmonizer
- ____ of Love
- Go so far as
- Doodle VI
- Collection of tales
- It causes vomiting



© Literate Software Systems

- Note a place
- "The Boss" minus Spring
- Doodle VII
- "Life of Pi" director
- Fix a window
- Building toy
- By way of
- Sugar suffix
- Mineral source
- Alleee ____
- Donate
- Electrophile
- Doodle VIII
- Mind the ____
- High entropy state
- No longer fashionable
- Govt data-mining agency
- Anti anti
- Average
- Lively
- It appears when you sit
- Animal of order Anura
- Wolf Blitzer's channel
- Previously
- Function type, abbrev
- Home of the Taj Mahal
- Electroplate finish
- Solid state electronics components
- Beginnings of symptoms
- Where you might walk your chien
- Do-over
- Up ____ (mad)
- ____ sheets to the wind
- Abnormally
- Current FX sitcom
- Egresses
- Cooled to zero degrees Celsius
- Gather in what was sown



2013 Chemistry Graduates and Their Destinations

Chemistry Majors

Kameron Adams	Graduate studies in geography and env. eng. at John Hopkins
John Barclay	Secondary education program at W&M School of Education
^{ΦH} Jacquelyn Blake-Hedges	PhD studies in chemistry at UC Berkeley
^H Charles Blevins	Applying to medical schools
^{ΦM} Matthew Blum	Consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton
Ryan Burbey	Uncertain
Mitchell Butler	Uncertain
Peter Calcagni	Uncertain
^{ΦM} Alexander Chartrain	Mount Sinai School of Medicine
^{ΦH} Alex Chinn	Uncertain
Britanni Collins	Graduate studies in chemistry at W&M
Aidan De Sena	Uganda project manager for Maji Water
Erin Dean	Business development associate at Vorsight
William Desonne	New Jersey Dental School
Nathaniel Dirda	Uncertain
Camelia Drissi	Uncertain
Clay Entsminger	Uncertain
Matthew Entsminger	Uncertain
David Fabian	Graduate studies in physical chemistry at UC Irvine
Yoko Fukuda	Work for a year then dental school
Sofia Garakyaraghi	PhD studies in chemistry at NC State University
Katherine Gheysens	Rutgers University – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
^{ΦH} Gregory Ginsburg	Uncertain
Benjamin Glauber	Uncertain
Amy Hazzard	Planning on attending a physician's assistant masters program
^{ΦMH} David Hill	Graduate studies in chemistry at UNC Chapel Hill
Emil Iqbal	AmeriCorps City program then graduate studies in chemistry
Alyzain Jiwani	Uncertain
Kevin Kaurich	Graduate studies in polymer chemistry at Virginia Tech
John Kenney	Seeking work
Regina Kieninger	Uncertain
Benjamin Kirby	Graduate studies in historical archaeology at W&M
Maryia Kvashenka	Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry
James Lennox	Graduate studies in inorganic chemistry at UNC Chapel Hill
^H John Lovette	Uncertain
Colin Manning	Uncertain

^H**Shannon McCullough** Graduate studies in chemistry at UNC Chapel Hill

Jaclyn McKenna Uncertain

Lindsey McKeown UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy

Eric Mendenhall Planning on attending graduate school in chemistry

^{ΦM}**Kayla Miller** Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy

Andrew Morris Planning on attending graduate school

^Φ**Corbin Muetterties** Temple University School of Medicine

Yuliia Nikitina Uncertain

Andrew Noviello Graduate studies at University of Delaware

Reynaldo Ortega Uncertain

^{ΦH}**Charlotte Platner** NIH post-baccalaureate IRTA Program, then medical school

^{ΦM}**Brian Rabe** Graduate studies in developmental neurobiology at Harvard U

Justin Salvant Graduate studies at University of Utah

Desmarie Sherwood Uncertain

Mohammed Shomrat Applied to University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

Azsa Snipes Uncertain

Amy Taylor Working in quality assurance at Epic Systems

Robert VanGundy PhD studies in physical chemistry at Emory University

^H**Charles Wang** Eastern Virginia Medical School, MD program

Laura Whitworth American University, Washington DC, College of Law

Je Yoon Graduate studies at W&M School of Education

Masters Students

Joseph Auslander PhD studies in biophysical chemistry at New York University

Jessica Belton Mass spec lab technologist at Health Diagnostic Laboratory, Inc.

William Czaplyski PhD studies in chemistry at UNC Chapel Hill

Daniel Hirtenstein Seeking employment as a chemist

Stephen Laws PhD studies in chemistry at UC Davis

Kaila Margrey PhD studies in chemistry at UNC Chapel Hill

Joy Russell Project manager, trainer and consultant at Classic Seminars

Clinton Schiavone Uncertain

Valerie Tripp PhD studies in chemical biology at U of Wisconsin, Madison

^ΦPhi Beta Kappa ^MMonroe Scholar ^HHonors in Chemistry

Donors to the Chemistry Department 2012/2013

We are very grateful to the many donors to the Chemistry Department, the Alfred Armstrong Fund and the Chemistry Honors Research Projects through the Charles Center. Your generosity makes a significant impact on our educational enterprise.

Caitlin Freeman Adelson and Jordan Adelson

Dr. Anton Allen

Debra Allison

Lisa Alty

Dr. Janet Anderson

Scott Andrews

Anika Armstrong Johnson

Dr. Elizabeth Austin-Minor and Dr. Jay Austin

Dr. George Baquis

Kathryn Beers

Jacquelyn Blake-Hedges

Dr. Wyndham Boon

Deanna Scheffel Boynton

Thomas Bradshaw

Mary and James Caboon

Joshua Campbell

Jeanette Milner Carpenter and Michael Carpenter

Erin Carson

Emil Cekada

Dr. Daniel Chan

Fuyuan Chang

Elizabeth Childress

Alex Chinn

Dr. Donald and Sandra Clarke

Britanni Collins

Jeffrey Connor

Ralph Cook, IV

David Dessler

Lisa and David Diffley

Emily Dugan

Dr. Raymond Dyer III

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David Fabian

Joyce and Paul Farley

Aven Ford

Dr. Scott Forrest

Kathryn Fox

Katherine Ghysens

Gregory Ginsburg

Dr. Michael Glasgow

Dr. Geordie Grant

Elisabeth Gray

Amy Green

Raymond Grochowski

Francis Guyette

James and Carol Ann Harbert

James Hardcastle

Dr. Thomas Harris

Sean Hart

Kasondra Hartman

Dr. Douglas Hawkins

Amy Hazzard

Kenneth and Judy Hill

Melinda Gooding Hodges and Stephen Hodges

Daniel Horgan

Rachel Janis

Dorothy Jung

Brent Justus

Lauren Katkish

Benjamin Kenzer

Richard Kiefer

Regina Kieninger

Maureen Klovers

Robert Knowles

Dr. Warren Koontz

Stefan Kosovych

Dr. David Kranbuehl

Dr. Robert Kubn

Maryia Kvashenka

Deborah and Charles Kyle

Wei Lai

Dr. Dan Langdon

Elizabeth Levy

Yajing Lian

Bruce Linder

Jennifer Lim

George Lock, Jr.

Marguerite McLaughlin Logan

Gail Holder McPeters and Dr. Lee McPeters

Anshul Mainkar

Robyn Manke

Dr. Sam Marcuson

Dr. Douglas Markham IV

Brian Masick

Elizabeth Mathers

Kathleen Lunsford Meyer and Leslie Meyer

Kayla Miller

Sarah Moore Walk and John Walk

Dr. Tanya Myers and Dr. Christopher Beck

Dr. Henry Nothnagel

Lindsay Hardt Oakley

Reynaldo Ortega

Elizabeth Parrett

Dr. Patricia Pound Barry and Marshall Barry

Charlotte Platner

Amy Roach

Benjamin Rothermel

Mark Ruddell

Erin Sadler

Dr. Scherer Sanders

Dr. William Saunders, Jr.

Leslie Scanlon

William Schwarz

Julia Sen

Dr. Steven Silvonek

Leigh Smith Pence

Jan Sullivan

Tao Sun

Timothy Taps

Isabelle Thibau

Elizabeth and Gregory Tomlin

Andrew Trask

Tristan Tronic

Kenneth and Gale Updike

Robert VanGundy

Pei Wang

Dr. Margaret Willhide

Dr. Joel and Mary Williams

Barry Wolfe

Elizabeth Wong

Robert and Eunsook Wurster

Endowment Donors

The Chemistry Department benefits from some very generous donors who have established endowments enabling us to further our academic mission. Some of these funds are designated for particular purposes, and some may be used for a variety of pressing need. Our students and faculty feel so fortunate to be the recipients of such generosity. The following list indicates how these endowments were used this past year to support our teaching and research goals.

Debra L. Allison Summer Fellowship in Chemistry

Supported an academically distinguished chemistry student participating in summer research.

James T. & Evelyn A. Cranmer Memorial Scholarship

Supported two undergraduate students participating in summer research in chemistry.

Ferguson Chemistry Endowment

Funded the purchase of a chemical structure drawing software site license renewal and liquid chromatograph parts Chemistry Department laboratory classes.

Charles E Flynn '34 Memorial Chemistry Endowment

Funded the repair, maintenance or upgrade of several laboratory systems as well as data analysis and graphing software.

Robert L. Greene Endowment

Supported a promising chemistry student in summer research.

William G. Guy Endowment

Funded an annual chemistry award.

Hillger - Roberts - Kranbuehl Chemistry Endowment

Funded the expenses for our Chemistry Seminar program.

Kranbuehl - Thompson Graduate Fellowship

Funded an increased stipend for a chemistry graduate student.

Patricia Pound Barry Chemistry Scholarship

Provided four annual scholarships to academically distinguished undergraduate students majoring in chemistry.

Gene J. & Frances E. Schiavelli Memorial Endowment

Provided support for an additional undergraduate summer research student.

News of Our Alums

It is wonderful to hear from so many of you. Please continue to keep us up to date by sending us an email to chemistry@wm.edu or contacting your favorite professor. You can also send us a note to the address on the back of the newsletter.

Are you on Facebook?

Consider joining the "William and Mary Chemistry Alumni" Facebook interest group. It's a good way to keep in touch with the department and with other Chemistry alumni who have already joined.

Class of 1948

Bill Saunders was in Williamsburg in March. A member of the W&M Class of '48 (followed by a Northwestern PhD), Bill taught chemistry and did physical organic research for many years at the University of Rochester. Although Bill is now retired, his interest in ab initio calculations continues. Over lunch with Bob Orwoll, Bill reminisced about W&M 65-70 years ago and described his recent travels to exotic places around the world.

Class of 1953

James Hardcastle wrote a letter to Prof. Abelt telling us about his life after William & Mary: "I enjoyed reading Chemistry Distillations (Fall 2012 edition). I graduated from William and Mary in 1953 with a B.S. Degree in Chemistry. After 3 years in the U.S. Army in France (good duty, no wars) I was employed by Phillip Morris, Inc. in Richmond, Virginia. I enjoyed working as a bench chemist at PM. However my job at PM was to help make a better cigarette, so as to sell more cigs. I've never smoked in my life. So after 6 years at PM I decided I didn't want to help make a better cigarette. I resigned. While in Richmond I earned an M.S. Degree in Chemistry from the University of Richmond in their night school program. I then earned a Ph.D. in Agricultural Chemistry and Soils at the University of Arizona in 1967. Then I got a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry of Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. I taught chemistry, also did research, at TWU for 35 years. My research interest was Analytical Biochemistry using radioisotope methodology and HPLC... Tell Bob Pike I enjoyed the crossword puzzle."

Class of 1973

Michael Edens plans to attend the Chemistry Homecoming reception this fall with his wife Martha.

Thank You!

Class of 1977

Carol Baranofsky Pugh sent us some fond memories: "I just checked the Chemistry Department website. Dr. Coleman is the only non-emeritus faculty member from my time. I remember him fondly, along with Drs. Kiefer and Thompson (I babysat for both their families), but my favorite professor of all had to be Dr. Orwoll. I have often told people that one of the best education courses I took in college was Physical Chemistry. I struggled with P-Chem tests. I did well enough on my problem sets and lab reports to keep my grade afloat (and close to "C" level J). After every test, I would seek out Dr. Orwoll and he would patiently walk me through my errors. I think I got a C- on the first test and an F on the second one. I began to panic as the third test approached and expressed doubt about my ability to do well enough to pass the course. Dr. Orwoll tried to assure me that all would be well, and that "a year from now you won't be thinking about this course." My reply was, "A year from now I'll be taking the course over!" To which Dr. Orwoll replied, "If that's the way you feel, I don't think I can help you." Whoa. That got my attention and changed my attitude big time. I managed to swing a B+ on the third test; below the grade, Dr. Orwoll had inscribed "See, I told you you could do it!" What a mensch!

We were in Williamsburg in mid-September for the Williamsburg Old Timers Reunion. My husband Mark grew up in Williamsburg – his Dad was the Rev. Dr. Tom Pugh, pastor of Williamsburg Baptist Church on Richmond Road from 1952 – 1981. We went to a display in the Special Collections section of the Swem Library on Saturday, and had the chance to take in the outside of the new Integrated Sciences Building. WOW! I can only imagine how wonderful it is on the inside. My W&M years were evenly divided between "Old" and "New" Rogers Halls. I had a work study position under Mr. Katz for 3 of the 4 years I was in school. What a great job and interesting boss.

Steve Sides sent Prof. Coleman the following email: "It has been a few months since I stumbled into the department and reconnected with you after many years. I must say I was most impressed by the current Integrated Science Building and even more surprised that it will soon double in size with the College's building plan. I remember "Old Rogers Hall" and the need to ensure that the tar in the drain troughs did not get dislodged by solvents dumped by students. I also remember grading problem sets for the faculty in that little "plywood room" constructed inside the first floor lab with one measly light bulb. Granted I was not like Abraham Lincoln writing on a wooden shovel by the fire, but I sure have perspective on the "history of chemistry education" at William and Mary."

Class of 1981

Dan Kenan toured the College with his daughter last June. He credits Prof. Coleman for giving him an interest in chemistry and biology. Randy Coleman was his premed advisor.

Class of 1982

James Comey was confirmed on July 29, 2013 by the U.S. Senate as next FBI director. He graduated from William & Mary as a double major in chemistry and religion and remains closely connected to the university. A news article on the W&M Chemistry website at www.wm.edu/chemistry details his many life achievements and the contributions he made and honors he received from his alma mater.

Jennie Gundersen sent us a message last fall: "Wish I could [attend Homecoming] but I'm on a detail with EPA in Ada, OK. Getting my frack on!" Last June she wrote that 7 months after Sandy she finally has a roof that's not made of blue tarp.

Class of 1987

Chris Bernart works for the CDC in Guatemala. He was visiting his family in North Carolina last October and was able to come to our Homecoming reception.

Class of 1988

Rebecca (Harvey) Nichols visited Prof. Coleman this spring while touring the College with her daughter. She is the President of Independent Chemist LLC near Denver.

Class of 1992

Mike Acquavella was Prof. Abelt's undergrad research student in 1991-1992 working on cyclodextrins. He went on to study under Ronald Breslow at Columbia before abandoning chemistry altogether. He has lived abroad now for about 15 years and has been working in the financial sector in London, Hong Kong and Singapore. He happened to pass through Williamsburg last July and visited Prof. Abelt.

Class of 1997/1998

Leslie Sombers wrote that she is an assistant professor of chemistry at NC State University. She has received an Early Career Development Award, more commonly known as a CAREER Award, from the National Science Foundation. The award is one of the highest honors given by NSF to early-career university faculty in science and engineering, and is intended to advance the development of their research and careers. See <http://www.pams.ncsu.edu/news/2012/09/24/sombers-wins-nsf-career-award/>.

Class of 1998

Pete Coyne visited Prof. Rice this September. After William & Mary he went on to get an M.B.A. from the Darden School

at the University of Virginia. He is Vice President at Saw Mill Capital in Briarcliff Manor, NY, is married and has two young children. He is planning to attend the 15 year reunion at W&M.

Class of 1999

Anne McNeil sent us the following update: "On July 28th 2012, I gave birth to my first child. Both my husband and I are assistant professors in Chemistry at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor."

Class of 2002

Fiona Grooms Barker completed a Ph.D. in Philosophy at St. Louis University and defended it in May of 2011. She married Mark Barker of NYC in June of 2009 and they reside in New Orleans where he is a Professor of Philosophy. Their son John was born in April of 2010 and their daughter Mary was born in March of 2012.

Ryan Carra completed a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2008 and graduated from University of Virginia School of Law in 2011. He works for Beveridge & Diamond, P.C. in Washington D.C.

Class of 2003

Edith Bowers completed a Ph.D. in Pathology in 2009 and got her M.D. in 2011 at Duke University, Durham, NC. After a preliminary internship at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, NC, she is now a second year resident at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine in Chapel Hill.

Class of 2004

Nichole Litvinas completed her Ph.D. in organic chemistry at Stanford University in 2010 and currently works as an AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow for the U.S. Department of Energy.

Kat Potter is doing research into atmospheric chemistry, climate, etc. at MIT. She sent us an email last June with a link to an article about the work that she is doing in Rwanda: "A Woman, a Mountain, a Quest to Map Climate Change" at <http://alum.mit.edu/pages/sliceofmit/2013/06/12/a-woman-a-mountain-a-quest-to-map-climate-change/>

Bryn Reinecke writes that she is engaged to Eric Douglass, a native of Spartanburg, SC and a graduate of the University of South Carolina (BA 2002, JD 2005). He is currently employed as a performance auditor with the Legislative Audit Council of South Carolina. Bryn is still employed as an Associate Scientist in the analytical lab at Zeus Industrial Products

in Orangeburg, SC. She attended an ACS polymer science class at VA Tech in August. Bryn and Eric are planning to get married in September in West Columbia, SC, where they will be residing.

Class of 2005

Carl Giller paid a surprise visit to Prof. Rice and Prof. Abelt last June. He completed his Ph.D. in materials science in 2011 at the University of Delaware and is currently employed by the Naval Research Center in Washington, D.C.

Class of 2007

Dan Tice wrote to us that he will graduate this August with a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Northwestern University. He has taken a position with DuPont and will be at their New Johnsonville, TN plant for a few years before heading to the main research campus in Wilmington, DE.

Maria (Happel) Traver saw Dr. Pike's message on Facebook and wrote this: "After leaving W&M Chem in 2007, I went on to graduate school at Duke University. This fall I will be completing my PhD in Molecular Genetics & Microbiology and I am currently searching for a postdoctoral position. This past spring I enjoyed the chance to visit W&M as a participant in the 2013 W&M Graduate Research Symposium, giving a talk entitled, "The Role of Irgm1 in Macroautophagy." I particularly enjoyed the chance to explore the Integrated Science Center, which was finished just after I left the program, and was super jealous of the beautiful lab spaces!

In terms of my personal life, in 2009 I married the love of my life, Clayton Traver (W&M Middle Eastern Studies '08), and we are happily settled in North Carolina; however, we are eagerly awaiting the day when we might be able to move back to Virginia, where our hearts truly lie. Hope to see you all some day soon."

Colleen (Riesbeck) Weitzel sent us an update last fall: "I graduate from the College with a Masters in School Counseling in May 2011. I now live in Richmond and teach Chemistry and AP Chemistry at Cosby High School. I have also been married for a year to my wonderful husband Jon, and we are expecting our first baby in January.

Class of 2009

Jacob Kuperstock sent a message through the Chemistry Alumni Facebook page: "The big news is that I graduated from Stanford University School of Medicine this spring with my M.D. I'm officially Dr. Kuperstock! I'll be completing my residency in Otolaryngology at Boston Medical Center. In addition, I got married this past spring! I've checked off many life events this spring and I've had a blast over the last few months.

Jess (my wife) and I are living in the Fenway neighborhood. I plan to catch as many games this summer as possible. Fortunately, my wife works at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, the sponsor hospital for Fenway. She gets discounted tickets!"

Najiba Murad started the MS degree program in Biochemistry at Georgetown University this fall.

Class of 2010

Alessandra Leri emailed Prof. Hinkle with the news that she has been awarded a Distinguished Chair at Marymount Manhattan College – one of the highest honors that this College can bestow on a faculty member. She earned an M.A. from the University of Virginia and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Princeton University.

Class of 2011

Stephen Ammann recently earned an "NSF Graduate Research Fellowship" (NSF-GRF). He studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and is working with Prof. M. Christina White.

R. Frederick Lambert recently earned an "NSF Graduate Research Fellowship" (NSF-GRF). He studies at Princeton University and works with Prof. Abigail Doyle.

Deana (Hadley) Miller sent us this update last fall: "...Ronnie and I are doing well in North Carolina. I am in my 2nd year of pediatric residency at Duke University--I haven't decided if I want to do a fellowship yet. Ronnie and I have a puppy named Stella who keeps us very busy. We also got back recently from Japan where we attended my brother's wedding and did some sightseeing too. We hope to make a trip back to Williamsburg to visit sometime soon!"

Isabelle Thibau ended her 2 year contract with the National Institute on Drug Abuse last April. Now she works full-time as a writer/editor for mdCurrent-India, the online medical newsletter for doctors in India. She had to put her plans to attend Homecoming 2012 on hold because of Hurricane Sandy.

Class of 2012

Lars Dunaway writes: "I'm doing well here at NC State. I'm in Prof. Leslie Sombers' (W&M Chemistry '98) research group doing electroanalytical chemistry. I love my group, and my classes and everything are going very well. I only have one class left to go."

Homecoming 2012

Chemistry's 2012 Homecoming Reception was held in the Integrated Science Center on the Saturday of Homecoming. By our best count 64 people attended--split half and half between Chemistry graduates and their families and friends. As the photos show, all had a good time. Old friendships were renewed and new ones made. Bob Orwoll remarked that he enjoys watching alums from different classes meeting one another at these receptions for the first time and discovering that they share a common chemistry link (e.g., one buys instruments from another's company; two alums 15 years apart at W&M discovered that they did graduate research with the same mentor or attended the same medical school; or two alums who were knew of one another because they are researching in the same field, but neither was aware that the other is a W&M grad).

The 2012 reunion added a new feature--a dinner hosted by the department for the 40-year reunion class. It was organized by Sam Marcuson, '72. So on the evening before Saturday morning's Homecoming reception, Janet Spencer Anderson, David Boerner, John Deaton, and Sam from the Class of 1972 reminisced with some of their Chem profs (Coleman, Kiefer, Kranbuehl, Orwoll, and Thompson) from 40 years ago and other more recent Chem faculty. A number of spouses attended as well. For this event Sam put together a booklet with a page for each classmate containing that classmate's post-W&M story and a photo. (Copies of the Class of '72 booklet are available from the department.)



From left, facing the camera: Betty Orwoll, April Coleman, David Thompson, John Deaton, Sandy Deaton, David Boerner

From left: Randy Coleman, Janet Spencer Anderson and Mr. Anderson



Homecoming Reception 2012



Betty Cook (Whitham) '87 and daughter Mary Cook



Bob Orwoll and Peggy Schott '77



Chris Almond '92 and Tanya Myers '92



Chris Marks '86 and Bob Orwoll



Clint Schiavone '11 and Eileen Aquino '87



Claudia Smith and Chris Bernart '87



David Boerner '72 and Sam Marcuson '72



David Faddis '92/'93 and Guest



Dave Thompson, Diego Vicente '05 and Luca



Don Doherty '92, Will, Christie and Kate



David Oelberg '72, Randy Coleman, Gail Borgatti Croall '77 and Dave Croall



Ryan Carra '02



Peggy Schott '77, Josh Patterson and Kristin Wustholz



Eileen Aquino '87, Christy Soffee Stone '87 and Lisa Montgomery '87



Brent Justus '97 and Jayda and Garry DeFotis



Rob Hinkle, Manish Singla '01 Ryan Carra '02 and Nichole Litvinas '04



John Deaton '72, Sandy Deaton, Bob Orwoll, Jean Boerner, David Boerner '72 and Sam Marcuson '72



Jonathan Maeyer '99 and Jenine Cole Maeyer '02



John '55 and Carol Marsh '54



John Vanderson '08 and Janet Hopkins



Undergraduate and Graduate Student Helpers



Lisa Landino and Ethan Greenblatt '05



Sarah Vicente and Lizzie Tarrell '11



Phillis Savidas, Claire and Kevin Roche '82



HOMECOMING

HOME IS WHERE THE HARK IS

· OCTOBER 24-27 ·

Chemistry Homecoming Reception

The Chemistry Department is hosting a pre-game reception for chemistry graduates in the Integrated Science Center on Saturday, October 26, starting at 10:00 am in the second floor lobby (above the Barksdale Field entrance). We look forward to seeing you there. If you can join us, please try to let us know by October 18. You can email us at chemistry@wm.edu, call Claudia in the Chemistry Office at 757-221-2540 or send us a note to:

Chemistry Department
College of William and Mary
PO Box 8795
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795

Even if you're unable to come, please let us know what you're doing. We'd love to hear from you!



Department of Chemistry

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