Greetings

First off, I would like to once again welcome our 34 new Chemistry and Biochemistry graduate students to the Ph.D. program. I hope that you are all settling smoothly into your classes and TA duties. Welcome also to ChemBits. This is the monthly Graduate Student Newsletter for the Department. Its purpose is to highlight and celebrate the many accomplishments of our 180+ graduate students. Good luck with your first semester!

I’d like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who helped out during orientation. In particular, I want to thank Doug Rice (or is it Hines? just kidding, inside joke) for arranging mentors for each of the incoming students, and, of course, I sincerely appreciate the efforts of all of the mentors too. Thank you to Doug Hines, Doug Rice, Sukesh Shekhar, and Erin Wilson for participating in a Q&A panel during orientation for the new students. Thank you to the ChemFest organizers, Sydney Blevins, Kara Harmatys, Doug Hines, Emily Ottenweller, Doug Rice, and Eric Weaver! And finally, I want to thank Jordan Scott in advance for presenting a talk on “How to Be a Successful Graduate Student” on October 8 during the Research Perspectives class that all of the first-year students attend.

As always, please help us by sending information regarding awards, fellowship applications or fellowships received, papers published, external presentations, or any other relevant information to chembits@nd.edu.

News and Announcements

The annual graduate student feedback meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 18 at 6 PM in 102 DeBartolo. Please consider attending to offer your feedback regarding the graduate school experience in our department.

Jill Bouchard and Doug Hines have graciously agreed to serve as student representatives on the Graduate Studies (GS) committee. The GS committee meets a few times per semester to discuss improvements to the program and any other issues affecting graduate students. If you have items for the agenda, please contact Jill or Doug.

Professor Kamat recommends that everyone check out the ChemBark blog. Link. The blog is extremely interesting and contains many examples of scientific fraud in the chemical literature. Fraud in research is not only detrimental to the researcher responsible but also to the department and University involved along with the scientific community as a whole.
Fellowships

Rene Bouley has been awarded a one year predoctoral fellowship from the ACS Division of Medicinal Chemistry.

Hao Wang has been awarded one of the first two Berry Family Foundation Graduate Fellowships in Advanced Diagnostics and Therapeutics.

Congratulations to the following graduate students for receiving CBBI Fellowships: Kerry Bauer, Renee Bouley, Kathryn Del Vecchio, Thomas Frederick, Eve Granatosky, Giselle Jacobson, Xin Liu, Danialle Ronnow, Katherine Ward, and Kyle Watson.

Publications


Awards and Recognition

Zachary Terranova was awarded a NSF award to attend the XXV IUPAP Conference on Computation Physics in Moscow, Russia on August 20–24.

Rachel Masyuko has received the Coblenz Student Award that recognizes outstanding young scientists pursuing studies in spectroscopy.

Cory Ayres was awarded a conference or course travel grant for his first place oral presentation at the Cancer Immunotherapy Retreat.

Need a little writing inspiration? Professor Kamat recommends the article “I Don’t Write Enough Because...” Link. It might just help you get past that writers block!

On Friday, July 27 Richard Connell (Ph.D. 1989) from Pfizer will present the John A. Lynch Lecture at 4 PM in 127 NSH.

The Chemistry Roadshow sponsored by the Royal Society of Chemistry will visit the University of Notre Dame on September 18. There will be a number of interesting discussions and events, as well as free food! Please consider attending.
“N-Benzylxycarbonyloxy-5-norborene-2,3-dicarboximide” Andrew D. Kosal and Brandon L. Ashfeld, Encyclopedia of Reagents for Organic Synthesis 2013, online. Link.

“Restructuring Transition Metal Oxide Nanorods for 100% Selectivity in Reduction of Nitric Oxide with Carbon Monoxide” Shiran Zhang, Jun-jun Shan, Yuan Zhu, Luan Nguyen, Weixin Huang, Hideo Yoshida, Seiji Takeda and Franklin (Feng) Tao, Nano Lett. 2013, 13, 3310–3314. Link.


“RNA localization in Xenopus oocytes uses a core group of trans-acting factors irrespective of destination” Donald D. Snedden, Michelle M. Bertke, Dominic Vernon and Paul W. Huber, RNA 2013, 19, 889–895. Link.


“Folding the proteome” Esther Braselmann, Julie L. Chaney and Patricia L. Clark, Trends in Biochem. Sci. 2013, 38, 337–344. Link. This paper was also chosen for the cover of the journal and it was highlighted as the third most read article in the journal in August!


**External Presentations and Outreach**

The ChemDemo team (graduate student members: Dany Floisand, Emily Amenson, Joe Michalka, Kara Harmatys, Karen Antonio, Kasey Clear, Laura Herder, Min Yu, Sean Vilanova) had a busy summer helping out with JINA’s Mad Scientist Camp on July 12th and Art to Science Camp the week of July 15th with hands on activities and Demo Shows.

Laura Herder attended the SLAC/SunCat conference where she presented a poster on “Accurate Kinetic Rate Models by First Principles” and attended a workshop for heterogeneous catalysis at Stanford.
Zachary Terranova presented a seminar on “Simulating the Solvation Dynamics of Ionic Liquids” at the XXV IUPAP Conference on Computational Physics in Moscow, Russia, August 21, 2013.

**Dissertation Defenses**


**(There Is) Life After Graduate School**

Julia Philip has accepted a position at Siemens Medical Solutions Diagnostics in Elkhart, IN.