

July, 2007

Dear Chemistry Alumni:

We want to tell you what is happening in the Chemistry Department at Valparaiso University, and we also want to let you know about your classmates.

**Dr. Warren Kosman** is continuing to work with inventor **Gary Rapp** on odor abatement. Excellent odor control has been achieved at hog farms in Iowa. In a related project, two methods invented by **Gary Rapp** are being demonstrated for use to reduce emission of volatile organic compounds during the Army Corps of Engineers' dredging of the Indiana Harbor Canal near East Chicago. Junior chemistry major **Seth Ernstmeyer** is helping with this project. **Dr. Kosman** is working this summer with junior chemistry major **Stephanie Scherer** on a project looking for a quicker contaminant analysis for a growing industrial process using infrared or near infrared spectroscopy. The project was proposed by former VU chemistry professor **Dr. Mike Bradley** (he is the Core FT-IR specialist at Thermo) and is being funded by Thermo Fisher Scientific.

**Dr. Steve Engerer** is busy this summer with VU Focus sessions where new incoming freshman students are preregistering. **Dr. Kevin Jantzi** is working this summer with student **Justin Bossert** on the synthesis of several epoxides and aziridines that can be used as precursors for the Pd(0)-catalyzed trimethylenemethane reaction that was developed by Barry Trost. **Dr. Jantzi** just received a Petroleum Research Fund grant for his research. He was also married on June 16, 2007 to **Sarah Oldenburg**, an art professor at VU. **Dr. Tom Goyne** is working on a DOE-funded project elucidate the mechanism by which bacteria reduce plutonium ions. Junior **Changmo Sohn** is working with him this summer on sequencing a family of bacterial genes that code for metal-reducing enzymes.

Last summer **Dr. Jon Schoer** had two students working with him on a water quality project in the Valparaiso Chain-of-Lakes watershed north of town which was sponsored by the Indiana Lakes Management Society and the Indiana Division of Natural Resources. During the summer of 2007 he will continue the water quality research program he initiated in 2005 and expand it with new partners and equipment. Senior **Jeff Field** and Sophomore **Lindsey Gilman** will collect field water quality data and water samples for subsequent laboratory analysis from approximately 40 sites within the Valparaiso Chain of Lakes watershed. New components of the program will include adding 3-4 new watersheds, utilizing GIS methods with satellite and aerial photography to assess plant growth in the watershed, adding a buoy and sonde system that will collect data 24 hours a day 7 days a week from Flint Lake, and jointly establishing programs with local governments and organizations to improve the water quality in the watershed. This summer **Dr. Schoer** also led a research team to the Chinese city of Hangzhou to connect watershed management efforts in China and Northwest Indiana. The team consists of **Dr. Schoer** along with students **Shelly Schmeltz**, **Sarah Mohlman**, and **Jeff Field**. The

students were in the field doing testing while **Dr. Schoer** met with various people about water quality issues in Hangzhou. **Dr. Schoer** states: "We want to look at the similarities between Northwest Indiana and Hangzhou and start an exchange of ideas to address the problems that both regions share." The trip was funded by a \$23,380 grant from the AsiaNetwork, a national consortium of North American universities that supports Asian studies. The project initiated this year in China has received funding for the summer of 2008.

Although **Dr. Gil Cook** is officially retired from teaching, he still does some teaching. He taught second semester organic chemistry last Spring when **Dr. Goyne** was on sabbatical leave. As Senior Research Professor he continues on with his research, primarily with enamines, but a paper on a Knoevenagel initiated reaction under microwave reaction conditions will appear in the September issue of the Journal of Chemical Education. A second paper on a keto-enol equilibrium physical chemistry experiment has been accepted for publication in a later issue of the Journal of Chemical Education. Junior **Matt Rioux** is working with him on research this summer. **Gil** and his wife **Nancy** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last August along with their 3 daughters and 3 sons-in-law, 6 grandchildren and close friends.

**Dr. Martin Erhardt** has felt the call to go into the ministry, so he has left VU and will be attending Princeton Seminary this Fall. We will miss Martin, but wish him our best. We have hired a new chemistry professor, **Dr. Bob Clark**, to replace Martin. He received his PhD from Univ. of Wisconsin. The son of our Chemistry Stockroom Manager, **Gina Doneske**, will be a freshman at VU this Fall.

Graduating senior chemistry major **Betsy Rietema** was named a first team Academic All-American, one of just five in the country and the first VU athlete to ever earn such an honor. She was also named a member of the Mid-Continent Conference first team in basketball. She was also co-winner of the Laurel Award which is presented to the VU graduating senior athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average. Eight of the 17 past winners of this award have been chemistry majors. **Betsy** will be entering the Medical College of Wisconsin this fall. Graduating senior **Lorraine Hoffmann** won a Fulbright award for international research and teaching. She will be teaching in Germany. The VU chapter (Beta Sigma) of *Phi Lambda Upsilon*, a national Honorary Chemical Society, inducted 10 new undergraduate members at the annual **Chemistry Awards Banquet**. The new members are **Rebecca Bock, Laura Engerer, Jared Friedhoff, Stephen Holcomb, Nicholas Kooyers, Barbara Kural, Petra Malova, Amanda Nosie, Brent Penque** and **Dean Webb**. The speaker this year was **Dr. Bill Schuh ('84)** who is a practicing physician as well as the author of two novels. He has an MD, a PhD in biochemistry and an MBA from the Univ. of Illinois. He spoke on "The Chemistry of Christian Life". Other awards given at the banquet were as follows: **Lindsey Gilman** (South Bend, IN) and **David Fritsch** (Lakewood, WI) received the **CRC General Chemistry Achievement Award**; **Kim Kolstedt** (Elburn, IL) received the **Undergraduate Award for Achievement in Organic Chemistry**; **Petra Malova** (Bratislava, Slovakia) received the **Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry**; **Rebecca Bock** (Indianapolis, IN) received the **American Institute of Chemists 2006 Award**; **Deborah Steffen** (Springfield, IL) received the **Outstanding Senior Chemist Award**.

In addition to these awards, our chemistry majors received other honors. There were three senior chemistry majors who were elected to the Eta of Indiana Chapter of the *Phi Beta Kappa Society*. These chemistry majors were **Kate Evangelist, Jonathan Meyer, and Deborah Steffen**. The following four seniors graduated *Summa Cum Laude* (GPA of at least 3.8/4.0): **Brent Penque, Betsy Rietema, Deborah Steffen** and **Amanda Taticsek**.

There were 11 chemistry alumni who came to the **28<sup>th</sup> Annual "Standup" Luncheon**. Be sure to stop by for the **29<sup>th</sup> Annual "Standup" Luncheon**, which will be held in the lobby of Neils Science Center on Homecoming Saturday, October 6, 2007 from 11:00 AM through 1:00 PM. Be sure to stop in and chat with us and with your former classmates. On the preceding day, Friday, October 5 we will be having the **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Premedical Lecture**. This year, **Dr. Andy Makowski ('99)** will be the speaker in a joint meeting with the Physics Colloquium. Last year's speaker was **Dr. Annette Schlueter ('84)**. Annette

obtained an MD and PhD from Univ. of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) and she is now Associate Professor, Assistant Medical Director, DeGowin Blood Center and Head of Transplant Services at Univ. of Iowa College of Medicine.

The Chemistry Department Seminar meets weekly, and we have had some of our alumni as speakers this past year. These alumni speakers were the following. **Dr. Stephanie Moeller ('95)**, Senior Biochemist, 3M Corporation spoke on "Careers in Biotechnology: An Integration of Chemistry, Engineering and the Life Sciences". **Erik Gustafson ('98)** who is a graduate student at Purdue University. **Jacob Riehm ('03)**, graduate student at Washington Univ. St. Louis spoke on "Regulation of the Antiapoptotic Protein Bcl-xL by Oncogenic Tyrosine Kinases and Their Specific Inhibitors". **Dr. Richard Trubey ('80)**, who works at Hamilton Sundstrand Corporation, spoke on "Analytical Chemistry for Homeland Security". **Dr. Lee (Lude) Cambrea ('03)** who just obtained a PhD from Purdue University in biochemistry spoke on "Chemical and Physical Properties of Supported Lipid Bilayers". **Lee** had this work published in the Biophysical Journal in May of this year. **Dr. Donald Reed** who was adjunct analytical professor at VU for one year and is now at Los Alamos National Laboratory, spoke on "Bioremediation of Contaminated Groundwater". This past Spring, **Claire Peoples ('03)** and **Adrian Harvey ('05)**, both of whom are attending Loyola Medical School, returned with an admissions/professor from Loyola to speak at a Premedical Arts Colloquium.

The ISIS Program (Initiative for Schools, Industries and the Sciences) is continuing on with providing modern instrumentation to the middle and high schools in Northwest Indiana. The instruments that are being delivered to the schools are IR spectrometer, UV/visible spectrometer, gel electrophoresis, atomic absorption spectrometer, and gas chromatography.

News from the classes is as follows: **Ted Mueller ('50)** worked at Oak Ridge National Lab after receiving a PhD from Univ. of Kansas in 1963. He co-authored the chapter on uranium in the "Encyclopedia of the Electrochemistry of the Elements". He now consults for industry. **John Fackler ('56)** and his wife, **Naomi**, celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary along with their nine children and nine grandchildren. **Gordon Bierwagen ('64)** is Chairman of North Dakota State University's Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials. He, along with two other researchers, has developed a new aluminum primer coating which is magnesium based rather than chromium based. This technology protects aluminum aircraft from corrosion without harming the environment. It could save the US military hundreds of millions of dollars in maintenance costs because handling chromates is expensive. **Jim Bebout ('66)** passed away last year. **Paula (Kavasch) Groncy ('67)** received VU's Distinguished Alumna Award last year. In 1991 she established the Sickie Cell Center at Miller Children's Hospital in California, and ten years later she established the hospital's Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center. She has served as the director of both centers since their inceptions. Forty years ago, the VU team for GE College Bowl on NBC-TV included **Neil Brandt ('67)**. The team scored two victories over other colleges. **Don Deye ('68)** was a member of the Charter Class at Mayo Medical School. He has been practicing internal medicine since 1979 in Cambridge, MN. He serves as Isanti County Coroner, as District Medical Director for the North Region of Allina Medical Clinics, as Medical Director for Oakstone Medical Publishing, and as Editor of the Medical Knowledge Self Assessment Program for the American College of Physicians. He hosts a monthly podcast for hospitalists called DocPod Hospital Medicine.

From the 1970's comes the following news: **Paul Grumley ('72)** continues to practice internal medicine in Paducah, KY. He has four children (one MD, one attorney, one teacher, on junior biology major at Univ. of Mississippi) and three grandchildren. **Don Lewis ('72)** practices oral and maxillofacial surgery fulltime. He received a DDS from Case Western Reserve Univ. School of Dentistry and is an Associate Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Case Univ. School of Dental Medicine. Based on personal experience, he has written two books on white-collar crime involving employee embezzlement and fraud. He has earned the designation of Certified Fraud Examiner from the Board of Regents of the

Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. He is one of only two dentists in the world to hold this designation. **Randy Miller ('73)** is Vice President, Clinical & Regulatory Affairs for Ulthera, Inc. **Tony Burgess-Cassler ('76)** has accepted a position of senior scientist at the QuantRx Corporate Research Center in Portland, Oregon. **Tony** formerly worked at Calypte Biomedical Corp. where he developed rapid immunochromatography tests to detect antibodies against HIV in blood and oral fluid. Calypte markets its HIV tests outside in U.S. under the Aware brand name. He earlier was with Orasure Technologies, Inc. where he was the lead scientist for the OraQuick rapid HIV strip test project, the first of its kind approved for use in the U.S. He is co-inventor on two patents related to rapid test platforms, one of which is employed by a second FDA-approved rapid HIV test, Clearview Complete. **Debbie (Schmalz) Neymark ('79)** is Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, Clinical Research and Quality for Vascular Solutions, a medical device company base in Minneapolis that manufactures products used by cardiologists.

From the 1980's comes the following news: **Sandy (Bopp) Kinsella ('80)** was given VU's Alumni Service Award at Homecoming last year. She is presently clinical assistant professor of anesthesiology at Indiana University School of Medicine. She served 11 years as a member of the VU Alumni Association Board of Directors, two years as its president. **Sara Zaknoen ('80)** was appointed chief medical officer for Cabrellis Pharmaceuticals Corp. Before this appointment **Sara** was executive director of Clinical Oncology Research for Novartis Pharmaceutical Corp. She previously served as assistant professor of medicine at the Univ. of Cincinnati Medical Center, Medical director at the Barrett Cancer Center in Ohio, and director of experimental therapeutics at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital. **Rich Trubey ('80)** is Principal Research Engineer with Hamilton Sundstrand Corp. (see above). **Michele Mellett ('81)** continues her busy schedule as a trauma surgeon in Chicago. **Steve Misch ('81)** moved to China and is enjoying his life in colorful Shanghai. **Russ Stolle ('84)** was appointed Senior Vice President, Global Public Affairs and Communications for Huntsman Corporations, Woodlands, TX, after serving as Vice President and Deputy General Counsel. Previously he had served as Vice President and Chief Technology Counsel. Huntsman is a global manufacturer and marketer of differentiated and commodity chemicals. In 2005 the company had revenues of \$13 billion. After graduating from VU, he graduated with honors from the Univ. of Texas School of Law. **Tony Oliva ('84)** recently took on the role of Chief Medical Officer for Wellmont Health System, a 4 hospital system in Northeastern Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. The system has a total of 900 beds which is about twice the size of Bayhealth Medical Center in Delaware where I was Vice President for Medical Affairs for 4 years. Clinically he continues to work with residents but he has really focused on medical management. He received a masters in medical management from Carnegie Mellon University recently. **Jodi (Medley) McMahan ('85)** is a volunteer for Gift of Adoption Fund, which is a nonprofit dedicated to helping families across the country complete the adoption process by providing need-based grants to help offset the costs of adoption. **Rob Bryant ('85)** was part of a team at NASA Langley Research Center that invented the LaRC Macro Fiber Composite (MFC) Actuator and Sensor that was selected as NASA's 2007 Government Invention of the Year by NASA's General Counsel. The team's monetary award is the largest single Space Act Award that a Langley technology has ever won. The awardees' will be presented their medals at the Project Management Challenge in Feb. 26-27, 2008 at Daytona Beach near Kennedy Space Center. This will be near the time that the STS-123 Shuttle mission carries the MFC's into space for the Rigex experiment. **Kelly Johnson ('85)** works in Cook County, IL, with a private practice and also sees hospital patients in need of psychiatric care. **Laura Zawadzke ('85)** continues to work for Pfizer in Groton, CT. **Mark Bruns ('85)** is Marketing Director, Infectious Disease for Abbott Labs in North Chicago, IL. **Karen (Abel) Sundell ('85)** is Clinical Data Management Consultant at Eli Lilly & Co. **Tammy (Schmidt) Kummerehl ('86)**, after finishing a medical technology program, moved to California and worked at Genentech in South San Francisco where she did basic research in biotechnology. After getting married and having three children, she does accounting and human resources for their family business along with being a mom. **Rick Rateick ('86)** does materials research work for Honeywell and works on his hobby of restoring old scientific instruments. **John**

**Schlueter ('87)** continues his work at Argonne National Laboratory. One VU student, **Laura Engerer**, is working on research with him this summer. **Sandy Rosenthal ('87)** has two VU students working with her on research at Vanderbilt this summer, namely **Jared Friedhoff** and **Rebekka Sneed**.

From the 1990's comes the following news: **Ilpo Kaariainen ('90)** passed away last July, **Ilpo** received an MD from Vanderbilt Univ. School of Medicine followed by residencies in both internal medicine and psychiatry at the University of Chicago where he was selected as Outstanding Resident Role Model, Psychiatry Resident of the Year, and Instructor of the Year. He was double board certified in internal medicine and psychiatry, and he served on the faculty of the Univ. of Chicago while running a private practice in Northwest Indiana. **Leslie (Tiemann) Sleuwen ('91)** is Associate Director at Hinsdale Family Medicine Residency Program. **Paul Wischmeyer ('92)**, who is Associate Professor of Anesthesiology and Director of Nutrition Support Services at Univ. of Colorado Health Sciences Center, is now Editor-in-Chief elect of the Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. One of our premedical arts students, **Nina Kiselinova**, is working with **Paul** this summer on collecting information on patients for the study of heparin dosages. **Scott Miller ('92)** in his work with Facet Analytical Services and Technology has developed Fastrate, a proprietary solid dose calibration standard for use in volumetric Karl Fischer titrations for moisture content determinations. It is exclusively distributed world-wide by Sigma-Aldrich. **Quenby Erickson ('94)** is stationed at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois as Chief of Dermatology and Associate Chief of the Medical Staff. She anticipates separating from the Air Force in 2008. **Jeff Sargent ('94)** graduated from Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky Univ. and was admitted to the Ohio bar association. He works at Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati. **Kristen (Norlie) Goodman ('94)** is a stay at home mom with her two sons. Her husband works at Ford. **Virginia (Bowden) Lehmann ('95)** teaches organic chemistry at Parkland College in Champaign, IL. Her husband, Chris, just recently received a PhD in civil and environmental engineering. **Stephanie Moeller ('95)** is Senior Biochemist at 3M as discussed above. **Laura (Wesner) Eriks ('96)** worked at Abbott Labs for about 9 years during which time she obtained a M.S. in biochemistry and molecular biology. After her son was born, they moved to Munster, IN where **Laura** is a stay at home mom. **Jeff Kosman ('96)** is working in Seattle, WA with Ameritek, Inc., a biotechnology company. **Gail (Mullarkey) Valtier ('96)** is working for Staubach Retail in the field of commercial real estate. **Bethany (Karlin) Zolman ('97)** received a PhD in biology. She is now an assistant professor in the Biology Dept. at Univ. of Missouri in St. Louis. **Beth (Tatro) Grossart ('97)** joined the army last year after completing her Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation residency at Indiana Univ. She is a Captain in the Medical Corps and serving in the Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, TX. **Jean Miller ('97)** is Quality Assurance Auditor with Bioanalytical Systems, Inc. in West Lafayette, IN. **Suzanne Nutter ('98)** received an MBA degree from Harvard during her leave from Eli Lilly. **Nick Matzke ('98)** is Public Information Project Director for the National Center for Science Education. **Dan Eifert ('98)** and **Rachelle (Lurvey) Eifert ('98)** live in Arlington Heights, IL. **Dan** earned a master's degree in music from Univ. of Minnesota. He is an underwriter for Fireman's Fund Insurance Co., and he sings with Chicago Symphony Chorus and Grant Park Music Festival Chorus. He returned to VU as a guest soloist in a performance of Bach's St. John Passion. **Rachelle** earned a B.S. from Loyola Univ., and she is a senior nurse clinician in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Rush North Shore Medical Center, Skokie, IL.

From the 2000's comes the following: **Pam (Kreeger) Frushous ('00)** is doing postdoctoral work at MIT. Her project is to develop a model of how ovarian cancer cells integrate signals such as growth factors resulting in phenotypes such as proliferation/invasion. **William Porter ('00)** has a postdoctorate at the Univ. of Michigan. He has two main projects, the first is exploring and controlling polymorphic expression of high energy materials-mostly explosives- and the second project involves probing the chemical adsorption of binary gas mixtures in metal-organic frameworks by Raman spectroscopy. **Jonathan Foelber ('00)** is a biochemistry graduate student at Notre Dame. **Luis Cuellar ('00)** is a

practicing dentist in Valparaiso. **Jennifer Bender ('00)** is over half-way finished with her PhD/MD program at Illinois. She is getting married in June. **Erica (Kaufman) Palys ('00)** was chosen to be the chief resident for the 2007-'08 year at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. **Sarah Olson ('00)** received an MD from Univ. of Wisconsin Medical School and now lives in Indianapolis. **Jessica (Amrozowicz) Kerins ('00)** has received a PhD from Washington Univ. (St. Louis) and is now doing a postdoctorate at Southern Methodist Univ. Her husband, **Mark Kerins ('00)** has received a PhD and is now teaching at Southern Methodist Univ. **Janette Holub ('01)** received an MD and a masters degree in public health at Univ. of Illinois College of Medicine in Rockford, and she then did a residency in general surgery at Northwestern Univ. Medical Center. **Leah (Keehr) Anderson ('02)** has a baby boy, obtained an MD from Mayo Medical School, and has a residency in family medicine in Duluth. **Carly (Kemmis) Knepper ('02)** has obtained a PhD from Notre Dame. **Doug Knepper ('02)** works at KIK Elkhart. **Allison Broadstone ('03)** graduated Indiana Univ. School of Dentistry. **Claire Peeples ('03)** is attending Loyola Medical School (see above). **Jacob Riehm ('03)** is attending Washington Univ. Graduate School (see above). **Lee (Lude) Cambrea ('03)** received a PhD in analytical chemistry from Purdue Univ. (see above). **Sara Stellfox ('03)** received an MS degree in analytical chemistry, and she now works at Midwest BioResearch as a Study Scientist. **Milena Jani ('04)** is entering her fourth year of medical school at Indiana University. **Kasey Hammond ('04)** is a graduate student at Univ. of Colorado where she is studying MAPK signaling in melanoma. **Nicole Kenyon ('04)** received a doctor of pharmacy degree from Midwestern Univ. and is now doing a pharmacy practice residency at the Univ. of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, and she is an adjunct professor at the Univ. of Iowa Pharmacy School. **Sam (Rudzinski) Hayes ('04)** is teaching science at Chesterton (IN) Middle School. **Gina Doneske** (Chemistry Stockroom Manager) and **Gil Cook** did some science demonstrations for her class last Fall. **Adrian Harvey ('05)** is attending Loyola Medical School (see above). **Rachael Easton ('05)** is attending Purdue Veterinary School. **Katie Hovsepian ('05)** is attending West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. **Katie Boone ('05)** is at the top of her class in the Physician Assistant Program at Butler University. **Greg Tonagel ('05)** is men's basketball coach at Indiana Wesleyan Univ., and he was named Mid-Central Conference Coach of the Year in 2006. **Brian Bock ('05)** is working for deCode Chemistry, a biopharmaceutical company in Woodridge, IL **Ellie Goetsch ('05)** is attending Univ. of Wisconsin Medical School. **Ying Jin ('06)** is attending Wayne State Medical School. **Miriam Conces ('06)** is attending Indiana Univ. Medical School.

The future plans for some of the 2007 graduates are as follows: **Lori Hoffmann** has a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in Germany. **Ariana Mankerian** will be attending Syracuse Univ. Graduate School in chemistry, and **Deborah Steffen** will be attending Uniform Services Graduate School in biochemistry. **Becky Bock** is employed in sales for Stryker Instruments. **Ruth McAlonan** will be attending Univ. of Illinois Veterinary School. **Brad Johnson** is enrolled at Case Western Reserve Dental School. Attending medical school next year are **Keith Aumend** (Florida), **Barbara Kural** (Midwestern Osteopathic, IL), **Sara Mar** (Arizona College of Osteopathic Med.), **Jonathan Meyer** (Texas-Galveston), **Cathy Nelson** (Midwestern Osteopathic, IL), **Leah Phillippi** (Medical College of Wisconsin), **Shanti Pinto** (Pittsburg), **Betsy Rietema** (Medical College of Wisconsin) and **Ryan Vector** (Indiana Univ. Medical School).

Again, I encourage all of you to stop in to see us when you come through (or near) Valparaiso. At least drop us a note either written or by E-mail so that we know what you are up to these days.

Sincerely,

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