Message from the Chair

Dr. Cheryl Frech

Once again we find ourselves in the great month of November: the weather is lovely and the leaves are putting on a show of color. Students are busy working on projects, papers, and preparing to attend Oklahoma Research Day. Faculty are writing and grading exams, representing the department on committees, and writing grants and papers. UCO posted a record enrollment this fall of more than 17,000 students, and many of these students are taking and majoring in chemistry. Despite the move of the forensic science programs to the Forensic Science Institute, the department has healthy numbers of majors, including a record number of Chemistry, Chemistry-ACS, and Chemistry-Health Sciences majors. In fact, we have more than 200 majors in the three chemistry programs and Pre-Pharmacy.

The past year has been filled with evaluations and reports. We are required by the American Chemical Society to prepare a five-year report on our curriculum. This was submitted in June and we are awaiting a response. In addition, UCO requires a five-year strategic plan that is nearly completed and will be submitted for internal and external evaluation. We utilize these reports and the process involved in constructing them to set our course for the upcoming years, make decisions about curriculum, set priorities, and generally improve the educational experience for our students. One of our goals is to establish an Advisory Board for the department. Please contact me if you are interested in serving or would like to be part of the process to establish the Advisory Board.

This fall we were able to award for the first time three new scholarships to incoming freshman and transfer students (see article, right, about the 2010 recipients). Please consider making a gift to this scholarship fund so that we are able to continue to recruit and retain outstanding chemistry students.

Top News

Scholarships Awarded to 3 New Students

This August, the Department of Chemistry awarded three scholarships to new freshman and transfer students. Incoming freshman scholarships were awarded to Caitlin Kriewall of Claremore, Oklahoma, and Spencer Brodrick, from Choctaw, Oklahoma. A new transfer student, Nicole Chaney, from Oklahoma City, also received a scholarship.

Caitlin Kriewall attended Sequoyah High School and has a double major in Chemistry and Forensic Science. Spencer Brodrick attended Choctaw High School, and is also double majoring in Chemistry-ACS and Forensic Science. Nicole Chaney received a scholarship as a transfer student. Nicole graduated from U. S. Grant High School and has an Associate’s Degree in Science from Oklahoma City Community College. She plans to attend optometry school. The three scholarship recipients were honored at a departmental reception in September.

The New Student Scholarship Fund has been established to award scholarships to incoming freshman and transfer students who plan to major in chemistry. Please consider making a contribution to this fund so the department can continue to recruit and reward outstanding students to chemistry careers. Many of today’s college students have to work numerous hours in off-campus jobs, so even a modest scholarship is gratefully received.

From left to right: Caitlin Kriewall, Nicole Chaney, Spencer Brodrick
Emeritus Faculty Association is Established
UCO established an Emeritus Faculty Association at a meeting on Homecoming weekend, 2009. Emeritus Chemistry Professor Fred Grosz represented the College of Mathematics Science on the ad hoc committee which proposed the formation of the organization and helped write the by-laws. At the inaugural meeting Dr. Grosz was elected to serve a two-year term as its first president. Other emeritus chemistry faculty serving an active role in the new organization include Dr. Larry Westmoreland - Board of Directors, Dr. David Hart - Chair of the Membership Committee, and Dr. Verlin Richardson - Chair of the Courtesy Committee.

Going Places
UCO Chemistry faculty attend a variety of chemistry, biochemistry, and forensic science conferences and workshops. Here is a summary for 2010-11. If you plan to attend the same event, or if you live in the area, please let us know and we can plan a meal or a meeting.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences
Dr. Robert Bost
Chicago, IL February 21-26, 2011

American Chemical Society National Meeting
Drs. John Bowen, Dallas New, Steven Meier, Cheryl Frech
Anaheim, CA March 26-31, 2011

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Dr. Lilian Chooback
Washington, DC April 9-13, 2011

Oklahoma Research Day
The 2010 Oklahoma Research Day was held at Cameron University on November 12, 2010. The statewide meeting is an ideal venue for faculty and students in all disciplines to present research posters. UCO chemistry faculty and students who attended are listed below.

UCO Chemistry student Sharome Goode, along with high school students Sidra Mesiya and Zoha Qureshi of Mercy School and Dr. Albahadily and Dr. Bowen presented research on the determination of bisphenol A in Oklahoma surface waters using SPME and HPLC, and the resistance to triclosan on the native Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria found in water. UCO Chemistry student Brad van Cleave, Dr. Albahadily and Dr. Bowen presented a poster on the identification of desert varnish on sandstones collected from Desolation and Gray's Canyons on the Green River in Utah.

Dr. Lilian Chooback and UCO student Jami Gurley, with Dr. Ronald Viola (University of Toledo) presented a poster on the crystal structure of yeast aminotransferase ARO8. Dr. Chooback, UCO student Sadallah Al Najm and University of Oklahoma collaborators Dr. William Karsten, Dr. Paul Cook, and Mr. Kostyantyn Bobyk presented a poster on the expression, purification and characterization of another yeast aminotransferase, ARO9. A third poster on the kinetics and characterization of a yeast aminotransferase was presented by Dr. Chooback, UCO Forensic Science graduate Zoraya Reyes, and OU collaborators Karsten, Cook, and Bobyk.

New Forensic Science Honor Society
Drs. von Minden and Bost are founding members of the new Forensic Sciences Honor Society, Delta Delta Epsilon, the mission of which is to function as an honor and professional society for students of the forensic sciences. Activities of the Society will be designed to stimulate academic achievement, promote community understanding, and advance the fields of forensic science.

Organic Lab Expansion
In order to accommodate more students in Organic laboratory courses, we are remodeling some spaces in Howell Hall. The wall that separated the Organic Lab from the Inorganic Lab was removed to create an expanded Organic Lab space which will hold up to 20 students. Three new hoods will be added over Winter Break. In addition, a handicap-access lab station with hood has been created. The old Organic II lab will now be used for Inorganic and Physical Chemistry lab courses.
Staff and Faculty Updates
The current faculty are a diverse and hard-working group. Here are some brief glimpses into their work.

Dr. F. Albahadily – Dr. Albahadily is enjoying slightly smaller classes after the departure of the forensic science program from the department. He still spends most of his spare time maintaining the variety of instruments in the laboratory, but he understood that you have to work many years to get that corner office. He is also an Oklahoma City Barons season ticket holder and is happy to have hockey back in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Don Gibson – Mr. Gibson is continuing his research involving nano-titanium dioxide. Currently, he’s in a search for the perfect vectored magnetic field. In his spare time he continues to officiate and is a big supporter of our UCO hockey team.

Dr. Robert Bost – During the last year Dr. Bost has continued teaching Introductory Chemistry lecture and labs (fall, spring, and summer sessions) and Forensic Toxicology lecture and lab; developed and taught a new course - Pharmacological Basis of Forensic Toxicology; completed his fourth year on Faculty Senate (term limited); assisted Dr. Dana Rundle with another Summer Academy for high school students; continued as co-sponsor of the Student Academy of Forensic Sciences; continued to enjoy square and round dancing; continued to sing with the choir at his church; successfully re-qualified as Diplomate, American Board of Forensic Toxicologists.

Dr. John Bowen – Dr. Bowen is the instructor for the Quantitative Analysis course. He’s mentoring a student, Sharome Goode, in a project on the analysis of water-borne contaminants with Solid Phase Micro Extraction and GC/MS and HPLC. He also accompanied two UCO undergraduates to present papers on their research and one for himself to National ACS meeting in San Francisco and had four high school researchers present two papers in their research at the ACS Pentasectional Meeting in Norman, OK. Bowen also had a summer 2010 study tour. (See the accompanying article for more.) Dr. Bowen currently needs a break from rabid research kids who are holding him hostage in the Instrumental Lab.

Dr. Lilian Chooback – Dr. Chooback teaches biochemistry lectures and lab and she continues her involvement in a joint research project with Drs. Paul Cook and William Karsten at the University of Oklahoma and Dr. Ronald Viola at the University of Toledo involving kinetic and structural studies of aminotransferase in yeast. In her spare time, what little there is, she enjoys traveling across the U.S with her family.

Dr. Jim Dechter – During the past year, Dr. Dechter was joined by Dr. Meier and Dr. Montes in revising and resubmitting an NSF proposal for upgrading the Department’s aged NMR spectrometer. In August, Dr. Dechter attended the 21st BCCE in Denton, TX where he participated in workshops on the use of the Cambridge Structural Database and on the use of the open-source Java viewer Jmol. Both of these workshops will be valuable for enhancing 3D molecular visualization in the Inorganic Chemistry course at UCO. In his spare time, Dr. Dechter has been reading Stieg Larsson and has begun playing around with infrared and high dynamic range photography.

Dr. Mike Ferguson – Dr. Mike Ferguson was the speaker at the September meeting of the Oklahoma Section of the ACS. In addition to presenting several chemical demonstrations, he talked about how to make demonstrations more effective, based on lessons he had learned over a decade of presenting chemical magic shows. He also organized this year’s ACS Mall Event at Quail Springs Mall in October.

Mr. Ron Jezercak – Mr. Jezercak is now coordinating the brand new Chemistry for Engineers course. He is also developing the programming for a database that will allow us to keep everyone better informed as to what we are all doing. His current crop of P-Chem students includes an entourage from China who are doing very well. It is thought that Dr. Jezercak is developing a strange accent recently as a result.

Dr. Steve Meier – Dr. Meier is currently finishing up his cocaine-on-currency paper. He is also midway through ammonium nitrate and UCO biodiesel explosives test write-up and will be moving on to exploration of Tannerite.

Dr. Thomas Jourdan – Dr. Jourdan is currently finishing his “Forensic Toxicologists.”

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Mr. Lane Whitesell – Mr. Whitesell has had a busy year. As the past president of the Chemical Society held in New Orleans. His return to UCO is documented in the online article: “Welcome Back Dr. New”, written by Dr. Zezer and available online at: http://www.chemistry.uco.edu/Newsletters/2010_Media/DerZwiebel.html

Dr. Dana Rundle – Dr. Rundle and Dr. Bost conducted the summer chemistry high school workshop and look forward to continuing that for the next several years. Dr. Rundle is a member of the department Outreach Committee, Vision Committee, Academic Advisory Committee, and the University Student Conduct Committee. Her most exciting experience last year was a trip to Italy with her daughter Their favorite places in Italy include Orvieto and Bomarzo - potentially the first theme park, built 500 years ago.

Dr. David von Minden – Dr. von Minden is working with undergraduate research students in the determination of the “hot” in peppers. He is an active producer of tomatoes and peppers and thought it might be worthwhile to see how hot he can grow them. This year his undergraduate research student has prepared an ethylated derivative of the two major capsaicinoids in order to quantify the level of the capsaicinoids in a variety of hot peppers. Brandi van Alphen presented a poster of this research at both the Oklahoma Research Day in November and at the combined Southwest and Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society held in New Orleans.

Mr. Lane Whitesell – Mr. Whitesell has had a busy year. For the chemistry department he has put a course online (Chemistry and Society, our core education course for non-science majors) and continues teaching this course each semester as well as labs and summer school. He has also kept up with the stockroom evening shift. For the university as a whole, he continues as a member of the campus Safety Committee and is training in the National Incident Management System. At KCSC he remains the main fill-in and emergency announcer, the host of the Saturday afternoon opera broadcasts, and the host and producer of Bravo, Baroque!, a weekly program featuring baroque music.

Adjunct Faculty Updates

All of us “regulars” here in the Department owe enormous thanks to the hard work of our adjunct faculty. Here are the folks who teach with us.

Dr. May Griffin is in her second stint of teaching Introductory Chemistry lecture and labs after first teaching here in 1992.

Dr. Freddie Hall, a UCO grad, teaches General Chemistry I lab in the evenings and an Environmental Chemistry elective course.

Mr. Victor Hall teaches at Rose State and is an evening General Chemistry I lab instructor. He’s an avid skier.

Dr. Anthony Harmon retired from the University of Tennessee – Martin and moved to Oklahoma City to be near family. Anthony teaches Introductory Chemistry and General Chemistry labs and lectures.

Dr. Frank Hays has a full time position at the OU Health Sciences Center and teaches Organic Chemistry labs in the evenings.

Dr. David Holder teaches full time at OSU-OKC as well as a Friday afternoon General Chemistry I lab.

Mr. Darren Hom is new for Fall 2010 and hopes to start a teaching career. He is teaching an evening General Chemistry I lecture.

Dr. Ratanmani Joshi, also new for Fall 2010, has three children and is teaching an evening Introductory Chemistry lab.

Dr. Pam New teaches both an online and traditional General Chemistry I lecture and General Chemistry I and II lab courses.

Dr. Joshua Ojwang is a biomedical researcher who teaches a variety of lecture and lab courses in his second stint at UCO.

Dr. Jan Post teaches at the Oklahoma School of Science and Math. At UCO he teaches an evening Introductory Chemistry lecture and lab.

Dr. Fazlur Rahman also an OSSM instructor, teaches Organic Chemistry lecture.

Ms. Ruby Rahman works at the OU Health Sciences Center and teaches Organic I lab and General Chemistry I lab.

Dr. Roland Schultz is retired from Oklahoma Christian University and teaches General Chemistry I and II labs and Organic I lab.

Ms. Nguyen Truong is a recent graduate from the University of Tulsa and teaches Introductory Chemistry lecture and labs as well as General Chemistry labs.

Mr. Robert Weston works at the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and teaches both forensic science courses and General Chemistry labs.

Ms. Huaqing Wu commutes from Norman to teach Introductory and General Chemistry labs.

Dr. Alex Xulu recently received his Ph. D. from the University of Oklahoma in Inorganic Chemistry and will be teaching General Chemistry I lecture and lab for the first time in the Spring 2011 semester.

Two of our part-time faculty are no longer teaching or in the area:

Dr. Bruce Clark has re-retired and moved to Flagstaff, Arizona with his wife, Diane.

Dr. Todd Brewer has taken a job with the city of Springfield, Missouri.
We always enjoy hearing of the activities of our alumni. Here are some updates:

**Dennis Goodpasture** (72) - Dennis retired a few years ago after a lengthy career in forensic labs, head of the Training Division at Hewlett Packard, and sales representative at Varian. Dennis resides in Edmond and on occasion joins the Emeritus Chemistry Profs at their monthly luncheons.

**Jeff Folks** (82) - Jeff continues to work in the biotech industry near Kansas City, KS. He recently attended the UCO Homecoming and informed us that he had taken a new job. He has a daughter attending UCO and is on the cheerleading squad.

**Lane Gardner** (86) - Lane continues to work at Lubrizol in Texas where he started shortly after graduation from UCO. We mourn with Lane as he recently lost his wife, Laura, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

**Jim Schmidt** (86) - Jim continues to work for Lexicon Genetics in The Woodlands, TX. His responsibilities include doing small molecule metabolite profiling using LC/MS. Jim continues his freelance writing on Civil War medicine and other topics. He has published two books and is working on a third. He has been an invited speaker at various sites around the country.

**Gregg Meidl** (89) - Gregg has completed his 20th year at Siemens Energy and Automation, Inc. in Bartlesville, OK.

**Dewey Williams** (89) - Dewey Williams recently contacted us from Charlotte, NC where he is the Laboratory Manager at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He has been at the university since he graduated from UCO. Dewey is married and has two children.

**Graylon Williams, Ph.D.** (89) - Graylon lives in Warren, MI where he works for the Takata Corporation. Graylon continues his hobby of biking and recently completed the two-day, 150 mile Fandango Ride in eastern Oklahoma along with his brother. He invited Fred Grosz to ride with him, but he had to decline due to a schedule conflict.

**Suzanne McGinnis** (90) - Suzanne came out of retirement to return to work for Xerox as a contract employee. Suzanne lives in Yukon, OK.

**Dan Bolton, Ph.D.** (93) - Dan and his family live in Kingsport, TN where he is a Manager at the Eastman Chemical Corporation. They have recently moved into a new house which they designed and built.

**Kristy Hoggat** (94) - Kristy and her husband, Dale, live in Carl Junction, Missouri and are the proud parents of Audrey, 6, and Silas, 6 months.

**Richard McAroy, DVM** (95) - Richard owns a veterinary practice in Nashua, NH and is also licensed in Australia and New Zealand. He looks forward to extending his working vacations in these countries.

**Sheena (O’Brien) McAroy** (96) - recently completed her RN degree and has started a Masters program at Riever College pursuing her Nurse Practitioners License.

**Andrea (Winton) Solorzano** (98) - Andrea works for the OSBI in their new laboratory building across the street from UCO. Andrea is currently the laboratory director for the OSBI. She was honored at Homecoming 2010 as a UCO Distinguished Former Student.

**Sara (Paschel) Ferrero** (99) - Sara continues to work for the OSBI at Lawton where she is the laboratory director. Sara periodically sends us pictures of her son Lucas who is now 18 months old.

**Tana Flies** (00) - Tana recently moved from Texas to Philadelphia where she is working for Temple University as a medical technologist.

**Melissa (Carker) Hollingsworth** (01) - Melissa lives in Hutto, TX with her husband and two children. Melissa is completing requirements for a teaching certificate and plans to teach science next fall.

**La’Keisha Gasper** (01) – La’Keisha works for a polymer laboratory in Houston, TX, and is the mother of an 18-month old son.

**Cecily (Boyett) Hamilton** (03) - Cecily resides in Austin with her husband. She recently left the DNA section at the Austin Police Department and is working for a private federal contract lab involved in projects related to DNA.

**Paul Keller** (03) – A former student secretary in the Chemistry Office, Paul now works as a chemist at Tinker Air Force Base.

**Justin Snider** (07) – Justin has moved to Bartlesville, OK, and works for Conoco Phillips.

**Faith Musko** (MS 08) – Faith works for AIT in Indianapolis, IN, and is an adjunct instructor at Indiana Tech.

**Our Incredible Staff News**

**Ryan Hays**: Manager, Chemistry Laboratories. Ryan enjoys doing things that he enjoys and the opportunity to stay physically active. Over the previous summer, he purchased a bike and he enjoyed participating in several local rides. For the first time, he is teaching a UCO Success Central course. For one class period, he taught a hands-on course on how to clean and adjust bicycles and replace tires. As an avid bicycle enthusiast, he continues to enjoy his time off. In addition, Ryan completed a Master’s Degree in Education from OSU.

**Carla Supon**: Chemistry Administrative Assistant. Carla enjoys keeping up with the students’ activities and aspirations. She is active at her church and spends time with her father, who is retired and lives in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Carla and her friends enjoy going to movies. She continues to spoil the department by doing research on baking and cooking and bringing the results to the office for us to try.
Outdoor Leadership
by Dr. John Bowen
See Additional Photos and Video at:
http://wwwchemistry.uco.edu/Newsletters/2010_Media/Bowen_Rafting.html
I’ve been an outdoorsman for years, in addition to my profession in chemistry. For nearly 15 years I’ve been a professional outfitter and rafting guide, yet it only occurred to me early in the fall semester of 2009 that I had something to contribute to the UCO Leadership minor. I met with Dr. Pat LaGrow and Dr. Roz Miller about a possible class in teaching outdoor leadership through the medium of white water rafting. They were incredibly enthusiastic and supportive, and helped me to set up the academic curriculum, which I based on a rafting trip the outdoor company I’m part of has offered for several years. This class became LEAD 4970, Whitewater Rafting Leadership.

The class started on the banks of the Colorado River the third week of June and was attended by six UCO students. Two of the students were actually in chemistry coursework, Zac Cruse and David Rohrer, along with Adam Ashford, Nick Rice, Riley DeLong and Joe Ready, UCO kinesiology majors. The students had previously worked with Mr. Lane Whitesell, who not only teaches chemistry, but is a master chef and caterer, to plan and prepare a menu for the trip that they then assembled, packed and cooked on the trip. Their curriculum included river guide training, including safety and rescue training, as well as learning boat handling, as paddleboat captains and as oarsmen. In the evenings, we had discussions about outdoor leadership, trip planning, how to lead guests, best “industry standard” whitewater river practices, expedition behavior, the differences in industrial leadership and outdoor leadership. I led the trip with my two rafting guide instructors, Matt Kelley, who works as a department head in the largest private company in Laramie, WY, and Matt Troyanek, the best instructor trainer and guide on the Cache le Poudre River as well as the Colorado River. We even had quizzes and essays that the students completed by firelight in the evenings on the banks of the Colorado River. One evening, Matt Kelley taught them the simple pleasure of sitting on the banks of the river and watching the stars come out. It was a magical moment. The next morning when I got up early for coffee, David Rohrer was already up making the coffee for us, and exclaimed in a hushed voice, that he couldn’t believe how beautiful it all was, and couldn’t believe that we did this kind of thing all the time! I felt then that the class had succeeded.

The students were incredibly enthusiastic and were some of the best students that I’ve ever taught, probably because they were having the time of their lives doing it.

After learning all the basics on the first section of the river, their final test was to navigate the second section of the river by themselves with no coaching by their instructors. They stopped and scouted the biggest rapid, Yarmony, and planned their routes through the rapid, and then ran the three rafts themselves Matt Kelley actually snoozed through the rapid, while David gave me a somewhat more hair-raising ride through it minutes later. After the class was over we met for the last time at a Tres Amigos, a Mexican Restaurant in Kremmling for a no-prep or wash meal and a get together. The first thing out of their mouths was what class came next? I’m working on that.
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE UPDATE 2009

The College of Mathematics and Science is pleased to welcome Melody Hansen as our Development Officer to work with the college and individual departments on fundraising efforts. In 2010, the College participated in spring and a fall phone drives where student and faculty volunteers called alumni. Chemistry’s annual scholarship fundraising drive will occur in February 2011. As a result of fund-raising efforts in FY2010, $17,900 were raised. Dr. David von Minden, a current UCO faculty member, has also established a scholarship fund. Please consider supporting one of our emeritus faculty, other faculty, or new student scholarships. We would like to endow each of the scholarship funds at the $20,000 level in order to be able to award these scholarships on a continuing basis each year. If you would like to establish an endowed scholarship in your name or to honor someone, please contact Dr. Cheryl Frech (cfrech@uco.edu), Dr. Fred Grosz (fgrosz@uco.edu) or Ms. Melody Hansen (mhansen5@uco.edu).

2010 Scholarship Award Winners

These scholarships were awarded to the following students at the Spring College of Mathematics and Science Awards Reception.

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<tr>
<td>Fred Grosz</td>
<td>Melissa Danker</td>
<td>Wellston, OK</td>
<td>Chemistry – ACS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verlin Richardson</td>
<td>Rebba Casteel</td>
<td>Minco, OK</td>
<td>Chemistry - ACS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terrill Smith</td>
<td>Daniel Foerster</td>
<td>Edmond, OK</td>
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<td>Larry Westmoreland</td>
<td>Francesca Reis</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>Chemistry – Health Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cindy Coleman</td>
<td>Brandi van Alphen</td>
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YES, you can count on my support for the Chemistry Endowment Scholarship Fund

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<th>Pledge Amount:</th>
<th>$1000 or more</th>
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I wish to designate my contribution to honor (you may select more than one fund)

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<td>Ms. Cynthia Coleman $_________</td>
<td>Dr. Fred Grosz $_________</td>
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<td>Dr. Terrill Smith $_________</td>
<td>Dr. Larry Westmoreland $_________</td>
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<td>Dr. David von Minden $_________</td>
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NEW! New Student Recruiting Fund $_________ Chemistry Endowment Fund $_________

Pledge Amount: $_________ for _______ 1 year _______ 2 years

Payment Information:

___ Check for $_________ is enclosed (Payable to UCO Foundation)

___ Please bill my credit card for $_________

    _____ Visa    _____ MasterCard    _____ Discover

Credit Card # ______________________ Exp Date _______ Signature ______________________

___ My Company has a matching gift program. Name of Company ____________________________

Name ____________________________ Address ____________________________

City ____________________________ State __________________ Zip Code ____________

Home Phone (_____) __________________ E-Mail ____________________________

Your contribution is fully deductible as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes

University of Central Oklahoma Endowed Scholarship Fund, 100 N. University Drive, Box 88, Edmond, OK 73034
(405) 974-5476   FAX (405) 974-3862   cfrech@uco.edu
Club Activities - SAACS: Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society

During National Chemistry Week (NCW), SAACS was engaged in a number of activities. Monday of NCW was declared “Element Day”, and many of the professors dressed up as their favorite element. This year’s elements included potassium, indium, argon, and rhodium. The faculty paraded through the classrooms at the start of each class period, and students voted on their favorite costume. Dr. Ferguson’s argon was the 2010 winning costume. We also participated in the Mall Event that is organized by the local ACS section. We will hold the annual fundraising activity Dunk-the-Professor contest. The dunking was held at the December meeting. This year the professors in the running were Dr. New, Dr. von Minden, Dr. Jezercaik, Dr. Jourdan, Dr. Ferguson, Dr. Frech, Dr. Montes and Dr. Meier. Dr. Jezercaik was the clear winner, with a three-way tie for second place between Drs. New, Frech, and Ferguson. Photos of all four dunkings are online at: http://www.chemistry.uco.edu/Faculty.html

The club also earned money by selling copies of the ACS Exam study guides. Our chapter has worked with the forensics science club to sponsor joint activities since many students are members of both organizations. We participated in Edmond’s Safe Trick-or-Treat event, passing out Halloween candy and making Gak. Several of SAACS students are participating in research, and the chapter helps pay for their travel to the Spring National ACS meeting to present a poster. The SAACS chapter has received national recognition from the American Chemical Society. For the 2008-09 and 2009-10 activities we earned Honorable Mention. The chapter also received a Commended Chapter award for its 2007-08 and 2006-07 activities. The awards are presented annually at the Spring ACS meeting.