



Departmental Newsletter

CHEMISTRY

November 5, 2003

Volume 1, Issue 3

Welcome to the Departmental Newsletter. We are happy to receive your comments and suggestions in order to create an informative document.

Seminars and Visiting Speakers

- Friday, November 7, Room CHE 117, 9:30 am: 'Mesoscopic science on Si surfaces and on an ultrathin polypyrrole film', by Dr. Tong Leung of the University of Waterloo.
- Friday, November 14, Room CHE 117, 9:30 am: 'Probing the Reactivity of Group 14 Dimetallenes: Cycloaddition Reactions', by Dr. Kim Baines of the University of Western Ontario.

Welcome new Students

We welcome all new graduate students who started in September:

- Laurie Brown
- Erin Chambers
- David Heldebrant
- Saroja Hettiarachchi
- Krista Laugesen
- Shulan Liu
- Mohammad Malik
- Kevin McEleney
- Emily Mitchell
- Kevin Ogilvie
- Rebecca Ploeger
- Mark Robinson
- Guru Saravanabhavan
- Jian Song
- Goran Stojcevic
- Yoon-Seo Uh
- Lina Yuan
- Eaganie Yuh
- Chunfeng Zhao
- Michael Ou Zhao

We welcome new undergraduate students supervised by Dr. Snieckus:

Brendan Whelan, John Stephenson, and Josh Zaufman are new 4th year students in the group. Josh has taken on the intriguing problem to determine the structure of a blue compound which was first isolated by Dr. Alfred Bader in 1953 in his Ph.D. studies at Harvard University.

Congratulations

Qinzheng Tian, a chemistry undergraduate student working in Dr. Horton's group, won second prize at the Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference, held at the University of Ottawa on October 3-4, 2003, for his talk entitled 'Pi-pi interactions examined using chemical force microscopy'. The talk was based on his summer work as a SWEPE student. He was competing with some of the top undergraduate students in all of Canada. This achievement is all the more impressive when one considers that he is only now entering second year.

Award

Victor Snieckus was formally awarded the Arfvedson - Schlenk Prize of the German Chemical Society in a ceremony in Munich on October 7, 2003. This International Prize recognizes outstanding work in lithium chemistry. See: <http://www.chemetall.com/>

Ph. D. Thesis Defenses

- Datong Song and Corey Seward of Dr. Suning Wang's group have completed their thesis defenses and have started postdoctoral work. Datong Song is currently at University of Toronto with Professor Bob Morris and Corey Seward is at University of Dublin, Ireland, as a NSERC postdoctoral fellow with Professor Michael McGlinchey.
- Rob Milburn of Dr. Snieckus group has defended the Ph.D. thesis, handed in his thesis, and on the same weekend, flew to begin work as postdoctoral fellow with K.C.Nicolaou at Scripps University, San Diego.

QCIC Meeting

The Department of Chemistry hosted a very successful Queen's Chemistry Innovation Council Meeting on October 3, 2003. More than 40 people attended the meeting including existing members, new members and faculty.

Some of the highlights of the meeting included: The plenary lecture on 'You Know it Don't Come Easy: Creating Commerce from University Research', by Dr. Nick Darby, The Dow Chemical Company Venture Capital Group; Chemistry Faculty talks on research and comments from undergraduate students in chemistry on how the generous donations from alumni have improved their educational experience.

Family Announcements

Kathy and Gang Wu are proud to announce the birth of their son, David, on August 4th, 2003.

Next newsletter publication: November 26

For submissions, please e-mail:

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lisak@chem.queensu.ca by noon on Nov 24