

NEW!! Homecoming

2012 Chemistry Alumni Weekend



Friday, November 9th

- Meet other alumni families and current students at an ice cream social. This will not be your standard social; we will be making ice cream with liquid nitrogen on scene and providing punch with dry ice.
- Take a tour of one of the labs in our department. You can sign up for your preferred time and lab when you RSVP online for the event. (Be on the lookout for a postcard coming soon with link and registration information!)

Saturday, November 10th

- Tailgate with us and enjoy the excitement of being on campus during game day. We will be having barbeque and a periodic table themed dessert.
- Watch chemistry demonstrations. Your kids, and you for that matter, will love observing some of chemistry's most ostentatious effects. Stay tuned for more information by visiting us online at our homepage: <http://www.chem.ufl.edu/> and don't forget about the main event! Purchase football tickets online: <http://www.gatorzone.com/tickets/?tsport=footb>

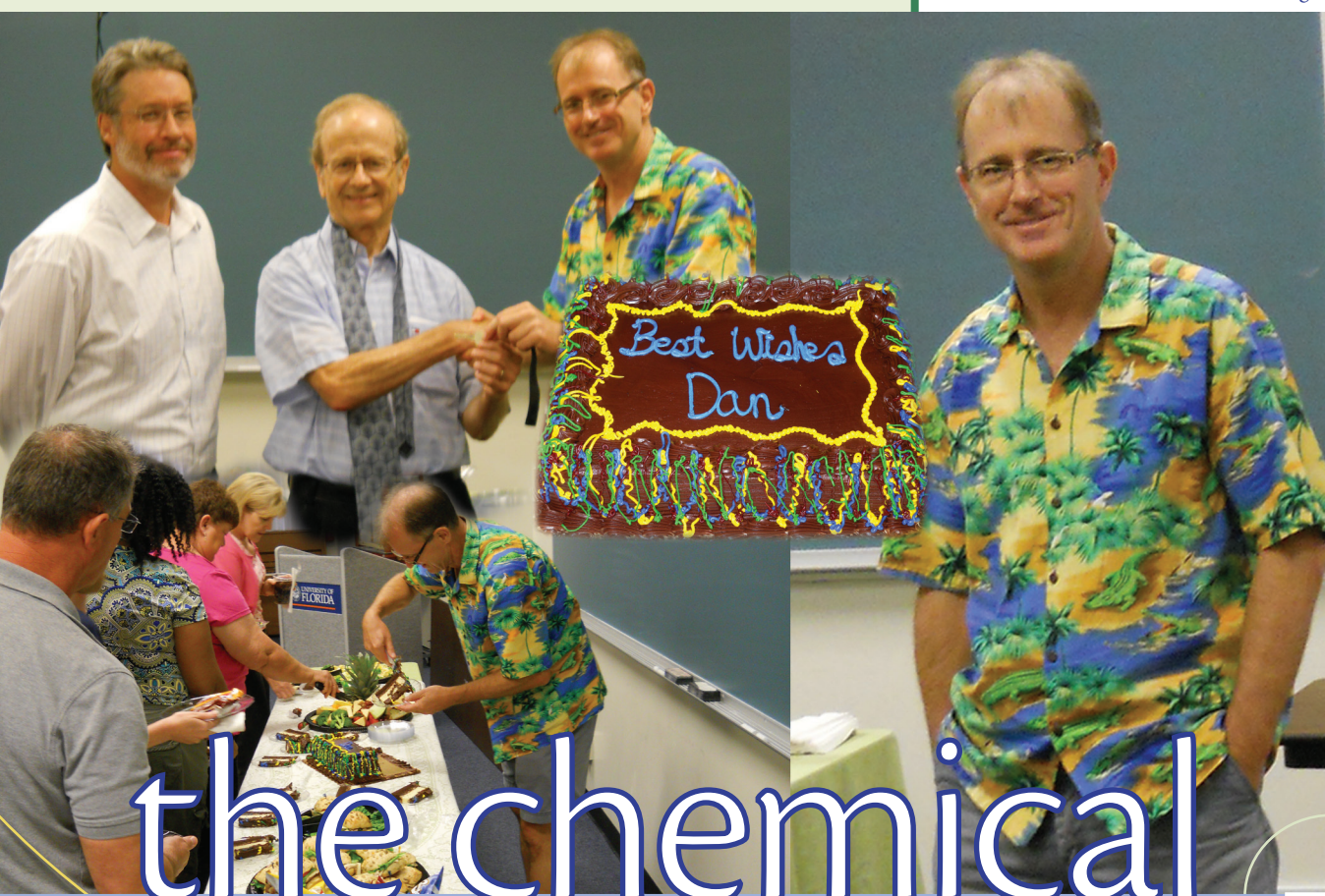
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keep in touch with Chemistry

We want to hear from you! Send us career updates or memories of "how it used to be" to: Maribel Lisk, PO Box 117200, Gainesville, FL 32611-7200 or email chairadmin@chem.ufl.edu. Join us in our efforts to keep UF Chemistry a top-notch program by your donations. To make online contributions, go to <https://www.uff.ufl.edu/OnlineGiving/CLAS.asp>. Select "Chemistry 001401" and continue through the prompts. By phone, call 877-351-2377 or mail us a check made out to the University of Florida Foundation. Please designate or include the fund number.



the chemical
bond

SPRING 2012
University of Florida
Department of Chemistry

2011-2012 Staff Recognition

Each year the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and the Department of Chemistry honor staff who have attained between 5 and 30 years of continuous service to the University of Florida. This year, the honorees are: **Beth Eddy** (25), **Lisa Reed** (15), **Todd Prox** (15), **Bobbye Pilkington** (5), and **Wendy Anderson** (5). Congratulations on the achievement of this milestone in your career at UF and thank you for your dedicated service to our department.



Left to right: Beth Eddy, Lisa Reed, Bobbye Pilkington, Wendy Anderson, and Todd Prox.

2011-2012 BS Graduates and Outstanding Undergraduates

The UF undergraduate chemistry program continues to thrive. This past year, 114 completed the BS degree (18 in Summer 2011, 13 in Fall 2011, and 83 in Spring 2012). Of these, 63 graduated with Honors, High Honors or Highest Honors. These new graduates are headed to a number of excellent graduate or professional programs. We wish them all the very best in their future endeavors. Special congratulations go to the two winners of the Colonel Allen R. and Margaret G. Crow Award: **Cameron Pole**, in our biochemistry track, and **Patrick Wieruszewski**, who completed the standard chemistry major.

The department also awards a number of outstanding junior chemistry majors. In Spring 2012, **Christopher Le** won the Joseph P. Lafornera award, **Jonathan Berry** was chosen for the Howard M. Sheridan award, and **Anthony Quartararo** received the Gordon M. and Joyce L. Smith award. Two new Laitinen Scholar awards went to **Michael DesRosiers** and **Mary Garner**. We are all very proud of these students, and we wish them continued success in their courses and undergraduate research projects.

A note from The Chair

They said it goes by in a hurry. Although there were some days I knew “they” were wrong, in the end, “they” were right! It doesn’t seem quite possible, but my six years as Department Chair end this summer. Our Department’s culture has been to serve limited terms. It is good for the health of the department and it is especially good for the health of the Chair! I am looking forward to my new role as Professor of Chemistry!

Let me take this opportunity to thank everyone for standing by the department over the past six years. If you read the newspapers, you know that State universities are going through once-in-a-generation changes as State funding has decreased by more than one-third. Yet, we maintain our standard of delivering excellent undergraduate and graduate training. We have been forced to rethink how we deliver excellence with a smaller faculty and diminishing resources. I think we are succeeding, in no small part due to the help of our alumni and friends. Gifts to the department of all sizes have allowed us to continue strong programs and establish new directions. More than ever be-

fore, higher education depends on these new sources of external support. I hope you will think of Chemistry as you structure your giving throughout the year.

Please see the announcement elsewhere in this issue about our new Homecoming Weekend events. The Department is teaming up with Gators young and older to inaugurate some Chemistry-centered homecoming activities. The Chemistry Club is partnering with our Department of Chemistry Leadership Board to host the program. It will be a great chance to see first-hand what is new in the Department and to catch up with friends and colleagues. Be on the lookout for details to be provided in the mail and on our website, www.chem.ufl.edu.

Finally, the Dean and Department have selected Professor **Bill Dolbier** as the next Chair (yes, the same Bill Dolbier who was Chair in the 1980’s!). Congratulations to Bill. We are fortunate that he is willing to lend his leadership and experience to our department a second time around.

—Daniel R. Talham

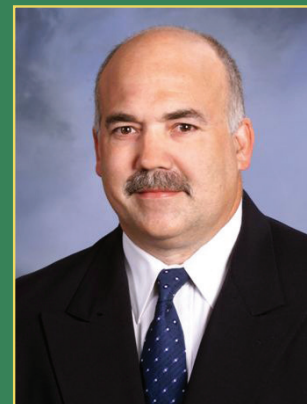
Chemistry Leadership Board Members (Con’t.)

W. Wesley Jones has served as Senior Vice President - Operations Excellence and Compliance for Atlanta-based Georgia-Pacific since 2007. In this role, he has responsibility for all company manufacturing operations as well as for compliance with all applicable rules, regulations and policies.

A 1976 graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in chemistry, Wes has worked in the pulp and paper industry for more than 35 years. He started his career as a shift supervisor with ITT Rayonier in Jesup, Ga., and also worked for Mead Corp. in Ohio.

During his long career with Georgia-Pacific, Wes has held a variety of leadership roles within the company’s pulp business. He began working with Georgia-Pacific in 1987 at the company’s pulp and paper mill in Crossett, Ark., and moved to the Brunswick, Ga., cellulose mill in 1989. He became head of the Brunswick operations in 1993 and took on responsibility for Georgia-Pacific’s entire fluff pulp business in 1996. He was named President-Pulp in 2003 and led that business through the 2005 acquisition of Georgia-Pacific by Koch Industries. After the acquisition, Wes led the company’s consumer products manufacturing organization until assuming his current role.

Wes is a native of Palatka, Florida and is married to Kathy Weigel Jones.



D. Kay Henderson is currently with Bank of America in Data Management and Information Strategy. She has been with Bank of America (and legacy organization) for 24 years. Kay has served in a variety of roles from Strategic Planning Manager, Finance Manager, Senior Operations Analyst and Database Administrator (Teradata & DB2). Previously, she had been employed by Southeast Bank, N.A. in Corporate Planning, Commercial Lending and Market Research roles. Prior to that, Kay worked for American Dade division of American Hospital Supply in Market Research (interface between Research & Development and Marketing).

Kay earned her B.S. in Chemistry with high honors in 1980 from the University of Florida. She worked with Dr. E. J. Gabbay’s research group. She earned her Master of Business Administration with concentration in Finance and Marketing in 1982.

Kay is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Florida Blue Key and is in the UF Hall of Fame. Her picture is displayed in the Reitz Union (1980).