



CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT
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GREETINGS TO CHEMISTRY ALUMNI WHEREVER YOU ARE!

We hope this issue of the Goessmann Gazette finds you well and happy. There have been some changes in the department and what better way to start than to have Professor Ronald Archer, our new department head (see news item on page (1,10) bring you up to date on the state of the department.

STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT

A revival of interest in Chemistry -- Hallelujah! For the students we are unable to accept, for those in our 4:40 P.M. lecture section, and for those sharing lab lockers in organic classes, this may not seem to be a positive item. But it's great for the teaching assistants, research assistants and postdoctoral associates whom we can support through increased teaching monies (after a severe slash earlier). The increased Federal support for Chemistry has helped too, and has offset some of the losses in state support for supplies, telephones, etc. To illustrate, well over \$300,000 of salaries were paid from Federal grants alone during 1976 within the Department of Chemistry. This is up approximately 50% from two years earlier. Petroleum Research Foundation and several industrial firms increase that total considerably.

The Department is adding two new faculty positions in the analytical and inorganic areas this year as the result of the early partial retirements of George Richason and J. Harold Smith. Because of our heavy teaching loads, we have been promised further additions as soon as the fiscal crisis eases a bit. This current year we have also added two "Assistant Professor and Postdoctoral Research Associate" positions (Craig Donahue and Roberta Day) to serve the dual function of easing the teaching loads a bit and providing a higher level of funding for postdoctoral positions.

Incidentally, although George Richason officially retired on August 31, 1976, he has been rehired on a part-time basis and serves very ably as Associate Department Head. I'd be lost without him. We also expect to get some teaching help from Harold Smith upon his retirement. Although the rest of us are another year older, the enthusiasm for excellent teaching and high quality research by the faculty in general helps make my job palatable.

For those of you who like statistics, Linda Warren notes that we awarded 28 Bachelor degrees last year (1976), but Joanie Wysocki (our new secretary in the main office) has 20 Ph.D., 10 M.S., and one M.A.T. (Master of Arts in Teaching) listed for 1976. I will leave it up to the reader to draw conclusions.

Our graduates are generally in high demand both at the B.S. and Ph.D. level. One recruiter a few weeks ago complained that he had more jobs than UMass applicants. Naturally, some students are more easily placed than others, but for those with interest and ability, the broad based training we supply through our balanced department is appreciated by most employers.

