POINTS of PRIDE in Chemistry

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• Massachusetts House Speaker Salvatore F. DiMasi visited the Fueling the Future Center for Chemical Innovation lab, where he met with **Sankaran "Thai" Thayumanvan** and his Chemistry Department team, who are researching the development of hydrogen fuel cells and the creation of more efficient solar cells.

• **Dhandapani "DV" Venkataraman** has made one of the top 20 Most Cited papers of all time, "Formation of Aryl–Nitrogen, Aryl–Oxygen, and Aryl–Carbon Bonds Using Well-Defined Copper(I)-Based Catalysts," published in the ACS Journal Organic Letters.

• **Justin Fermann** demonstrated the working of a hydrogen fuel cell during the Opportunity Fair and Clean Energy Conference at the MassMutual Center in Springfield.

• **Lila Gierasch** and group have found a way to slip a fluorescent marker into one of a cell's molecular machines so it lights up when it has formed the proper shape to carry out the cell's "work orders." This new technique should help study the origins of protein-misfolding diseases such as cystic fibrosis, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

• **Dhandapani "DV" Venkataraman** awarded a College Outstanding Teacher Award at the Fall 2008 NSM Convocation.

• **Vincent Rotello** and group uses gold nanoparticles to restore structure and function to misfolded proteins which are responsible for many diseases, including Mad Cow disease and Alzheimer's disease.

• "TechCast" joins OWL, created in the Chemistry and Computer Science Departments and used by over 100,000 chemistry students each year, as a UMass online education System.

• **Jeanne Hardy** named a Cottrell Scholar by the Research Corporation, the honor will support Hardy's research proposal, "Controlling Protein Function with Designed Allosteric Switches."