

THE GOESSMANN GAZETTE

A publication of the Chemistry Department, University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Spring 1989



Professor Quin,
Professor Tyson,
Emeritus Professor Siggia

Dr. Julian Tyson, presently Senior Lecturer in Analytical Chemistry at the University of Loughborough in the United Kingdom will join the UMass Chemistry faculty as Professor of Analytical Chemistry in September 1989.

Dr. Tyson brings active new research and teaching interests to the Department, particularly in the areas of Flow Injection Analysis (FIA), a field of much current interest, and trace analytical methods.



Beatrice Botch

Beatrice Botch (Ph.D. Michigan State University, 1981) joined the Department as Director of the Resource Center. She is also teaching in the Freshman Program. Her background includes a Post-doctoral Fellowship at the California Institute of Technology, Assistant Professorships at Southwest State University, Marshall, Minnesota and at Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio. She brings a rich background of experience to contribute to our program including teaching general chemistry, physical chemistry, nursing chemistry, consumer chemistry, and experience with both main frame and microcomputers. The Center is currently prospering under her leadership.

See page 3 for more about the Chemistry Resource Center

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Department Notes

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EDITOR

Everett E. Turner

DESIGNER

Kathy Morrissey-Morini

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Janet M. Hrynyshyn

EDITORIAL ADVISOR

Louis D. Quin, Head

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A Graduate Curriculum in Biological Chemistry is Created

The Department of Chemistry decided in October 1986 to undertake a serious effort to strengthen research and teaching in biological chemistry ("Future of Chemistry Conference," Spring '87 *Goessmann Gazette*). With the addition of two new faculty members in biological chemistry, and with the creation of a graduate curriculum in biological chemistry, this new venture is now well on its way. The new curriculum will emphasize the chemistry of biological molecules and processes, and will help bridge a growing gap between traditional chemical and biological science programs. Questions raised in the biological sciences now often require a detailed understanding of the molecular basis of the observations. Since biology abounds in complex molecules and chemical reactions and processes, it is essential to have training based strongly in chemistry to be able to use the necessary research tools to tackle these complex problems.

The most recent member of the Department in the biological area is **Dr. Craig Martin** (see New Faculty). Dr. Martin has filled the second of three new positions slated since the inception of the program in 1986. Biological chemistry is however not new to the UM Chemistry Department. Dr. Martin joins a growing group of faculty whose research interests blend biological chemistry with other areas of chemistry including **Drs. John Brandts, Louis Carpino, David Curran, Stephen Hixson, Michael Maroney and Robert Weis.** □

The Department **seminar schedule this spring** includes two Nobel Laureates: Professor Roald Hoffmann of Cornell University and Professor Herbert Brown of Purdue University. □

The Department **NR-80 FT-NMR Facility** opened for general use in September 1988. The two-instrument facility has been functioning well under the coordinator, Professor Paul Lahti, with the able assistance of graduate students Charles Smith and David Modarelli. □

Room 202 in the Lederle Graduate Research Tower A has been extensively renovated and is now a very nicely appointed conference room for the Department. □

Staff Notes

Ms. Ann Marie Sidur was hired on March 5, 1989 as the new Office Manager to oversee the Main Chemistry Office and the secretarial staff. □

Asaph Murfin joined Dan Keedy and Mike Conboy in the Electronics Shop in October, 1988. □

Ms. Mathilda Boulanger retired in November 1988. She was a senior Staff Technician for many years, associated with the Freshman Chemistry Program, and the chemistry majors program in particular. □

Faculty Notes

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Professor David Curran has become the Chair of the Professional Relations Committee of the Division of Analytical Chemistry, ACS. This committee is responsible for the Summer Internship program, which has run for many years. If your organization has an interest in summer employment for high quality students at the undergraduate or first year graduate level in analytical chemistry, please contact Professor Curran at 413-545-2585. □

A New Analytical Instrument

In January, 1989, the Hewlett Packard Company announced the introduction of a new Analytical Instrumental System, combining a Gas Chromatograph and an Atomic Plasma Spectroscopic Detector to accomplish element specific GC determinations. Dr. Bruce Quimby, (Ph.D., Analytical Chemistry, 1979 with Professor Uden) has been the group leader at Hewlett Packard for development of this instrument, following up on studies that he began at UMass during his dissertation research. □

Professor Marvin Rausch was elected Permanent Secretary at the XIII International Conference on Organometallic Chemistry (Torino, Italy, September 1988). The ICOMC series is the most important and prestigious international meeting in organometallic chemistry. He was also Chairman of the VIth ICOMC, which was held at the University in 1973.

Professor Ramon M. Barnes is the Conference Chairman of the 1990 Winter Conference on Plasma Spectroscopy to be held in St. Petersburg, Florida 8-13 January, 1990. He may be contacted at the department regarding papers and registration.

Professors Curran, Voigtman and Barnes offered a short course in August of 1988 on Electronics Instrumentation which was well received by industrial participants. They will repeat the offering in June of this year.

Professor Peter Lillya attended the 60th Birthday Symposium for E.J. Corey at Harvard last November and gave a talk after dinner on the 1960-64 era in the Corey group. Corey, in his talk to the Symposium, presented some of the Ph.D. research of Philip Carpino, son of Professor Louis Carpino of our faculty.

Professor William McEwen has been invited to be the editor of a new journal, *Heteroatom Chemistry*, the first issue of which will be published in the fall of 1989. Published by VCH Publishers, this journal was created to recognize the greatly increased activity in the chemistry of compounds containing main group elements in addition to the familiar carbon, nitrogen, oxygen and silicon. Professor McEwen's many years of research in the area of heteroatom chemistry eminently suit him for this editorship. **Professor Louis D. Quin** will serve on the editorial board.

With **Professor Robert R. Holmes** as editor of the journal *Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon*, and **Professor William McEwen** as editor of *Heteroatom Chemistry*, along with **Professor Robert L. Rowell** as Associate editor of *Langmuir* this brings to three the number of faculty members who are editing international journals.

A process devised by **Professor Louis Carpino** has been accepted for patenting. This is a new technology for doing rapid, automated peptide synthesis. □

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