



USF Chemistry NEWS

News of Interest to
Friends of the Department of Chemistry
University of South Florida

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Recognition...

Asprin polymorph found. A research item from the Department appeared the online version of *Science* written by Celia Henry Arnaud [http://pubs.acs.porg/cen/news]. “In the later 1960s, there were indications that aspirin might have a second crystalline form, it continued to escape attention. Now Michael J Zaworotko, chemistry professor at the University of South Florida, Tampa, and coworkers at South Florida and TransForm Pharmaceuticals, Lexington, Mass. have found this elusive polymorph.”

The article notes that the second form was obtained as a result of co-crystallization experiments with aspirin and other compounds and describes some of the properties of Form II . The print copy appeared in *Science* [November 21, 2005 issue; page 50] as well as in *Aspirin*, *Science*, 16802.

Travel Scholarships.

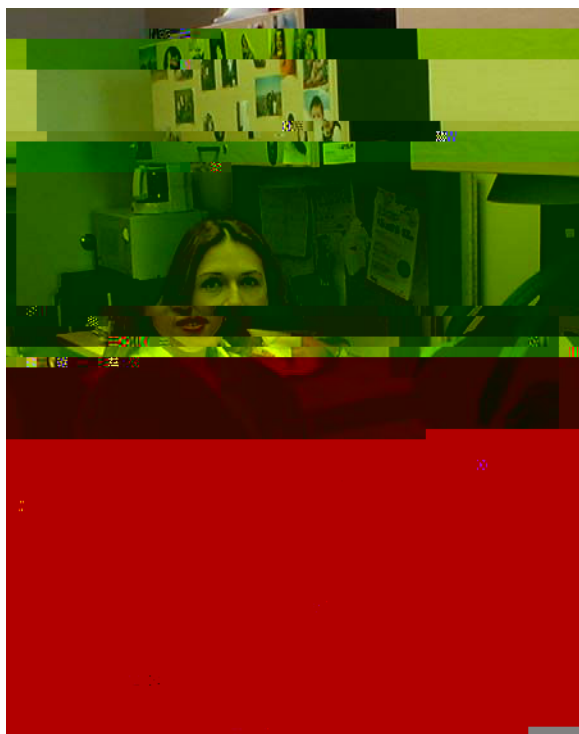
Faculty you should know

Initially, I had an unlucky hand in working on good projects, however after nine months (and after six unsuccessful projects), Barry asked me to re-start a target-guided synthesis project termed in situ click chemistry. This unique approach enables the target protein to select and assemble its own potent inhibitor from a pool of building blocks bearing complementary reacting functionalities. Though initial success with the enzyme acetylcholine esterase, the in situ click chemistry lay fallow for more than a year due to serious experimental hurdles. Immediately after being involved in this target-guided synthesis approach, I finally began to collect promising results and I continued to work on this particular project till the end of my postdoctoral stay in July 2005. This project was a collaborative effort with the laboratory of Professor Palmer Taylor at the University of California in San Diego.”

“In the end 2003 and beginning of 2004, Marlen (we got married in 2003 in Maui) and I gradually realized that we prefer to stay for longer in the States. I then started to apply at several schools for a faculty position and after my job interview tour in January 2005, I finally accepted the offer from the University of South Florida. In July, we then loaded the entire household on a white Penske truck and drove the 3000 miles from San Diego, arriving in Tampa right on the week-end with the first hurricane of the season. In August, I then

employees and 7 buildings. My job to say the least was quite vast in all areas of workplace safety, from meeting National





Ms. Anderson at her NES desk

and pursue a graduate degree at USF, where research was the main objective (I'm glad I did it)."

" I was accepted in the Ph.D. program in Fall 2004 and since I have always been fascinated with the chemistry of drugs, I was accepted to work under the supervision of

Chemistry in the Spring of 2004. As an undergrad, I had the pleasure to work with Dr. and Mrs. Martin for two years. With them, I learned a lot about Environmental Chemistry, lab and report techniques, and I even got a job analyzing samples for a project with the Southwest Florida Water Management District under Dr. Martin's supervision. While working in his group, I obtained a couple of recognitions: I was the recipient of the 2003 Outstanding Undergraduate Student Paper, Florida Academy of Sciences and the recipient of the 2003-04 Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher at a Ph. D.-Granting Institution, Sigma Xi: The Scientific Research Society. I was also the co-author of a paper in the *Journal of Environmental Science and Technology*. However, the most important thing I achieved from his guidance and help was an increased self-confidence and the building of my skills to pursue what I always have wanted to do professionally. Thanks to Dr. Martin's advice, I decided to forget about Pharmacy

area. I went to King High School, just down the road from USF, as a member of their inaugural International Baccalaureate class, a pretty involved college preparatory program. Among the principal benefits from attending the program have been a pretty solid background for beginning college, an unusually high number of fascinating and diverse friends and a willingness to be a guinea pig when it comes to joining programs that have just begun. I started USF in the fall of 1997 and did my undergraduate work in chemical engineering

Curtis Anderson (Ph.D. '87) , Principal Materials and Process Engineer, Coralville, Iowa (near Iowa City) wrote, “ I'm currently working for Rockwell Collins. I've been focusing on microelectronics packaging over the past few years with research and development that has gone fairly well. I currently hold 6 patents and have another 5 in the patent pending process. Much of my current work is spent implementing the patented processes into high volume production. This is not always easy but we've had some good success. “

“Chris is finishing her doctorate (Ph.D.) at the University of Iowa in curriculum for behavior disorders. We currently have 3 of our children at ASU with 2 graduating soon. We've moved around the last six years including moves from Florida to California, then Arizona and now Iowa.”

Charles Asowata (B.A. '80 Major U.S. Army, is the Special Assistant for Army Arms Control and Systems Acquisition Programs. He is part of the Office of the Army Treaty and Implementation and Compliance Review Manager, and is stationed at the Pentagon. He wrote that it has been very rewarding and that there is a lot to learn being on the Army Staff.

Kathleen Carvaolho Knighton (Ph.D. '00) Assistant Professor of Environmental Science & Policy, USF St. Petersburg, is Chair of a search committee for a chemist.

Melissa Derby (Ph.D. '02) accepted a position as a research assistant at Harvard University in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University. She works mainly with Dr. Chris Marx but also collaborates with Dr. Peter Girguis. She sent pictures of favorite places in Boston that brought back good memories.

Bibi Ephraim (Ph..D. '95) sent his best wishes at Christmas.

Maria Flynn MD (M.S.'89) sent her Christmas wishes and a picture of her and son, Camden. Her husband is currently serving in the Middle East.

Craig Foreback

Venkatraj V Narayanan (Ph.D. '97) wrote that like many of us, he was hoping to clear away things by the end of the year. He is in Bangalore, which was one of the stops that President Judy Genshaft and a development team made looking for possible sites for a USF-affiliated medical center. Indian students would work at the center and receive degrees from USF.

Young Chul Park (Ph.D. '04) sent his good wishes for a happy holiday season from his home in Palm Bay, Florida. He continues as a post-doctoral research associate at Harbor Branch.

Mick Perez Cruet M.D. (M.S. '86) sent Christmas greetings from Michigan. He sent a picture of him, his wife, two daughters and two sons, and his thanks for the newsletters and updates.

Dilojan Senanayke (M.S. '96) wrote from Sri Lanka that he has been very busy with post-tsunami activities of the Water and Habitat Section of the International Committee of the Red Cross. "From digging tube wells to ensuring water quality are some of the many activities of the Red Cross."

Chuhua ang (Ph.D. '97), Senior Analytical Chemist at Technic, Inc. (Providence, RI) wrote that he had seen Dr. Dongxin Wang when visiting in China, and he also described the new product areas his firm is interested in.

Dongxin ang (Ph.D. '00) is a faculty member at Najing Normal University, Nanjing, PRC.

at ar t up to?

Please look at our web page ("Graduate Alumni") and see if you (and or your friends and fellow alumni) are accurately listed. It is hard to keep up with the growing list of alumni (would you believe over 275 graduate alumni). We would be grateful if you could bring us up-to-date on what you or some of your friends are doing.

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For additional information on faculty, staff, students, and programs, please look at our Department Home Page :

<http://chemistry.usf.edu>

For past issues you may have missed, please see the Home Page.