Upcoming Events

Announcements:
• Deadline to drop with college dean's signature May 13, 2011

• Final exams May 16 - 21, 2011

• Deadline to file request for medical withdrawal May 27, 2011

• Deadline to file request for educational leave with $10 missed deadline fee May 27, 2011

• The 25th Annual CSU Student Research Competition at CSU Fresno
Fri, May 6, 12am – Sun, May 8, 12am
Annual CSULB Alumni Dinner @ Hyatt Regency, Long Beach on Thursday May 12th

• 62nd Annual Commencement: CNSM Ceremony
Friday May 27th is at 1:00 p.m. on the George Allen Field

Seminar in May
“Academic Drug Development at City of Hope “
Presented by David Horne from City of Hope
When: May 4, 2011 @ 4pm – 5pm at PH2-110
Hosted by: Nakayama - Please contact him nakayama@csulb.edu for more information if you would like to join the speaker for a free lunch!

All CNSM department offices have moved!
- Biological sciences HSCL-104
- Chemistry/biochemistry HSCL- 370
- Science education HSCL-205
- Jensen SAS Center HSCL-164
- CNSM-Office of the Dean HSCL-160

Congratulations to these outstanding students for receiving the following awards:

Chemistry Department Honors:
- Garret McKay
- Edsel Abud
- Wendy Beck
- Arti Patel
- Yufei Li
- Charlotte Hirsch

Marsi Award:
- Samantha Cao
- Malinda Tan

Monahan Award:
- Garrett McKay
- Gursharan Bains

Rhodes Award – Jason Barca
McAbee-Overstreet Award – Andrew Parker
Wynston Award – Mariko Yokokura
Sarno Award – Kim Ngan Tu
Henderson Award – Pankaj Dwivedi
Perlgut Award – Roy Hernandez
Stern Award – Vincent Nguyen
Spyros Award – Deann Asamoto
Scoggins Award – Kenny Tran
Freshman Chem – Nicole Hanson
Organic Chem Award– Jessica Servin
ASC-Polyer Award – Sean Donovan
Merk Organic Award – Garrett McKay
Biochem Award – Wendy Beck
Analytical Chem Award – Garrett McKay
Inorganic Chem Award – Delora Gaskins
Horalek-Service Award – Cindy Pham
Hyper cube Award – Richard Wang
Outstanding TA – Charlotte Hirsch
Women & Philanthropy – Sam Cao, Carolyn Kusaba & Garret McKay
Dr. Acey’s fascination and career choice in the field of biochemistry began at the age of 13, when his father brought home a chemistry book. He grew up in Michigan, home to his alma mater of Wayne State University and Wayne State University School of Medicine, where he received his Bachelor’s degree in Chemistry and PhD in Biochemistry. As a developmental biochemist, his research focused on mammalian embryonic development—particularly, implantation. His post doctorate work at Wayne State University School of Medicine, with the department of biochemistry, involved gene expression in developing brine shrimp. Today, it is still an important aspect of his research at CSULB.

Dr. Acey is currently a tenured professor at Cal State Long Beach where he teaches Biochemistry 441A/B, part of Chemistry 443—the biochemistry lab, and a graduate course in nucleic acid biochemistry. In class, he looks for students that ask the most creative questions; he loves to see them get excited about the material. He is also an undergraduate advisor for chemistry and biochemistry students. He can help you pick classes, make a plan for graduation, and manage your time wisely. Aside from teaching and advising, Dr. Acey loves to do research. He does research at Cal State Long Beach because he believes the Cal State system seamlessly integrates teaching and research. Dr. Acey strongly believes research is an essential part of becoming a biochemist. For those eager to be a part this field, research puts everything into perspective. It allows students to see real world applications and interactions of concepts they learn about in classes.

For his own lab, Dr. Acey takes a family approach in making sure the students in his group have “good chemistry” with each other. There is always room in his lab for exceptionally enthusiastic and hard working students!

To Dr. Acey, creativity, work ethic, and integrity are more important than a high GPA—he has even been known to turn away students that had 4.0 GPAs because they lacked those key qualities. Currently working in Dr. Acey’s lab are a few graduate students, undergraduate students, and a former high school student. Ideally, he prefers to add freshmen into his lab because they have significantly more time to develop their skills. His goal for each of his research students is that, in the end, they will be able to teach him something. If you are interested in joining his group, talk to Dr. Acey or his research students to get an idea of his expectations.

Dr. Acey is currently involved in numerous research projects, but is most excited about the research he has done in collaboration with Dr. Nakayama and Dr. Sorin. They are trying to develop a class of compounds that act as irreversible inhibitors of the enzyme: butyrylcholinesterase. This enzyme is overexpressed in Alzheimer’s patients and is responsible for the loss of cognitive function.
Additionally, it has been reported that autistic children respond to the same drugs used to treat Alzheimer’s; those involved in this project hope their research might lead to a treatment for autism as well.

When asked about the proudest moment of his career, Dr. Acey shared that it was when he received a compliment from the patent office concerning his patent on a metal binding protein. The office called it “the most commercially viable and creative thing they had seen in years”. He also takes a lot of pride in seeing the results of his students’ theses. Dr. Acey has a contagious passion for research, is eager to help his students, and encourages creativity both in class and labs. If you are interested in his research and would like more information please contact Dr. Acey.

Acey Fun Facts!

- Visits his nieces and nephews in Michigan once a month.
- He’s a Detroit Red Wings fan and used to love to play hockey.
- Started a new biotechnology company.
- Likes sports movies such as Rudy and Hoosiers.
- If he could be any chemical equipment, he would be a Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometer, which costs half a million dollars.
- Favorite element is gold or platinum.
- Favorite musical artist is Céline Dion.
Our staff would like to welcome Lauren Olson and Kimmy Phan.

We would also like to thank you for reading and supporting our newsletter through our first semester. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve The Beaker, please contact us through email or Facebook.

Good luck on finals and we’ll see you next semester!

Congratulation to Darin Khumsupan for winning our contest!! Thank you for the new logo!

We’re on the Web!
View every issue and previous Issues on:
http://chemistry.csulb.edu/thebeaker.html

Questions, Comments, or Ideas? Call or email us about them!

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