



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Chemistry

Newsletter, January 2018

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Happy New Year from the Department of Chemistry at Stony Brook University! There have been many exciting happenings in the Department this past year, and we are glad to give you a quick update.

I became Chair of the Department of Chemistry in January 2017, following the excellent tenure of Professor **Nicole Sampson**, who served as Chair for four and a half years. Below are some of the highlights of the past year. Please send us your own updates, so we can include them on our Alumni News page!

We also hope to welcome you back to Stony Brook in October 2018, as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of SBU Chemistry. More details will be coming in the Spring...

If you want to learn more or to visit the Department of Chemistry during the year, please let us know. We are always happy to see friends and alumni.

Warmly,

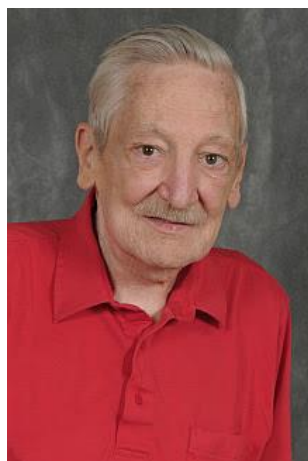
Nancy S. Goroff
Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry



New Leaders in Chemistry Wall

Honoring Our Past Faculty

On May 4, 2017, we welcomed former faculty and families to Stony Brook for the official unveiling of our Leaders in Chemistry Wall. Check out the photo gallery of the event, and see the Leaders in Chemistry page for the description of each faculty member's tile. We also are collecting stories about each of our past faculty, so please share your favorites!



Robert F. Schneider, 1933-2017

It is with great sadness that we report that this past spring we lost one of the longest serving members of the Department of Chemistry, emeritus professor Robert Schneider. Bob served as research mentor for the first PhD earned at Stony Brook, Raymond McKay. He also led the University's Research Administration office for many years, and went on to serve as Director of Informatics and Compliance in the Office of the Vice President for Research. Bob was a dedicated educator, continuing to teach in the general chemistry labs well after his retirement. Bob also played a leading role in the development of the Leaders in Chemistry Wall, and we were very glad to have his son, Scott, and grandson with us for the unveiling.

Student Updates

We are very proud of our students' accomplishments and honors!

- Graduate student **Kellon Belfon** was one of only 12 recipients worldwide of the prestigious Computational Science and Data Science Fellowship from the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Special Interest Group on High Performance Computing (SIGHP).
 - Undergraduate **Joshua Farr** received the ACS Division of Organic Chemistry Undergraduate Award in Organic Chemistry.
 - **Jiefu Yin** received the 2017 Mow Shiah Lin Scholarship.
 - Locally, **Princess Spencer** and **Jose Hernandez** were honored with this year's Paul Licht Teaching Awards in Chemistry. **Yuning Chen** was selected to receive the Maria T. Fellowship award. **Johnny Lee** and **Bingqian Zheng** were selected to receive 2017 Chemistry Graduate Research Fellowship awards.
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Faculty Updates

- **Nicole Sampson** has been named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society.
- **Kathy Parker** has been named a SUNY Distinguished Professor.
- **Tom Allison** won the 2017 Discovery Prize, a \$200,000 research prize, for his project "Recording Movies of Molecular Orbitals with Angstrom and Attosecond Resolution."
- **Esther Takeuchi** was named the Knapp Chair in Energy and the Environment.
- **Stanislaus Wong's** research on cost-effective catalysts for fuel cells was highlighted in Scientific American as one of the Top 10 Emerging Technologies for 2017.
- **Susan Oatis** and **Fernando Raineri** have been named Senior Lecturers in the College of Arts and Sciences.



New Faculty Member: Eszter Boros

Eszter Boros has joined the Department of Chemistry this Fall as an assistant professor. Eszter's research takes advantage of the rich structural diversity of metal complexes, paired with their versatile luminescent and radioactive properties, for the design of new metal-based molecular imaging probes and therapeutics for personalized medicine. Her work, which continues a long SBU Chemistry tradition of excellence in developing biomedical imaging techniques, will help improve our understanding of cancer, bacterial infection, and lung disorders in humans.

In the News

- Professor **Elizabeth Boon** finds alternative signal to break up bacterial party
- Graduate student **Tiffany Victor** studies the benefits of cooperation
- Staff member **Roxanne Brockner** wins big at international track meet
- Professor **Benjamin Hsiao** develops new sustainable water filtration
- Assistant Professor **Christopher Johnson** earns a Young Investigator Grant from the Air Force
- Professor **Nancy Goroff** leads a team helping graduate students build career development skills

Undergraduate Alumni Survey Open Now

Please help us evaluate and update our undergraduate curriculum by taking our survey of undergraduate alumni. All Chemistry and Engineering Chemistry BS and BA alums should receive a separate email request about the survey, but you can access the survey [here](#). Your response will be most helpful if received before March 1, 2018.



NSBU Hosts International Organic Chemistry Symposium

The 17th International Symposium on Novel Aromatics (ISNA) took place at Stony Brook, July 23-28, 2017, with 285 participants from 21 different countries.

You Can Make a Difference

We are in the last year of our comprehensive campaign, designed to build resources for faculty, students and staff. Your gift, whether it's the renewal of your support or the decision to give for the first time, allows us to do what we do best – innovative, creative research and teaching that's the hallmark of a great public university. I hope you'll consider making a [gift](#) today or speaking with the College's advancement representative, Assistant Dean Rebecca Bair, rebecca.bair@stonybrook.edu, or 631-632-1457.

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