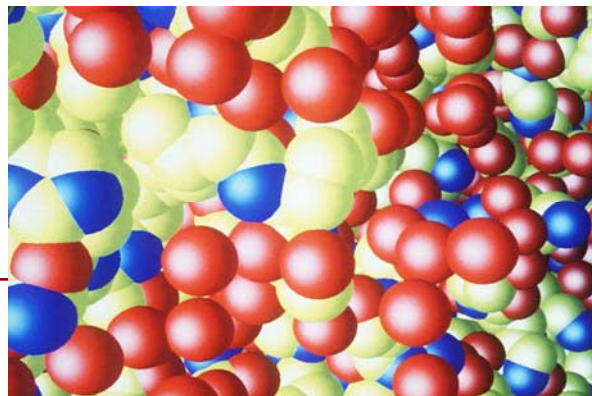


# CHEMISTRY CHRONICLE



CWU Chemistry Department  
Quarterly Newsletter

## Class of 2009...

Proudly presenting the graduating class of 2009:

**BADI ABDUL-WAHID**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**SARA ABOUHAMAD**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**PAUL "AURIN" BALLOU**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**GRANT BARKER**

Master of Science

**CELIA BRAUN FAIOLA**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**PEI-MIEN "DORIS" CHEN**

Master of Science

**ALAN CORNELIUS**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**HEATHER DURKEE**

Bachelor of Science

**ANDY EVERT**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**SCOTT FINE**

ACS Certified Bachelor of Science

**TJ HELLAND**

Bachelor of Arts in Teaching Chemistry

**ROB JENSEN**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**LEE REAM**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**SARA ROSARIO**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**SARA RYBKA**

ACS Certified Bachelor of Science

**AMY SCHAFFELD**

Bachelor of Arts

**TYLER SCHAFFELD**

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

**ALEND A "ALI" SCHIRO**

Bachelor of Arts in Teaching Chemistry



(l to r, back row): Badi Abdul-Wahid, Tyler Schaffeld, Alan Cornelius, Andy Evert. (front row): Amy Schaffeld, Celia Braun-Faiola, Sara Rybka, Sara Rosario, Heather Durkee, Sara Abouhamad

## Spring 2009

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## National Recognition...

**Christopher "Badi" Abdul-Wahid**, senior major, was one of just 75 students from across the nation selected for the "Posters on the Hill" event held May 4-5 in Washington DC. The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), a national organization that supports and serves as an advocate for undergraduate research, organizes the annual event. Colleges across the nation are invited to submit two abstracts for consideration for the national competition. This is the second time in three years the CWU chemistry department has been represented at this event. Posters on the Hill offers students the opportunity to share their personal stories and the excitement of their discoveries with members of Congress and professional scientists. Students spend the day visiting the offices of their elected representatives and the large majority meet with one or more Representatives or Senators. The day concludes with a poster session attended by members of Congress, their staff, and personnel from federal funding agencies.



U.S. Senator Patty Murray with Badi Abdul-Wahid



Badi is conducting computational research under his mentors Levente Fabry-Asztalos in chemistry and Dr. Razvan Andonie in computer science. The title of his poster was "Using Computational Intelligence as a Predictive Tool for Biological Activities of Drug Candidates Targeted Towards Therapeutically Important Enzymes for Rapid Screening." He had the opportunity, while at the Posters on the Hill event, to visit the National Institutes of Health (NIH) campus in Bethesda, Maryland and to tour the Center for Information Technology. Badi graduates from CWU this spring and has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Bioinformatics at Notre Dame in the fall.

## Faculty Activities...

**Anne Johansen** has a paper in press with collaborators from University of Alaska - Fairbanks titled "Dissolution of aerosol-derived iron in seawater: Leach solution chemistry, aerosol type, and colloidal iron fraction." Authors: A. M. Aguilar-Islasa, J. Wu, R. Rember, A. M. Johansen, and L. M. Shank (chemistry masters alumna), *Marine Chemistry*, 2009.

**Anthony Diaz** had his proposal, "RU: Investigation of Surface Loss Processes in Nano-scale Luminescent Materials" funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for \$145,463.

**Carin Thomas** had a paper accepted for publication in *Redox Reports* with two former CWU graduate students, Mitzi Mackey and Amy Diaz, and one former undergraduate, Dave Cox, as co-authors. The paper is titled "Hydroxyl radical is produced via the Fenton reaction in submitochondrial particles under oxidative stress: Implications for diseases associated with iron accumulation".

The following manuscript was accepted for publication in a journal: "A Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship Study of HIV-1 Protease Inhibitors Using a Small Molecular Dataset" authored by Razvan Andonie (computer science), **Levente Fabry-Asztalos** (chemistry), Christopher B. Abdul-Wahid (chemistry undergrad), Grant I. Barker (chemistry grad student), Lukas Magill, Sarah Abdul-Wahid. The journal is titled "IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics".

## Student Recognition...

The chemistry faculty have selected the following undergraduate chemistry majors as recipients of scholarships:

**2009-2010 Jerry & Gail Jones Award:**  
Sarah Hayden

**2009 Chemistry Alumni Scholarship:**  
Heather Durkee and Rob Jensen

**2009 ACS Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry:** Adam Alman

**2009 ACS Undergraduate Award in Inorganic Chemistry:** Heather Durkee

**Mandy Christensen**, senior chemistry minor, was awarded \$100 toward the purchase of supplies for her project "A proposed study in limitations to Beer's Law". This COTS undergraduate research grant is for research conducted with **Tim Sorey**. Her proposal was also selected for Honorable Mention.

**Cameron Shore**, senior chemistry major, received a COTS undergraduate research grant in the amount of \$100. This is partial funding for his proposal titled "Theoretical investigation of ligand effects on the structures of silicon nanoclusters" for work being conducted with **Yingbin Ge**. His proposal was selected for Honorable Mention.

**Lee Ream**, senior chemistry major, was awarded a \$500 COTS undergraduate research grant for his proposal titled "Synthesis of three novel cyclic 1,3-azaborine HIV-1 protease inhibitors." He conducts research with **Levente Fabry**.

Several junior chemistry majors were accepted into the Science Honors Program spring term. They are **Adam Alman** (Rivera group), **Sarah Clark** (Chamberland group), **Donald Clayton** (Fabry group), **Rosa Rabinovitz** (Diaz group), and **John Schreiber** (Belofsky group). They will conduct research over the summer and through the next academic year.

**Maria Godinez**, senior chemistry major, has been admitted to the McNair Scholars program. She will be working in **Steve Chamberland's** research lab this summer and next year.

## SOURCE...

**SOURCE**, a symposium of undergraduate, graduate and faculty research, was held Thursday, May 21 in the new SUB-REC building. The chemistry department was represented in the oral presentation sessions by senior major **Rosa Rabinovitz** (Diaz group), senior major **Heather Durkee** (Rivera group), graduate student **Kris Olsen** (Diaz group), senior major **Sara Rosario** (Thomas group), senior major **Rusty Mann** (Diaz group), senior major **Badi Abdul-Wahid** (Fabry group), senior major **Rob Jensen** (Peters group), graduate student **Stephanie Bryner** (Thomas group) and graduate student **Jacob Johnson** (Johansen group). **Badi Abdul-Wahid** received an outstanding oral presentation award for his seminar entitled "Fuzzy Artmap Rule Extraction In Computational Chemistry." **Rusty Mann** also received an outstanding oral presentation award for his seminar entitled "Quantitatively Modeling Surface Trapping in Nano-Scale Yttrium Oxide Doped with Europium." The poster session included graduate student **Jacob Johnson** (Johansen group), WATERS graduate student **Brittany Best** (Rivera group), senior minor **Mandy Christensen** (Sorey group), senior major **Badi Abdul-Wahid** and graduate student **Grant Barker** (Fabry group), junior major **Edgar Perez** (Sorey group), senior major **Sarah Hayden** (Rivera group), senior minor **Casey Kellar** (Sarca group), and graduate students **Jesse Nye** and **Doris Chen** with senior minor **Liza Nikolaeva** and senior major **Donald Clayton** (all of the Fabry group). It was also exciting to have two chemistry alumni participating in SOURCE as judges this year. **Dr. Scott Oltman** (class of 1999) and **Mike Zahn** (class of 2000) were on campus for the day and judged the poster and oral presentations along with alumni and faculty from other disciplines.

## Chem Club Activities...

The **Chemistry Club** was very active spring quarter. Several club members, along with their advisor **Tim Sorey** and some of the chemistry staff, attended a Mariners game on May 1. The Club pre-sold study guides for the ACS exams in organic and general chemistry. The sale was a huge success. The officers composed and successfully submitted their annual chapter report to the ACS; as a student affiliate, they are required to do this at the end of each academic year.

On April 20, the Club hosted the first-ever "faculty research seminar". At this event, each chemistry professor with an active research laboratory gave a quick overview of their research to an audience of undergraduates. The Club's intention was to recruit more students into the program and to get the younger majors more involved in research. They hope to make this an annual event.

Chem Club finished up the four-month long Professor Penny War and presented the winners with their awards at the annual chemistry student appreciation BBQ on May 29. The winners were: JoAnn Peters, Best Dressed (February); Yingbin Ge, Most Available/Helpful (March); Anthony Diaz, Most Animated (April); Dion Rivera, Most Explosive (May).

The officers for the 2009-2010 year will be:

President: **Rosa Rabinovitz**

Vice President: **Jen Groves**

Treasurer: **Jeremy Milliren**

Secretary: **Stephanie Coleman**

Senator: **Chris Waite**

Historian: **Pat Nye**



### Go Mariners!

*Pictured clockwise: Lisa Stowe, Tim Stowe, Tim Sorey, Mari Sorey, Tony Brown, Bethany Jackson & sister, Chris Waite, Brandon & friend, friend & Rosa Rabinovitz, Cameron Shore, Jeff Wilcox, Tamara Wilcox, Amy Schaffeld, Tyler Schaffeld. Not pictured (holding the camera): Lee Longmore.*



*Penny war winners with their "awards" & sashes (l to r): Dion Rivera, Anthony Diaz, JoAnn Peters, Yingbin Ge.*

## Next Edition...

The newsletter will be published quarterly with the next edition to be published at the beginning of the new academic year. Please send items to be included in the next edition (photos welcome!) to Lisa at [stowel@cwu.edu](mailto:stowel@cwu.edu)