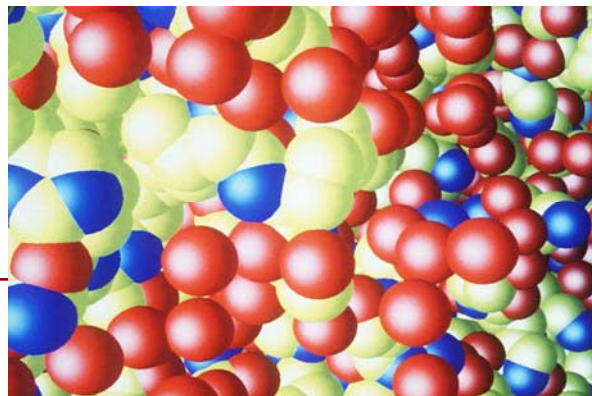


# CHEMISTRY CHRONICLE



## CWU Chemistry Department Quarterly Newsletter

### Welcome...

Our department welcomes several new faces this year...



**Terrah Goeden** earned a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Washington and has joined our graduate program this fall. She

will conduct inquiry-based learning research with Dr. Martha Kurtz.

**Terry "TJ" Helland**, CWU chemistry class of 2009, has chosen to stay at Central to pursue his master's degree in chemistry. He is a WATERS fellow and a member of Tim Sorey's research lab.



**Todd Kroll** joins the department as a new tenure-track faculty member in biochemistry. The focus of his research is the identification and characterization of protein-protein interactions regulating the size, position and lamination of the functional areas of mammalian neocortex.



**Sara Rosario**, CWU chemistry class of 2009, joins our graduate program this fall. She conducted research with JoAnn Peters and Carin Thomas as an undergrad, and is not yet sure which direction her research will take as a master's degree candidate.

**Elizabeth Stedham** comes to CWU as a graduate of Saint Martin's University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry. She will be doing her master's research with Dr. Anne Johansen in the environmental laboratory.



### Summer/Fall 2009

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Overall chemistry enrollment is up 17%  
from last fall and has increased 57%  
since the fall of 1999

## Faculty Activities...

**Dion Rivera** presented a poster at the national ACS meeting last March in Salt Lake City on research done at CWU with undergraduate collaborators Mike Hase (Science Honors, BS class of 2008), Ryan Scheffelmaier (senior major), Sarah Hayden (senior major) and graduate student Brittany Best (WATERS).

**Anthony Diaz** presented a talk, "Investigating the Function of  $Gd^{3+}$  in  $(Y,Gd)BO_3:Eu^{3+}$  Through Measurements of Host-to-Activator Transfer Efficiency" at the Society for Information Display conference in San Antonio in June. Former Science Honors student and chem alumna Katie Warren and current Science Honors chemistry major Rosa Rabinovitz were co-authors. Rosa and graduate students Lindsay Groce and Kris Olsen attended the conference as well.

**Martha Kurtz** organized and instructed the two-week long Yakima WATERS Institute along with NSF GK-12 PIs Carey Gazis (Geology), Ian Quitadamo (Biology/SciEd), Beth Pratt-Situlala (Geology/SciEd) and Steve Wagner (Biology). **Tim Sorey** and entering graduate student TJ Helland attended the institute and will form a team with Roger Hume of Ellensburg High School to work during the upcoming year to incorporate watershed research in the schools.

## Student Activities...

**Heather Durkee**, then senior major, presented a poster at the National ACS meeting in Salt Lake City last March on her science honors research. She was a member of the Rivera research laboratory and is now pursuing a Ph.D. in the fields of inorganic/physical chemistry at the University of Washington.

Graduate student **Stephanie Bryner** received two grants funded from CWU's Graduate Studies and Research Office for her master's thesis work. She received the Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship (\$2,800) and the Master's Research Fellowship (\$660) to study "The Effect of a High-Fat Diet on Mitochondrial Health in the Roundworm, *Caenorhabditis elegans*."

The **ACS student affiliates chapter (chemistry club)** was selected to receive an Honorable Mention for its activities conducted during the 2008-2009 academic year. Over 360 annual reports were submitted from around the nation. The ACS Committee on Education presented 35 outstanding, 68 commendable and 119 honorable mention awards. Tim Sorey is the club advisor and the ACS commented that "...[his] efforts certainly represent the best undergraduate science education and mentoring around the country."

Two students from the Thomas research group presented at the Northwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (NORM) in Tacoma on June 29. **Sara Rosario** (BS in Biochem, class of 2009) presented a poster in the general poster session entitled "The Toxicity of Buckminster Fullerenes" and graduate student **Stephanie Bryner** gave an oral presentation titled "Investigation of the Link Between Mitochondrial Function and Diabetes" with co-authors Carin Thomas and Lucinda Carnell (biology faculty member).

## Next Edition...

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