

Jason Keith

From: Sherre Denson
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2013 12:14 PM
To: Sherre Denson (sherre@che.msstate.edu)
Subject: April / May 2013 Swalm School of Chemical Engineering E-Newsletter

Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering E-Newsletter

April / May 2013

Director's Report:

Spring graduation occurred on May 10, 2013. I had the honor of teaching our seniors in process control, and was glad to get the chance to know these students before sending them off with their degrees. We held a lunch reception for the graduates and their families, and the attending students took a moment for us to take their picture, seen below.



Spring 2013 Graduates:

Bachelor of Science:

Scott Adkins

Taylor Ashe

Sam Carmichael

Makon Cline

Jonathan Cole

Tiffany Cole

Matt Dolan

James Eagles

Pal Grewal

John Guyton
Michael Harper – Summa Cum Laude
Sarah Heintz – Summa Cum Laude
Ty Hillman – Cum Laude
Ryan Johnston
Michael Kelley
Frank Konradi – Magna Cum Laude
Brian Mays
Eric Merkle – Summa Cum Laude
Brandon Moore – Cum Laude
Gregg Moore
Matthew Myer
Jeremy Patterson
Bo Portillo – Cum Laude
Molly Rhodes
Kevin Roscoe – Summa Cum Laude
Amy Shapley
Jesse Simmons
Kiefer Slaton – Summa Cum Laude
Jack Stogner
Casey Stokes
Caterina Tran – Summa Cum Laude
Eric Turner
Zach Valentine – Magna Cum Laude
David Van Cott – Summa Cum Laude
Edmund Wright – Summa Cum Laude

Master of Science:

Tim Broussard, “Investigation into the Effect of Strong Oxidizers on the Electrokinetic Removal of Chromium, Copper, and Arsenic from CCA Impregnated Wood Waste,” Dr. Mark Bricka, Advisor.

Ben Hartenbower, “Fermentation of Glycerol to Biogas Under Isobaric and Variable Pressure Conditions,” Drs. Todd French and Rafael Hernandez, Advisors.

Stay informed about news in the Swalm School of Chemical Engineering at our website at <http://www.che.msstate.edu>, the facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/msuswalmche>, and the director's twitter updates at http://twitter.com/msu_swalm_director.

If you have any comments or questions, or would like us to publish any of your accomplishments, feel free to call me at 662-325-2480 or send an email to keith@che.msstate.edu. Your updates and feedback are very important to us and also help us evaluate the success of our program.

Go Bulldogs!

Jason Keith

Professor and Director

Earnest W. Deavenport, Jr. Chair

Student and Alumni News Items:

- ChE student Kelsey LeSaicherre was inducted into the Bagley College of Engineering Student Hall of Fame.
- At the Senior Awards Convocation on May 10th, several CHE students were presented with awards. The AIChE service awards in honor of Dr. Lightsey and Dr. Jefcoat, were given to CHE students Sarah Heintz, Hannah Weems, Kelsey LeSaicherre, Alex Carrubba, Liza Nalley, and Scott Adkins.
- The Plant Design Awards were also distributed. The first place team consisted of Lee Grimes, Edmund Wright, Jonathan Cole, Ty Hillman, and Kiefer Slaton. The second place team was Brian Mays, Caterina Tran, and David Van Cott. There was a tie for third place between the teams of Ryan Johnston, Pal Grewal, and Brandon Moore and the team of Christopher Hicks, Jack Stogner, and Kevin Roscoe.
- Dr. Andro Mondala has accepted a position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical and Paper Engineering at Western Michigan University, starting in fall 2013.
- Graduate student Erick Vasquez was selected to present his work "Stimuli-responsive biphasic-polymer Janus magnetic nanoparticles prepared via electrostatic interactions and surface-confined ATRP" at the recent 2013 Excellence in Polymer Graduate Research Symposium on April 9, 2013 held in conjunction with the 245th ACS National Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- CHE postdoctoral associate Dr. Patrisha Pham was highlighted on the Sigma Xi website, <http://www.sigmaxi.org/about/news/MYFC/PatrishaPham-Bugayong.shtml>
- CHE graduate student Erick Vasquez received the Materials Certificate from the Bagley College of Engineering for completing materials related coursework.

- CHE PhD Students Marta AmirSadeghi and Navid Zanganeh have received a Bagley Engineering Graduate Fellowship for the 2013-2014 academic year. This support is funded by private donations to the Bagley College of Engineering.
- AIChE students completed a service work project at George Evans park in Starkville
- Thirty-nine CHE undergraduate students received \$310,000 in scholarships from the Bagley College of Engineering.

School News Items:

- Dr. Rebecca Toghiani received the Bagley College of Engineering Career Award.
- Dr. Rudy Rogers and Dr. Guochang Zhang were recognized at the MSU I³ day for their patent titled “System for Stabilizing Gas Hydrates at Low Pressures.”
- Dr. Neeraj Rai has received \$195,138 from the National Science Foundation for a project titled “S12-CHE Collaborative Research: Developing First Principles Monte Carlo Methods for Reactive Phase and Sorption Equilibria in CP2K Software Suite.”
- Dr. Hossein Toghiani has received \$22,000 and Dr. Santanu Kundu has received \$10,000 – both of these are seed grants to collaborate with researchers at the Raspet Flight Research. Laboratory. These are collaborative projects and involve faculty and staff across campus.
- The Renewable Fuels and Chemical Laboratory (advised by Dr. Rafael Hernandez and Dr. Todd French) received the Excellence in Laboratory Safety Award from the Office of Regulatory Compliance and Safety.
- The Delta Section of the Society of Petroleum Engineers donated \$10,000 to the chemical engineering program from their annual golf tournament fundraiser.
- Biofuels research from the department was highlighted on the MSU website: <http://vimeo.com/63905816>