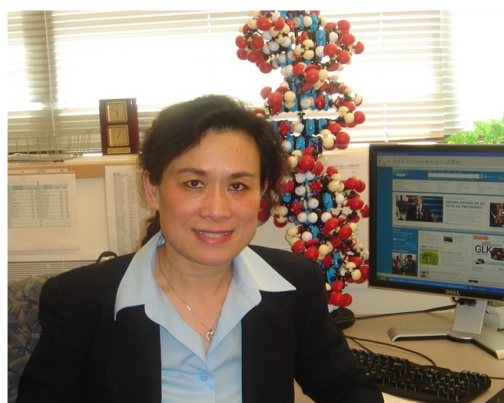




SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Our new building, Science Hall, opened its doors in 2003 (pictured above)
- Our department is growing rapidly with five new faculty joining since 2006.

Greetings from the Chair



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I'm very excited about sending you a copy of the first Rowan ChemBiochem Newsletter and sharing with you information on some new activities taking place in the Department, as well as news from our alumni. I am also seeking your suggestions for our newsletters and would like to encourage you to send us interesting stories about your life and professional career that may inspire and motivate our students in pursuit of excellence during their college years and beyond.

It's five years since our department moved into the new Science Hall, a state-of-the-art facility. The old Bosshart Hall, has been replaced with a piece of large beautiful green grass lawn and a few young trees, no more sun-blocks for the Science Hall during winter months. However, we do have many fond memories of the old Bosshart where many of our outstanding graduates received their initial

training and many of us used to work. When the building was demolished last fall, many of us retained a piece of the old brick as memorabilia to cherish the memories.

Our department has experienced some significant new development in recent years: new teaching and research facilities, newly added faculties, a growing body of students and some exciting new degree programs. Our BS Biochemistry program, created a few years ago, is in full swing now, a new BA Chemistry program was launched recently running side by side with our long established and ever more healthy Chemistry and Physical Science programs. Moreover, we are in the process of developing new programs such as Forensic Chemistry in anticipation of future student needs and professional demands in the discipline.

We feel really happy and fortunate to have five new faculty join the Department in the past three years. They brought new expertise and tremendous energy to the Department. We have received both government and private funding for faculty-mentored cutting edge student research projects. We are also actively engaged in industry-sponsored projects from which students learn and gain knowledge by solving real-life problems. Student participation in research has reached an unprecedented level in recent years; in fall 2009 alone there were more than 32 undergraduate research assistants in the Department, a record number in the Department's history. (continued on p3)

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Alumni Spotlight—Sean Cahill '04

After graduation, Sean began work as a validation consultant at Covex LLC, a firm of validation scientists servicing the pharmaceutical industry. He gained insight into how pharmaceutical companies operate as a business, interact with worldwide regulatory agencies, and how various types of specialized laboratories are developed and managed. Sean wrote to us about his recent career path: “I also gained expertise on a wide array of modern biotechnology, state of the art analytical instrumenta-

tion, and scientific software applications.”

From 2005 to present day, Sean has been employed at the Merck & Co. West Point, PA site as a System Life Cycle Administrator in the Quality Operations Analytical Support (QOAS) department. “QOAS is a broadly defined, specialized group of people who integrate application of information technology and automation to optimize and extend laboratory operations. It encom-

passes all aspects of data flow, from raw data acquired from laboratory instruments, to laboratory information processing, to enterprise-scale information sharing and knowledge management. It deals with fundamental issues common to all laboratories, including hardware connectivity, systems integration, validation and compliance, and application selection and implementation. It also focuses on specialized solutions for different types of laboratories: analytical, clinical, environmental, etc.”

New Faculty Profiles



Subash Jonnalagadda obtained his Ph.D. in 2005 as an International Graduate Scholar in the Department of Chemistry at Purdue University. After postdoctoral stints at University of Pennsylvania and University of Minnesota Duluth he took up the posi-

tion as an Assistant Professor at the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Rowan University in Fall 2008.

His research interests include synthetic organic chemistry and medicinal chemistry. Some current research projects include

“Development of Carrier Linked Small Molecules Derived from Cholesterol and Long Chain Fatty Acids as Targeted Anti-Cancer Agents” and Dr. Jonnalagadda teaches sophomore level Organic Chemistry I and II courses at Rowan.



Lei Yu, born and raised in northern China, received his Ph.D. degree in chemistry from Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Before he became an assistant professor in

the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Lei worked in Germany, South Carolina, and Michigan as a postdoctoral Fellow.

Dr. Yu teaches Analytical Chemistry and Gen-

eral Chemistry right now. Lei Yu's research interests include surface analytical chemistry, bioanalytical chemistry, lithium batteries, and nano materials. Beside chemistry, Lei is also interested in hiking, swimming, the

Message from the Chair (continued from pp.1)

In the not distant future we expect to surpass this number as the University continues to grow.

Our department is poised to take on new initiatives, conduct quality research, and achieve educational excellence. Our goals are to craft individualized programs for students, facilitate successful learning through strong mentoring, and to maximize the impact of our intellectual and material resources. We will build a collegial community to bring the faculty and students together, an at-

mosphere conducive to learning, and an environment that stimulates the mind. We are going to establish new degree programs to broadening the scope of our major and better prepare our students to meet the ever-evolving challenges in the field. More outreach programs will be implemented to involve community colleges and local high schools so as to attract more students to the Chemistry and Biochemistry major. We will also explore connections with the recently announced Cooper/Rowan medical school as well as

local industries to identify more research collaborations and employment opportunities for our graduates.

This is truly an exciting time to envisage a bright future of the Department. I would like to invite you to join us in the challenging task of building a better DCB, contributing to the development of chemical and biochemical sciences and technology. Your successful story is our inspiration, and we hope to solidify our "chemical bonds".

The Chamberlain Research Award



The Chamberlain Research award is named after former University president and Chemistry Professor Mark Chamberlain and his wife Barbara (pictured at left). This award is given to a senior chemistry or biochemistry major who has excelled in performing

research in the department.

The award, which includes a monetary prize, recognizes talented seniors for their dedication to chemistry/biochemistry research and who will likely go on to pursue graduate education or a career in the chemical industry.

"Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought. "
- Albert Szent-Györgi

Ben Nixon - Chamberlain Award Winner 2009

"During my course of study in Rowan's Biochemistry program, I have gained a significant understanding, as well as an appreciation for the sciences by having the opportunity to work in the laboratory, both in a classroom and research atmosphere. Courses such as Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Biophysical Chemistry, and Biochemistry provided me with techniques and skills that both facilitated my desire to be a scientist and laid the foundation for my

future in the scientific community. It was this strong foundation that allowed me to carry out research at Baylor College of Medicine during the summer of 2008 and lead me to consider pursuing graduate studies. Furthermore, conducting research in the laboratory of Dr. Greg Caputo allowed me to take what I learned in the classroom, and apply it in an assortment of ways to examine the various areas of interest of the Caputo lab. My time at Rowan University and in

the laboratory have prepared me for my future graduate studies at the Ohio State University, and I know that I can turn to the knowledge obtained at Rowan to help aid me overcoming any obstacles set forth by graduate school. I feel that my enthusiasm and poise, combined with the invaluable resources provided by Rowan University and the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, will put me in a position to succeed. "

Congratulations to the Class of 2009!



2009 Graduates at the Science Hall graduation day reception. Pictured (L — R) Zuliang Shen, Jeff Durham, Christian Dijamco, Charles Warrington, Ben Nixon, Jeanet Picone, John Manganaro, Whitney Wilson, Dave Lawrence, Prasad Ranadive, Jay Youssef. Not pictured: Katherine Barcliffe, Brian Cunningham, Suzanne Finkbeiner, David Griffin, and Michael Slater.

The Faculty & Staff



The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry: (Front to rear, left to right): Pat Jackson, Catherine Yang, Kandalam Ramanjuchary, Amos Mugweru; Kathy Monahan, Louis Whaley, Rich Norton, Mike Miller; Lei Yu, Jon Foglein; Bob Newland, Gregory Caputo, Behrooz Nazer, Subash Jonnalagadda; Lawrence Boni, Darius Kuciauskas.



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Keep in Touch!!

We are always excited to hear from our former graduates. We encourage you to drop us a note by email or return the card below by mail to give us an update on where you are and what successes you've found since leaving Rowan and the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Current Position _____

Year of Graduation _____