

The Cavendish Chronicle

Volume 32, Issue 1

Fall, 2017

*Alaskan Sunset, page 5*

Inside

Grad

Launch 3

Postcards 4

3M

Patent

Attorney 4

Alaska

Team

Corps 5

Alum

Notes 6

*The Ardolf Science Center in autumn*

Alex Center Turns 25 Years Old

The Ardolf Science Center, home of CSB/SJU's departments of Chemistry and Nutrition, celebrates its 25th Anniversary this academic year. To mark the occasion, a celebration was organized for Homecoming Weekend, October 6th and 7th. Originally the initiative of Professor Brian Johnson, the occasion was planned by a select group of faculty from nutrition and chemistry with help from the CSB Alumnae Office and the CSB Archives.

The birthday party included a Friday evening social gathering with a slide show of memories from both before and after Ardolf's construction. On Saturday morning, a group of alumni from both departments discussed their career paths since leaving CSB/SJU. Both events underwent last-minute scheduling changes out of respect for funeral arrangements for S. Coleman O'Connell, OSB, 11th President of the College of Saint Benedict.

(Continued page 2)



Alumni, faculty and students gather for a panel presentation

ASC Celebration

(Continued from page 1)

O'Connell was instrumental in leading the way for construction of the Ardolf Science Center during her term as CSB President. The effort involved a capital campaign, relying on alumnae giving, but was aided by a \$490,000 grant from the Bush Foundation. The Bush Foundation funds creative initiatives in education and community development in Minnesota and the Dakotas.

In addition, a significant contribution to the capital campaign came from Lottie and Frank Ardolf, Jr., Los Angeles philanthropists with a history of giving to education but no direct connection to CSB/SJU. Instead, Frank Ardolf heard about the campaign through his cousin, S. Miriam Ardolf, OSB. Miriam Ardolf was CSB Vice President of Finance at the time.

The building was designed by the architectural firm, Perkins and Will, of Chicago. On the chemistry faculty, **Professor Richard White** played a major advisory role in the design, along with **Professors Mark Hughes** and **William Muldoon**. At the time, the science center was praised for its open atrium and bright hallways, in contrast to the relatively Brutalist structures on the Saint John's campus. It was also recognized with an Award from the American Chemical Society's Division of Chemical Health and Safety.

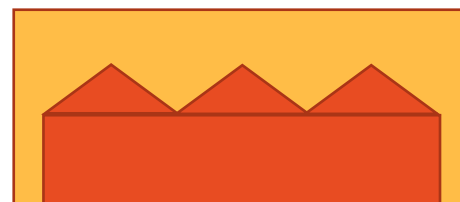
Prior to the move, chemistry had maintained a relatively minor presence on the CSB campus. Moving from Saint John's, where most of the chemistry department was located, was a massive undertaking. Nevertheless, the change was deemed worthwhile despite some obvious sacrifices, such as diminished contact with colleagues in biology and physics.

"It was certainly a very powerful thing in terms of sending a message that women were welcome in chemistry," said Professor Henry Jakubowski, who remembers the move.

Indeed, when Ardolf opened its doors in 1992, it was meant to mark a new era on campus for women in science. Some progress has been made since then. During the five-year period prior to the move, only 35% of CSB/SJU chemistry majors were women, compared to 46% of chemistry and biochemistry majors in the last five years. However, similar increases have been seen nationwide over that time.

The Friday evening social hour was attended by approximately thirty faculty and alumnae. In addition to the slide show, Johnson gave a brief presentation reminiscing about the time period, along with corresponding remarks from Amy Olson of nutrition. About twenty people attended the Saturday morning panel, including a half-dozen current students. Panelists included **Teresa Abraham, Chem & Biol '02** and **Jean (Abler) Kelly, Chem '93**.

In addition to those who were physically present, over seventy-five alumni submitted comments and photos to a virtual guestbook commemorating the celebration.



Alum Notes

(continued from page 6)

Abe Cass, Chem '04 has been everything from a professional water-skier at Sea World to an analytical chemist in 3M's drug delivery division. He has settled down to teach physics and chemistry at North Community High School in Minneapolis.

Jim Kuderer, Chem '04 graduated from Des Moines University as a Doctor of Osteopathy and completed residency in otolaryngology (ear, nose, and throat) surgery. He practices with Park Nicollet in St Louis Park, MN.

Nick Briese, Chem '06 graduated from the University of Minnesota Medical School and completed residency and chief residency at Hennepin County Medical Center in Internal Medicine. He currently works as a hospitalist, supervises residents at HCMC and teaches medical students at the University of Minnesota.

Katie Pokorny, Chem '07 finished pharmacy school at the University of Minnesota and completed a pharmacy residency at HealthEast Care System.

At HealthEast, she helped establish medication management services (MTM) in the primary care clinics.

Anne Hylden, Chem '10 earned a M.S. in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. She has been teaching high school math and science at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School in Washington, DC.

Hang Zhang, Chem '11 graduated from the lab of Professors George Olah (Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 1994) and Surya Prakash at the University of Southern California. She works as an Air Quality Chemist at the South Coast Air Quality Management District, where she runs air toxics analysis for federal programs and is involved in the laboratory testing of low-cost air quality sensors. She lives in Santa Monica, CA, with her husband.

Christine (Lucachik) Gelo, Chem '12 graduated as a Doctor of Dental Surgery from U of MN and has been practicing with Lucachick Dental Office in International Falls, MN. She recently married a high school classmate.

Krista Barzen-Hanson, Chem '13 defended her PhD thesis at Oregon State in January '17, completed a postdoc in the Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering at Cornell, and will be starting a tenure-track position in analytical chemistry at Elmira College.

Erin Wissler, Chem '14 graduated with a Masters in Public Service Administration from Marquette University and works at the Center for Peacemaking, a research institute associated with Marquette.

David Crotteau, Chem '14 completed Officer Candidate School for the US Marines in Quantico, VA and flight training in Pensacola, FL. Having learned to fly the CH-53E Super Stallion, the US military's heaviest transport helicopter, he is now ready for deployment in San Diego, CA, where he will be joined by his fiancé, Anne.



Postcards from Abroad



"I am currently studying abroad in Salzburg, Austria, and this photo was taken in Hohe Tauern National Park in the Austrian Alps, right after we had hiked for hours to reach the hut we were staying in for the weekend. The clouds and fog broke right as we arrived, which was rewarding."-**Augie Witkowsi, BChM '19**

"In our last week in Greece on the Greco-Roman program, we spent two days hiking all the way to the top of Mount Olympus!"-**Jack Barsody, BChM '19**



"I'm studying abroad in London, but this photo is from when we visited the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland."-**Jack Kirsch, BChM '19**

Makenzie 2 any Rewards in the Life of a 3M Patent Attorney

By Alex Messner

When most people think about lines of work in the field of chemistry, they may think of the care and precision of the analytical chemist, or the creative synthetic work of the organic chemist. For **Jean Lown, Chem '74**, a degree in chemistry led to a different route. A law school graduate, she now works as a patent attorney for 3M.

As a patent attorney, Lown primarily works with inventors to draft and prosecute patent applications and provide counseling regarding various intellectual property law issues. She is the primary attorney for the 3M Corporate Research Materials Laboratory, and as such coordinates work done by patent agents and other attorneys to ensure that legal needs are addressed.

After graduating from Saint Ben's, Lown set off for graduate school at Iowa State University. She obtained a Ph.D. in

analytical chemistry in 1979.

Subsequently, she worked as a research chemist for a number of years. Finally, in 1997, Lown decided to change career paths. She attended law school at the University of Minnesota, graduating with a J.D. in 2000.

Lown says she still uses her chemistry background almost every day, although in ways that are different from her days as a bench chemist. As a research chemist, Lown's chemical knowledge was relatively focused. In contrast, as a patent attorney she has found that she needs a much broader understanding of chemistry in order to easily converse with researchers and discuss why their inventions are "new and non-obvious" (a common phrase among patent attorneys).

Even though she may work long hours during the week, Lown has still found time to be a leader outside of the office.

She currently serves on the finance council for the Cathedral of Saint Paul, and on the board for Options for Women East, a pregnancy center in the Twin Cities. She also utilizes her law degree by participating in a free, walk-in legal clinic where she is commonly asked questions about copyrights, trademarks, and patents. Lown also has a tradition of travelling to Europe or Israel every year for a religious pilgrimage. Those trips also give her time to indulge her love of photography.

Lown encourages students to take their time in finding a career they will enjoy, as well as one that utilizes their talents. "You might not follow a linear path," says Lown. "When I was a student at Saint Ben's, it never occurred to me that I might like patent law. Be open to how God wants to lead you."

Marianna Association Takes Grad to Alaska

Claire Buysse, Chem '17 took a gap season before heading to grad school in Seattle, working over the summer with the Student Conservation Association as part of the Alaska Team Corps. Her 6-member crew did exotic plant management in Sitka National Historic Park, cleared boundary brush in Glacier Bay, and laid an ADA accessible trail in Denali.

“The Alaska Corps program was really easy to apply for through the Student Conservation Association (SCA) website,” said Buysse. A variety of different environmental and conservation-focused internships are available, with different start and end

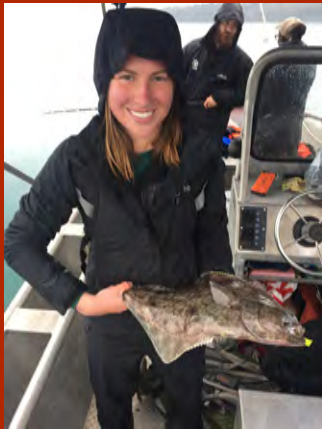
dates; these are updated throughout the year. Applicants start by setting up a profile (sort of like making an online “conservation” resume, says Buysse). The site allows users to apply for up to 20 positions at a time, picking and choosing which ones work best in terms of timing and interests. Buysse interviewed for three different positions before choosing the Alaska Corps.

“The program was a lot of fun and I really got to get outside (both literally and figuratively) of the academic bubble that college students can sometimes get stuck

in,” said Buysse. “It was really cool to hear the stories of native Alaskans, my other Corps members, and NPS agency partners, all while traveling to and working at 3 different Alaska national parks.”

The program also provided Wilderness First Aid (WFA) and chainsaw training for Buysse’s position.

Buysse’s overall impression of Alaska? “I’m already thinking of volunteering with the Washington Trail Association here in my free time.”



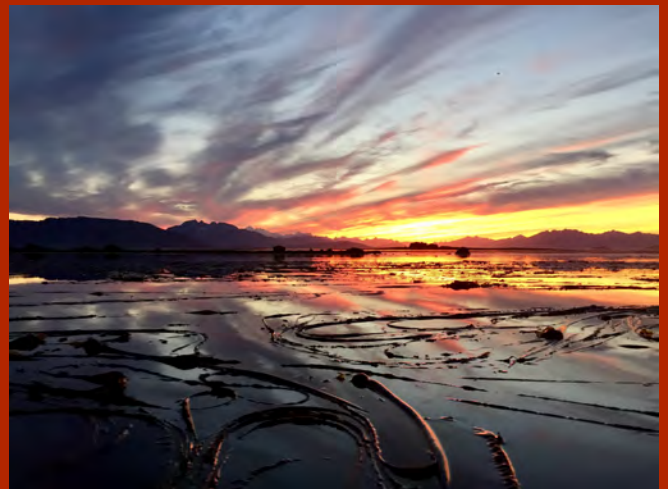
Buysse with halibut



Approaching Scidmore Glacier



The Beartrack Mountains



Kayaking through kelp in the Beardslee Islands

Alum Notes

Ray Kenney, Chem '90 works in product development in 3M's Display Materials Lab. He and spouse, **Anne (Hinnenkamp) Kenney, Chem '90**, have four children.

Christian Affeldt, Chem '91 graduated from U of MN veterinary college and is now a large animal veterinarian at Cascade West Veterinary Hospital in Centralia, Washington. He lives in Olympia with his spouse, Darby; they have a son in high school and a daughter in college.

John Pollard, Chem '91 is an Associate Professor of Practice in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Arizona, as well as Associate Dean for Academics at the University of Arizona Honors College. He and his family (including two daughters and a son) live in Tucson.

Mary (Penas) Anderson, Chem '93 has been a chemistry and physics teacher at Greenbush/Middle River High School since graduation. She is married, with two children: one in first year college and one in high school.

Darla (Schoo) Klementz, Chem '93 attended Pharmacy School at Creighton University. She is now Director of Pharmacy at Hudson and Westfields Hospitals (Wisconsin). She is married with four kids (ages 17, 13, 11, and 9).

Rob Bellin, Chem '94 has a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Iowa State and is a faculty member in biology at College of the Holy Cross (along with his wife, Kelly Wolfe Bellin, Biol '94). The couple has two kids, now 13 and 10 years old.

Dan Hergert, Chem '96 has worked for a number of years as a rubber chemist and product development engineer, most recently at Toyo Tires. He credits Richard White's polymer chemistry class with getting his first job. He is married to a chemical engineer; they have two kids (ages 13 and 10).

Trish Valusek, Chem '97 is a pediatric surgeon at Children's Minnesota. She also has two young kids of her own.

Jeff Bankers, Chem '97 obtained a Ph.D. from U of MN and joined Henkel Consumer Goods, where he is currently R&D Director of Beauty Care Product Development; products include Dial soap and Right Guard.

After 14 years in Scottsdale, AZ, he has relocated to Stamford, CT. He is married and has two boys.

Ryan Jense, Chem '97 is an assistant clinical professor of anesthesiology & pain medicine and an adjunct in global health at the University of Washington School of Medicine.

Bryan Johnson, Bchm '02 earned a Ph.D. in structural biology at the University of Minnesota. He currently leads the development quality assurance team in the immunoassay division at Beckman Coulter. He lives in Minneapolis with his partner and dog; they enjoy vacationing in National Parks.

Laura MacManus Spencer, Chem '00 earned a PhD in chemistry from the U of MN and completed postdoctoral research in environmental engineering at Stanford. She was recently promoted to Associate Professor of Chemistry at Union College in Schenectady, NY. She and her husband, Ian, have a daughter.

Nicole (Tuma) Macalena, Chem '01 has worked in pharmaceuticals at Perrigo Minnesota for the last 6 years. She previously worked for Pace Analytical at 3M, and spent a year with HVL in Pittsburgh, PA. She attended graduate school at UW-Madison. She and husband **Jeff Macalena, Chem '01**, have two daughters, ages 7 and 5.

Thu Nguyen, Bchm '03 finished a PhD in organic chemistry at Michigan State in 2011 and has been an assistant professor at Lake Superior State University since

2012. She is married and has a daughter and a son, ages 3 and 2.

The Cavendish Chronicle

Editor: Chris Schaller, cschaller@csbsju.edu

Story Credits: Alex Messner, Makenzie Horrigan, Marianna Pineda.

Photo Credits: Claire Buysse, Pat Goza, CSB/SJU Chemistry & Biochemistry students.

CSB|SJU Chemistry
Ardolf Science Center
37 South College Ave.
St. Joseph, MN 56374

The College of Saint Benedict|Saint John's University

