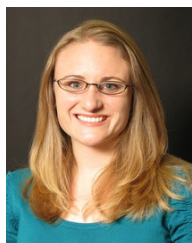


Dr. Kristin Dooley hired as visiting Assistant Professor



Dr. [Kristin Dooley](#) has joined the faculty for the 2010-2011 academic year as a visiting Assistant Professor. She replaces Dr. Kyle Felling who resigned to pursue a position in industry. Dr. Dooley earned a BS in Chemistry and Applied Mathematics from UCA in 2004 followed by a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Texas A&M University in May of 2009. For the past academic year, Dr. Dooley held a postdoctoral research position at Arkansas State University.

Dr. Faith Yarberry Accepts Lecturer I Position in Chemistry for Fall 2010



[Dr. Faith Yarberry](#), who has served as a visiting assistant professor in the UCA Department of Chemistry since 2006, has accepted the position of Lecturer I in Chemistry, to begin Fall Semester of 2010.

"We are elated to have Dr. Faith Yarberry with us. Faith always goes above and beyond the call of duty for the department and her students," said Robert Mauldin, Professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry.

Three New Cordrey Scholars in Chemistry Entering UCA in Fall Semester 2010

The [Cordrey Scholarship](#) supports the studies of students majoring in chemistry. The Department of Chemistry welcomes the following three awardees of this prestigious scholarship for the fall semester of 2010:

Ashley Bizzell will be entering UCA as a chemistry major, having graduated from Joe T. Robinson High School in Little Rock, AR. Her summer pharmacy camp director praised Ashley's enthusiasm, self-confidence and maturity demonstrated among her peers in camp. Ashley is excited about studying chemistry as a route to a career in the pharmaceutical sciences. She will be a member of the State Residential College.

Casey Cameron graduated from Vilonia High School and is entering UCA as a chemistry major. Casey's chemistry teacher described him as "a natural leader." Casey looks forward to the research opportunities available in our department and plans to complete a Ph.D. in chemistry on his way to becoming a professor of chemistry. He said in his career in chemistry he wants to "discover something that would have a positive impact on humanity." He will be a one of the charter students in our STEM Residential College.

Laney Mason is entering UCA as a biochemistry major. She graduated top in her class (out of 145) from Clarksville High School in Clarksville, AR. Laney's high school chemistry instructor described her as "an exceptionally gifted problem solver." Laney described her early experience with chemistry, when "suddenly homework was fun." She has long been interested in science and math. Laney also will be a one of the charter students in our STEM Residential College.

Two Chemistry Seniors Selected as UCA Outstanding Students.



Liz Schiefer and D. J. Martin, two graduating seniors in chemistry, received outstanding awards for "University Student at UCA" for 2009-2010. A cash award of \$100 accompanies the recognition. These awards are particularly noteworthy since only seven awards were granted to students from across the entire campus! Congratulations Liz and D. J.!

Laney Hall gets a green roof



About 2,000 square-foot of sedum, a drought tolerant plant material, has been planted on the roof of Laney Hall. Sedum plants are drought tolerant and grow to an approximate height of six inches. The existing roof was re-covered with a premium, white reflective thermoplastic roof layer followed by a water retention mat. Engineered soil was installed and then the sedum layer. A green roof protects the membrane resulting in longer material life, acts as an insulator resulting in energy saving and slows water runoff. The performance of the green roof will be monitored with a eye toward similar installations in the future with new construction and roof replacements on existing buildings. UCA officials used money from the 2007 bond and stimulus money to pay for the project.

Dr. Yarberry provides help for chemistry teachers



Dr. Faith Yarberry from the Department of Chemistry participated in a summer 2010 institute for teachers funded through a grant obtained by the Arkansas Center for Mathematics and Science Education. The title of the grant was "MSP-Science Lead Teacher Institute" it has been funded by the US Department of Education through Arkansas Department of Education. Dr. Yarberry met with groups of 14-28 teachers from 7th grade science to high school chemistry in local Arkansas schools. Dr. Yarberry provided teachers with lesson plans, demonstrations, overheads, and laboratories that they could use in the classrooms to illustrate chemical concepts and their connection to biological concepts. The teachers gained valuable information as well as materials that can be used to illustrate the concepts in the coming year. The materials included glassware and chemicals funded by the grant.

2010 Seniors Recognized

Four senior chemistry majors were recognized with awards for excellence in academics and service at the Awards and Recognition Banquet of the Central Arkansas Section of the American Chemical Society on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock on April 20, 2010.

Darrell (DJ) Martin, Jr. and **Liz Schiefer** were presented with the Academic Excellence Award, an award that recognizes superior achievements in coursework and research. **Daniel Fields** and **Martin Sharum** were presented with the Service Excellence Award, an award that recognizes service to the institution and the community.

Daniel Fields is the current Treasurer of the UCA student chapter of ACS and recently presented a chapter poster at the National ACS meeting in San Francisco in March 2010. Daniel helped plan and implement the Undergraduate Programming at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Little Rock in 2008. He also regularly volunteers his time for on-campus tutoring, assisted with National Chemistry Week at the Museum of Discovery, and participates in other chapter activities. Dan is planning on going to dental school after graduation.

Martin Sharum is the current President of the UCA student chapter of ACS. He helped coordinate travel for 12 research students within the department to travel to the National American Chemical Society meeting in San Francisco, CA, where Martin also presented a research poster. Every week, Martin helps with on-campus tutoring. He also assisted with National Chemistry Week at the Museum of Discovery, and engages other students in chapter activities. Martin is planning on working in an industrial or government laboratory within the state after graduation.

DJ Martin is the current Vice-President of the UCA student chapter of ACS. He was the liaison to UCA's student government for the chemistry club and his fund-raising efforts allowed 12 research students to present their work at the National American Chemical Society meeting in San Francisco, CA. DJ has excelled in his chemistry classes, while conducting research for both Dr. Nolan Carter in the chemistry department and Dr. Noyes in the biology department. He has presented his research at both regional and national meetings, including the National American Chemical Society meeting in San Francisco. DJ will be attending chemistry graduate school at Texas A&M University in the Fall.

Elizabeth Schiefer has been conducting research for Dr. Perry in the Chemistry Department for 2 years. She presented a poster over this work at the National American Chemical Society meeting in San Francisco, CA in March 2010. Liz actively participates in student chapter activities and has also excelled in her coursework. Liz is innately curious and has a love for science that is a joy to watch. She will be attending chemistry graduate school at Georgia Tech in the Fall, focusing on theoretical studies.

Chemistry Students Present at Poster Session

The Annual Poster session sponsored by the UCA College of Natural Science and Mathematics was held on Friday, April 23, 2010. The UCA chemistry department was represented with 13 posters based on their undergraduate research efforts. The posters listed 30 different student authors and 11 different faculty mentors.

Seniors excel on exit exam

Ten senior chemistry majors took the 2010 Education Testing Service's Major Field Test in Chemistry. The total scores as well as sub-scores in physical chemistry, organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry, biochemistry, and critical thinking were in the 85-90 percentile, indicating that UCA chemistry students scored better than 85-90% of students in the nation who took the same exam.

Alumni establish travel fund endowment

Dr. Joe and Laura Allison of Bartlesville, Okla., in partnership with their employer, ConocoPhillips, have established an endowed travel fund through the University of Central Arkansas Foundation for students studying in the UCA Department of Chemistry. Through a matching gift partnership, the couple has committed to contributing \$30,000 to the Joe and Laura Allison Department of Chemistry Travel Fund over the next three years.

According to fund guidelines, chemistry students will be awarded funds annually to attend recognized scientific meetings and present the results of their research. Meetings may be local, regional or national and shall be appropriate to provide professional interaction and networking opportunities to the students. Joe and Laura, who are 1979 UCA graduates in chemistry, cited travel to scientific meetings as undergraduates as an important part of their professional development.

Nolan Carter wins Teaching Excellence Award



Nolan Carter received the UCA Faculty Teaching Excellence Award for the 2008-2009 academic year. The plaque and a cash award were presented to Nolan at the annual UCA Service Awards Ceremony. Nolan, who joined the UCA faculty in 2003, received his B.S. from UA-Fayetteville and his PhD from Colorado State University. He and his wife, Liz, have two boys, Barrett and Dilan. Previous UCA chemistry faculty who have received this award are Michael Rapp (1990), Paul Krause (1995), Patrick Desrochers (2002), and Lori Isom (2005).

Dr. Robert Mauldin accepts chair position



Dr. Robert Mauldin has accepted the position as chair of the UCA Department of Chemistry effective July 1, 2009. Dr. Mauldin received a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from The University of Tennessee - Knoxville. Dr. Mauldin taught at Georgia Southern University for four years before accepting a teaching position at Shawnee State University where he achieved the rank of Professor and also served as the director of their General Education Program from 1997 to 2008. Most recently he has served as Academic Dean at Bethel College in McKenzie, TN. Dr. Mauldin will be replacing Dr. William Taylor who will return to full-time faculty status in the department.

Students present research at national meeting.

Fifteen students presented the results of their research efforts at the ACS National Meeting in Chicago (spring, 2007). The students (faculty sponsors) presenting were Nick Gleason (Rick Tarkka), Leah Thompson (Rick Tarkka), Akhil Mehta (Nolan Carter), Amanda MacMillan (Karen Steelman), Ashley Evans (Rick Tarkka), Emily Malcolm (Melissa Kelley), Tori Green (Nolan Carter), Adam Phelan (Rick Tarkka), Lindsay Read (Kyle Felling), Jake Smith (Nolan Carter), Jacque Dupriest (Karen Steelman), Tamara Binyon (Rick Tarkka), Tori O'Bannon (Lori Isom), Mikaela Stewart (Lori Isom), and Chris Sutton (Patrick Desrochers)

Lori Isom receives Teaching Excellence Award



Biochemist Lori Isom was named the recipient of the UCA Faculty Teaching Excellence Award for the 2005-2006 academic year. The plaque and a cash award were presented to Lori at the annual UCA Service Awards Ceremony. Lori joins the following UCA chemistry faculty who have received faculty excellence awards in the past.

Teaching Excellence Award: Michael Rapp (1990), Paul Krause (1995) and Patrick Desrochers (2002)

Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Award: William Taylor (2001) and Patrick Desrochers (2004)

Public Service Award: Michael Rapp (1997) and Jerry Manion (1999)