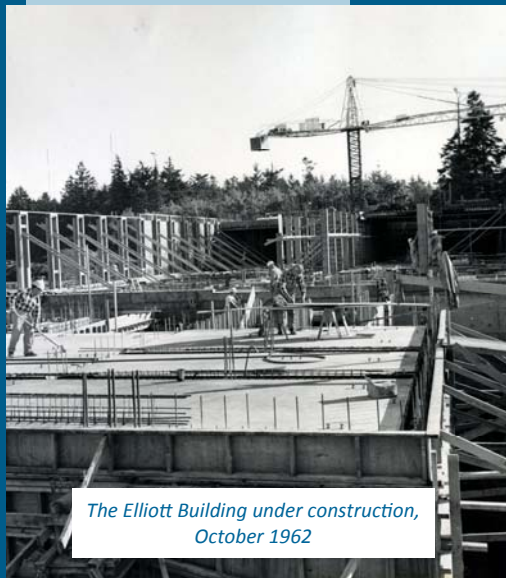


Elements

SPRING 2012



The Elliott Building under construction,
October 1962

You're invited to Chemistry's 50th Anniversary Reunion...

Please join us for an exciting weekend September 28 – 30, 2012, to celebrate the University of Victoria's 50th birthday and 50 years of great chemistry!

try seminars and poster displays throughout the afternoon. On Friday evening there will be a special performance for alumni of "That Chemistry Show" by Alex Brolo, Scott McIndoe, and Matt Moffitt. Our **Welcome Reception** will follow the show with a scrumptious array of appetizers, desserts and beverages.

Saturday will be a wonderful day on campus. Many departments, including Chemistry, will be having **open houses and special events**. A Chemistry alumni lunch will be served between 12:00 noon and 2:00PM. This will be a drop-in affair, perfect for a break between visiting open houses and enjoying the many **Community Festival activities and outdoor entertainment options**. On Saturday evening, Alumni Relations is planning a gala **Alumni Banquet** at the University Club. This promises to be a wonderful evening so we have reserved several tables for Chemistry alumni. Nevertheless, numbers

are limited, so please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in attending the banquet.

On Sunday, **golfers will be able to test their skills at the Ridge**, a beautiful 9-hole par 3 course at Cordova Bay Golf Course. Our **wrap-up barbecue** will start at 1:00 PM following golf. Attendees can opt for golf only, barbecue only, or both – see registration form for details..

Are you interested in attending? Even if you're not sure, please let us know if you're considering it - chem50yr@uvic.ca.

Come and enjoy our beautiful city; renew friendships from the past; and become re-acquainted with our outstanding university.

See you in September!



In concert with the University's Alumni Homecoming Weekend and Community Festival, Chemistry's 50th anniversary reunion will include a mini-conference featuring speakers who are alumni; an open house with numerous displays, hands-on activities and a chemistry show; golf and a barbecue at the beautiful Cordova Bay Golf Course, and many other activities and get-togethers for alumni and friends throughout the weekend.

The **conference** part of the weekend will take place on Friday September 28th with chemis-



Group at the 40th Anniversary Reunion barbecue,
May 2003

50 Years of Great Chemistry!

1962: Excavation for Elliott Building starts in July.

1963: UVic's Gordon Head campus opens. Elliott opens

1976: Chemistry Co-op begins.

1979: Chemistry obtains its first super-conducting NMR.

1986: Petch Building opens.

1989: CIC/ CSC Conference held at UVic.

1991: Department buys Kratos Mass Spec and opens new Mass Spec facility.

1999: Undergraduate lab renovations begin.

2003: Chemistry Reunion, May 16 – 18, 2003.

2008: Bob Wright Centre opens.

2010: Undergraduate lab renovations on the Elliott third floor completed.

2012: Chemistry reunion, Sept. 28 – 30, 2012.

First Lecture Book Cover Competition and Spring Reception a huge success!

The winners of the first annual Lecture Book Cover Competition were announced at Chemistry's Spring Reception on Wednesday, April 4, 2012. There were 129 photographs entered in the contest! Our panel of judges were very impressed with the quality of photography and found the selection of winners quite a challenge, but after lengthy deliberations were able to boil it down to 15 winners, as follows:

Grand prizes (\$200 bursary, framed print of the winning photograph, ipod shuffle, Chemistry USB stick, and a book of the winner's choice from Pearson):

- Chris Russell (Chem 101 front cover)
- Alicia Revi (Chem 102 front cover)

- Derek Chan (Chem 150 front cover)

In addition, the front cover photos will be displayed in the "cover gallery" on the third floor of Elliott.

Second prizes (ipod shuffle, Chemistry USB stick, and a book of the winner's choice from Pearson):

- Michelle Beaudry (Chem101 back cover)
- Rhonda Stoddard (Chem 102 back cover)
- Misha Warbanski (Chem 150 back cover)

Honourable mentions (a book of the winner's choice from Pearson):

- Brianna Cerkiewicz (Chem 101)
- Brett Wildeman (Chem 101)
- Andrea Skirda (Chem 101)
- Elizabeth Shemming (Chem 102)

- Samantha Hetherington (Chem 102)
- Mikey Conlin (Chem 102)
- Christine Rowan (Chem 150)
- Mike Bartle (Chem 150)
- Caleb Bromba (Chem 150)

Before and after the presentation of prizes, all of the photographs entered were projected on a running loop, creating a great backdrop for a very enjoyable afternoon. The reception was enjoyed by over 70 Chemistry personnel, students, alumni, and friends. **Thank you to Pearson for their sponsorship of this outstanding event!**

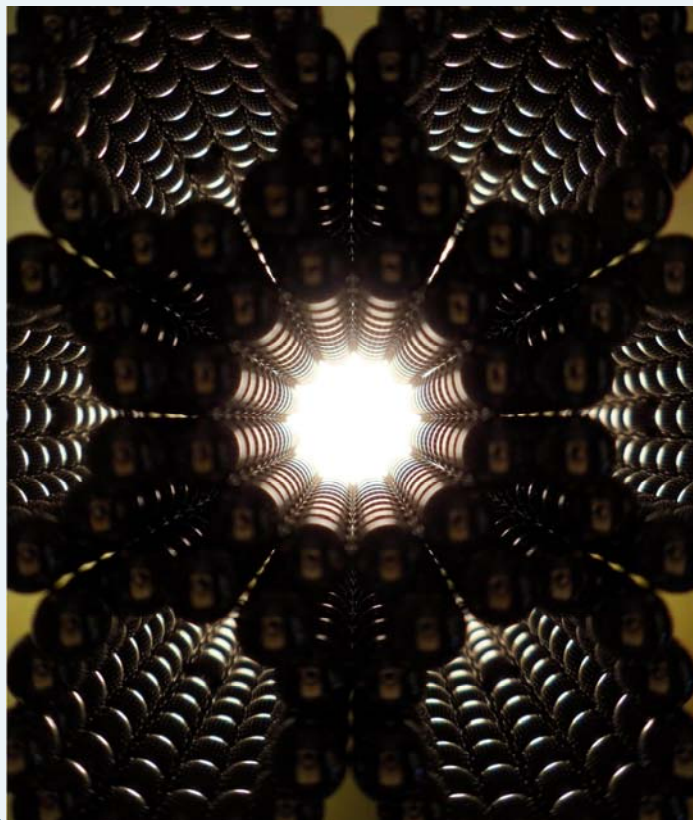
To see the photographs entered, go to Chemistry's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/chemuvic>

Winning front cover photos, from left to right:

150: Structure made from 1296 neodymium sphere magnets by, **Derek Chan**.

101: Salar de Uyuni, Bolivia, the world's largest salt flats, by **Chris Russell**.

102: Spotted Lake near Osoyoos BC, a saline endorheic alkali lake, by **Alicia Revi**.



Special Events and Awards

The annual Graduate Student Poster Session was held on December 8, 2011 in the Arbutus/ Queenswood Room of the Cadboro Commons Building. Every year Chemistry graduate students present posters to summarize their research projects and, as always, did a very impressive job of it!

Chemistry's Holiday Party took place on December 15, 2011 in Village Greens. Over 90 personnel gathered to enjoy the delicious buffet of appetizers and desserts and watch the presentation of the 2011 Chemistry Awards. It was a very enjoyable afternoon for all and a great way to end a successful Fall term.

January 1, 2012 – Jeremy Wulff is officially announced as the Canada Research Chair in Bioactive Small Molecule Synthesis.

Jeremy's research "involves using organic synthesis to build complex molecular architectures that can be used to create new drugs for a wide variety of diseases. Inspired by the molecular complexity found in nature, he is working to develop new methods for the rapid and efficient



construction of complex molecular architectures. He aims to apply these newly synthesized molecules to the invention of potential new drugs for a wide variety of diseases including cancer, influenza, and HIV/AIDS." (from <http://www.chairs-chaires.gc.ca/home-accueil-eng.aspx>)
Congratulations on this wonderful achievement Jeremy!

Students who received "A" grades in first and second year courses in the Fall term were invited to a pizza party on January 6, 2012 to celebrate their achievements. Certificates and Bookstore gift cards were awarded to the top students, as follows:

Chemistry 101:

- Best Overall: Nicholas Healey and Albert Lu.
- Best Exam: Amelia Hesketh
- Best Lab: Erick Jantzen and Janessa Li.

Chemistry 212:

- Best Overall: Gregory Longbottom
- Best Lab: Christine Rowan

Chemistry 213:

- Best Overall: Christopher Wright
- Best Lab: Kathleen Kolehmainen

Chemistry 231:

- Best Overall: Scott Bell, Amarjot Dev, Mary Elrick, Ross Prager, and Lauren Sawatzky.

Chemistry 245:

- Best Overall: Rosetta Mazzalo
- Best Exam: Armon Molavi
- Best Lab: Daniel Moller

Congratulations to all!

Zohrab Ahmadi, graduate student with Scott McIndoe, wins the UVic Industry Partnerships' 2012 Student Innovation Award competition for his work: "Faster palladium cross-coupling in deuterated solvents." Congratulations Zohrab!

Kevin Daze, graduate student with Fraser Hof, is awarded joint fellowships from the Prostate Cancer Foundation of BC and the West Coast Ride to Live. Firsts for any UVic student in any department! Excellent work Kevin.

February 2012 – Fraser Hof wins one of four 2012 CNC-IUPAC travel awards! The Canadian National Committee for the International Union of Pure & Applied Chemistry provides these awards to young Canadian chemists to present their research at IUPAC-sponsored conferences outside continental North America.

Feb 14, 2012: Chemistry's 2012-2017 Strategic Plan was unanimously approved at a meeting of the Department. This very important document prioritizes the Department's strategic goals for the next five years. Thank you to everyone who took part in the process.

Chemistry honours student, Rebecca Courtemanche, wins a top prize at the first annual Faculty of Science Honours Fest, held February 24, 2012. The title of her presentation was "Just Add Tetrazoles: A simple and highly potent element for drug therapy." Rebecca completed her Chemistry BSc (Hons) this Spring. Excellent work Rebecca, and best wishes in all future endeavors.

March 8, 2012, Chemistry Co-op student, Marshall Kilduff, is awarded first place for his Fall 2011 Co-op Report. Congratulations Marshall!

Continued, page 4...



Special Events and Awards, cont'd...

March, 2012 was a busy month for assessments of the Department. On the 19th and 20th the CSC Accreditation team, John McIntosh and Jennifer Wijngaarden, visited the Department for an accreditation review; then on the 25th and 26th Bob Lemieux, Deryn Fogg, and Peter Wild visited for an Academic Program Review. Thank you to both committees for your time and hard work.

The results of the annual NSERC Discovery Grant competition were announced April 1st with outstanding results! All researchers who applied for renewal were successful, therefore **all** research faculty in the Department currently hold NSERC Discovery Grants. Congratulations everyone—can't get any better than 100%!

Alex Brolo and co-applicants A. Jirasek and R. Gordon were

awarded an NSERC RTI grant in the amount of \$27,605 for the purchase of a 785nm laser for a Raman microscope.

Fraser Hof, with co-applicants Tom Fyles, Peter Wan and Jeremy Wulff, received an NSERC RTI grant in the amount of \$145,939 for the purchase of an automated preparative chromatography system.

Saurabh Chitnis, graduate student working with Neil Burford, received an NSERC Vanier Scholarship. One of only 6 awarded at UVic! **Jonathan Strobl, graduate student working with David Harrington, received an NSERC CGSM award.**

Congratulations Saurabh and Jonathan on these prestigious graduate awards!

Chemistry's Spring Reception was held on April 4, 2012. A group of over 70 students, staff, faculty and alumni gathered to congratulate the participants in the Lecture Book Cover Competition on their outstanding submissions while enjoying a lovely Spring buffet of appetizers and treats. See page 2 for more.

Cunhai Dong, graduate student with Frank van Veggel, received a "Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Self-Financed Students Abroad." Cunhai was presented with the award on Friday, May 4, 2012 at the Chinese consulate in Vancouver.

Frank van Veggel is the 2012 winner of the CSC Award in Research Excellence in Materials Chemistry. Frank will receive this award at the CSC conference in Calgary at the end of May. Well done Frank!

Chemistry Meetings coming to Victoria:

July 29 – August 2, 2012: 13th International Symposium on Inorganic Ring Systems (IRIS 13). This conference occurs every three years and is the premier international showcase for Main Group Chemistry, including Organometallic Chemistry and Inorganic Materials Chemistry. This is the second IRIS meeting to be hosted in Canada (Banff 1994). The IRIS meetings bring together approximately 250 scientists including world leading professors, postdoctoral fellows and research students from around the world. <http://web.uvic.ca/~iris13>

August 16 – 17, 2012: Inorganic Chemistry Exchange (ICE). ICE is a national exchange program that offers outstanding undergraduate students in the 2nd or 3rd year of a chemistry-related degree program the opportunity to travel to another province

to work as a summer research assistant in a research laboratory. This year, eleven students from across the country will present their summer research results to each other and their faculty supervisors during this two-day meeting at UVic.

September 28 – 30, 2012: UVic Chemistry's 50th Anniversary Reunion and Mini-conference. Chemistry's 50th anniversary reunion will start with a **mini-conference** featuring speakers who are alumni. See page 1, enclosed materials, and www.chemistry.uvic.ca for more information.

June 2013: VIVA Symposium. A one-day symposium bringing together NMR users and researchers from Western Canada and the US Northwest to share information on topics of general NMR interest and to foster the development of a regional NMR community. The format is friendly and informal; graduate students with projects in the field are especially encouraged to present talks or posters.

Keep in Touch

Send messages, comments and ideas to rpulez@uvic.ca or write to:
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PO Box 3065, STN CSC,
Victoria, BC V8W 3V6

...or follow us on Twitter, Facebook
and LinkedIn...



50 Years of Great Chemistry!

Hope you can join us for
our celebrations Sept. 28-
30, 2012. Registration
information is enclosed.
Please contact us at any
time if you have questions:
chem50yr@uvic.ca

