

## Some Notable Events in the History of Buffalo State's Chemistry Department

**1967-** The first *Master of Science in Chemistry Education* degrees are awarded. Between 1967 and 2008 a total of 25 *Master of Science in Chemistry Education* degrees were awarded.

**1968-** The *Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry* degree program receives American Chemical Society certification. In the official notice addressed to Buffalo State President Fretwell, the secretary for the ACS Committee on Professional Training wrote: "The College at Buffalo will be listed as one of only 349 out of over 2500 colleges and universities in the United States eligible for this recognition."

Table I. Faculty in the Chemistry Department when the B.A. degree received ACS certification.

<i>Faculty Name</i>	<i>Terminal Degree</i>	<i>Subdiscipline</i>
Dr. Joseph Zingaro, Chair	Ph.D, Syracuse University	Chemical Education
Dr. Saul Baron	Ph.D., Ohio State University	Chemical Engineering
Dr. Joseph Caputo	Ph.D., University of Houston	Physical Organic Chemistry
Dr. Sidney Cohen	Ph.D., University of Colorado	Organic Chemistry
Dr. Thomas Donovan	Ph.D., University of Illinois	Inorganic Chemistry
Dr. Fred Greenberg	Ph. D, University of Chicago	Organic Chemistry
Mr. Albert Himmel	M.S., Mountclair College	Physical Science
Dr. Ivor Ilmet	Ph.D, New York University	Physical Chemistry
Dr. Samuel Lawani	Ph.D., Howard University	Physical Chemistry
Dr. Daniel Meloon	Ph.D., University of Buffalo	Inorganic Chemistry
Mr. Kenneth Schnobrich	M.A., College at Buffalo	Chemistry
Dr. Noel Simmons	Ph.D., University of Minnesota	Biochemistry
Dr. Surjit Singh	Ph.D., St. Louis University	Analytical Chemistry
Dr. Marvin Tunis	Ph.D., University of Illinois	Biochemistry

**1971-** The first three *Master of Arts in Chemistry* degrees are awarded, based on the successful completion of a Master's thesis. Between 1971 and 2007 a total of 68 *M.A. in Chemistry* degrees were awarded. Dr. Gregory Ebert (emeritus) holds the record for supervising the most *M.A. in Chemistry* thesis projects in the department.

**1971-** Establishment of a new *Bachelor of Science in Criminalistics* degree.

**1986-** Dr. Edward Schulman receives the *Buffalo State President's Medal for Excellence in Research*. The Edward M. Schulman Memorial Award has been given annually to an undergraduate chemistry major for excellence in research since 1995.

**1988-** Dr. Thomas Donovan receives the *Buffalo State President's Medal for Excellence in Academic Advisement*.

**1998-** Dr. Gregory Ebert receives the *Buffalo State President's Medal for Excellence in Research, Scholarship, and Creativity*.

**1991-** The department hosts its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Banquet. In early years, the awards banquet was a semiformal event hosted at a local restaurant. At the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Banquet the guest speaker was alumnus Barry Diamondstone, ('69, BA, 71' MA) who was at that time the Deputy Director of Chemical Science and Technology at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. One of the more intriguing awards is the Dr. Chrzanowski Analytical Chemistry award, which was established in 1991 and is given annually to the student who ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the analytical chemistry classes. Why Dr. Chrzanowski, dentist and an alumnus of the *B.A. in Chemistry* program, designated that the award be given to the student who was ranked third remains a departmental mystery. (He was not ranked third when he took the class!) One of the oldest awards in the department is the Margaret Dupre Memorial Award (formally the Anna M. Gemmill Scholarship), which is given to a junior female chemistry major for outstanding academic achievement.

**2005-** Dr. Nicholas Lemos, 1993 graduate of the *B.S. in Criminalistics* Program and Chief Forensic Toxicologist and Forensic Laboratory Director at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of the City and County of San Francisco, receives *Buffalo State's Young 2005 Alumnus Award*.

**2007, 2008, 2009-** In each of these years, chemistry students were honored with the SUNY Chancellor's Award.

- Lai Sze Wan (B.S. Forensic Chemistry) and Gertrude Antwi (B.S. Chemistry) received *SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence* in 2009.
- Matthew Tarasek (B.S. Chemistry), received a *SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence* in 2008. He also was awarded the *2008 Buffalo State's President's Medal for Outstanding Undergraduate* and had the honor of speaking at the Bachelor's degree commencement ceremony.
- Ruoqui Wu (M.A. Chemistry) received a *SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence*, the *2007 Buffalo State President's Medal for Outstanding Graduate Student*, and, had the honor of speaking at the Graduate Commencement ceremony.

**2011-** The first three *Master of Science in Forensic Science* degrees are awarded to Michael Kawa, Anthony Epps, and Brittany Gipple. Between 2011 and 2021, a total of 27 *Master of Science in Forensic Science* degrees were awarded.

**2012-** The *Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science* degree, which replaced the original *B.S. in Criminalistics* degree is accredited by FEPAC.

**2014-** Dr. Mark T. Miller, a 1994 graduate of our *B.A. in Chemistry* program, receives the *2014 Young Alumnus Award* for his role in the development of Kayldeco (by Vertex), the first prescription medicine to treat the underlying cause of Cystic Fibrosis.

**2015-** James Martin is awarded the *2015 Buffalo State's President's Medal for Outstanding Undergraduate Student* and the *SUNY Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Student*. He also had the honor of speaking at the 2015 Bachelor's degree commencement ceremony.

**2017-** Dr. Scott Goodman receives the *SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service*.

**2018-** Dr. Maria Pacheco receives the *Buffalo State President's Medal for Excellence in Teaching*.

**2020-** The Chemistry Department completes their move into the new offices, research labs and instructional labs in the Phase 4 portion of Science and Mathematics Complex.

**2021-** Courtney Whetstine receives the *2021 Graduate School Award for the Outstanding Master's Project*.