

AUGUST 2018

Dear Alumni and Friends:

This year, the [Department of Chemistry at Stony Brook University](#) marks its 60th anniversary! We hope you will join us for our celebration in October (see below for more information!) We're pleased to share a quick update on happenings in our department from the first half of 2018. Thanks to those of you who shared recent updates from your own lives. Keep them coming so we can add them to our [Department News page](#).

Warmly,

Nancy S. Goroff
Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry

New Faculty Member: Karena Chapman

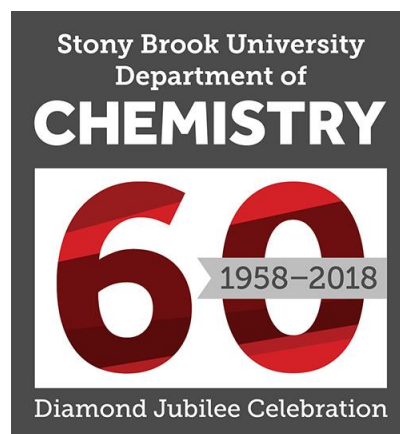
We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Karena Chapman, Senior Scientist at Argonne National Lab, as the inaugural Joseph W. Lauher and Frank W. Fowler Endowed Chair in Materials Chemistry. Dr. Chapman is a leading expert in using crystallography to determine the structure of partially ordered materials and dynamic systems. She previously earned a Materials Research Society Outstanding Young Investigator Award and in 2016, was recognized by the American Chemical Society's news magazine C&EN as one of the "[Talented Twelve](#)." Dr. Chapman starts in her new position at Stony Brook this summer.



Celebrate our Diamond Jubilee,

October 19-20, 2018

Join us in celebrating the Department of Chemistry's 60th Anniversary while enjoying **Homecoming** festivities! The celebration will include Keynote alumni talks, a Long Island Wine Tasting, a Meet and Greet Brunch, an alumni career panel, and building tours. Look for more information by email or visit the event [website](#) .
Registration information coming soon !



Commencement Speaker: Dr. Michael R. Berman, BS '75

We were pleased to welcome back alumnus Dr. Michael R. Berman, who carried out undergraduate research with Professor Philip M. Johnson in the 1970s. As a program officer at the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Dr. Berman manages a cutting-edge program in basic research in experimental physical chemistry, nanoscience, and theoretical chemistry, seeking to understand, predict and control chemical reactivity and energy transfer. Dr. Berman presented this year's Department of Chemistry Convocation address, titled "Balancing Your Own Equation."

Student Updates

- Chris Giuliano BS '18, a joint Chemistry and AMS major, has been awarded a **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship**. Chris also earned a Goldwater Fellowship and was one of the University's 2018 valedictorians.
- Eric Rizzo received an ACS Division of Organic Chemistry Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship to conduct research in the lab of Prof. Ming-Yu Ngai. Eric was one of only 10 awardees for this national fellowship competition.
- We welcomed Prof. Melanie Nilsson PhD '00, Associate Professor at McDaniel College, back to campus on May 10 to speak with our graduate students about career pathways, diversity and inclusion, and the differences between research universities and primarily undergraduate institutions. Thank you, Melanie!
- This year's Maria Tzamarioudaki Award went to Katarzyna (Kasia) Lee PhD '17. The Lee Myers Awardee was Xiaoxue Zhang PhD '18. The Chemistry Award for Outstanding Doctoral Student went to Dimitriy Vovchok PhD '18 and Weijie Zhou PhD '18.
- The **2017-18 Paul Licht Undergraduate Teaching Fellows** were Kyle McLaughlin, Shreya Patel, Thomas Farquharson, Kevin Tan, and Adrian Thompson.

Faculty Updates

- Nicole Sampson, Chair of Chemistry 2012-2017, was recently appointed **Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences**.
- Knapp Chair Esther Takeuchi won the **2018 European Inventor Award** from the European Patent Office (EPO), in the "non-EPO country" category, for her innovative work on energy storage and power sources.
- The Department of Energy recently announced that Stony Brook will be **home to two Energy Frontiers Research Centers** with new funding of \$21.75M. Esther Takeuchi leads the Center for Mesoscale Transport Properties (m2M), which received renewal funding for four more years, and John Parise leads the new EFRC, A Next Generation Synthesis Center (GENESIS).
- Jarrod French was named a **2018 Cottrell Scholar** for Innovative Research and Teaching by the Research Corporation for Scientific Advancement.
- Ming-Yu Ngai was selected to receive the 2018 Young Academic Inventor's Award from the NAI-SBU Chapter.
- Stanislaus Wong was chosen for the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities.
- Eric Patterson has been named a Senior Lecturer in the College of Arts and Sciences.

SBU Chemistry in the News

- An interdisciplinary team from the Institute for Chemical Biology & Drug Discovery, including Iwao Ojima, has developed **new drugs that harness the body's "natural marijuana"** to treat pain, inflammation, and cancer.
- Alumnus Paul Harney PhD '96 has been **named President, North America**, for Prescient Healthcare Group.
- Peter Tonge and colleagues have used IR spectroscopy to understand better **how the protein "light switch" Dropna works**, enabling potential applications for bioimaging and medicine.

Resources for faculty and students support and strengthen the educational experience. The Department of Chemistry depends on our alumni and friends to build and improve our research infrastructure through support of instrumentation, graduate fellowships, and building new laboratories.

Your generosity, whether it's the renewal of your support or the decision to give for the first time, allows us to do what we do best – innovative, creative research and teaching that's the hallmark of a great public research university. I hope you'll consider investing in our students and faculty by making a **gift** today or speaking with the College's advancement representative, Assistant Dean Rebecca Bair, rebecca.bair@stonybrook.edu, or (631) 632.6178.

You may also make a gift online to Chemistry via the link below.

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