



Alberta Chemist

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Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for 2010!

ACPA Scholarships: Now There Are Two!

The ACPA is glad to be able to sponsor a new scholarship: the **ACPA Undergraduate Scholarship in Chemistry**. This \$1000 award will be presented annually to a deserving student who is registered in a full-time undergraduate chemistry program at a university in Alberta. The scholarship criteria include academic excellence and service to the chemistry profession. Application forms and details are available on the [ACPA Undergraduate Scholarship in Chemistry web page](#).

The **ACPA Arthur Bollo-Kamara Graduate Scholarship** will now be offered exclusively to students in chemistry who are at the graduate level. The scholarship criteria for this \$1000 award will still reflect the life of Arthur Bollo-Kamara and include academic achievement, service to the community, service to the chemical profession, and participation in the arts. However, the academic portion of the criteria will be based on marks obtained in chemistry graduate courses. Application forms and details are available on the [ACPA Arthur Bollo-Kamara Graduate Scholarship web page](#).

The application deadline for both scholarships is **March 31**.

ACPA Public Lectures in Chemistry

The ACPA is pleased to announce the new **ACPA Public Lectures in Chemistry**. These lectures are intended to be annual events addressing chemistry-related topics of concern to the general public. Our inaugural speaker will be [Graham Thomson](#), the noted columnist from the Edmonton Journal. [A short biography and some of his recent columns](#) are posted online. He will be speaking on a topic that he researched as a Canadian Journalism Foundation fellow at the University of Toronto in 2008-2009: *Carbon capture and storage in relation to climate change*. His lectures are tentatively scheduled for Edmonton April 7, 2009, and Calgary on April 14, 2009. Stay tuned for details.

Celebration of Chemistry: Recognizing Achievement within the University of Alberta Department of Chemistry

The [University of Alberta Department of Chemistry](#) has undergone major growth in the last decade, and now boasts 35 faculty members, 240 graduate students, 50 postdoctoral fellows, and 50 support staff. Together they train well over 4000 undergraduate students per term. Over the past decade, it has been the most highly cited chemistry department in Canada, surpassing even the notably larger departments at the U of Toronto and UBC.

On 20 October 2009, the Department of Chemistry held its first annual *Celebration of Chemistry*: an event created to share with the community their excitement and enthusiasm about the great contributions to science made by faculty members and alumni of the Department. The event is also intended to strengthen connections with industry, alumni, and retired members of the chemistry family. In attendance were representatives from each of these groups, notably professors emeritus Bob Crawford, Bill Graham, Walter Harris, Gary Horlick, and Ron Kratochvil, among others.



Bill Graham and Bob Crawford.

Seven professors who had achieved major awards and honours in the past year were recognized (in alphabetical order):

David Bundle was honoured by the U of A with a University Professorship, one of the highest honours it can bestow on an academic staff member. These are awarded only to those who have achieved outstanding distinction in research and scholarship, in teaching, and in service to the University and the community. He was also named a

Killam Annual Professor, and he heads the [Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Carbohydrate Science](#), which just had its major funding renewed for another five years.

[Jillian Buriak](#) was granted a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Inorganic and Nanoscale Materials, became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and completed her term as an NSERC Steacie Fellow. She is also a Senior Research Officer at the [National Institute for Nanotechnology](#), and she is recently became an Associate Editor of the new journal [ACS Nano](#).

[Ron Cavell](#) was given a Saskatchewan Distinguished Service Award, the highest award given by that province to a non-resident, and his was the only one granted in 2009. Dr. Cavell played a key role in promoting, developing and obtaining funding for the Canadian Light Source (Canada's national synchrotron research facility), which eventually became located in Saskatoon.



Fred West, Jed Harrison and Ron Cavell.

[Dennis Hall](#) received the Royal Society of Canada Rutherford Medal for his work in boronic acid chemistry. He also earned a Rutherford Award for Excellence in Teaching from the U of A, and he is in the midst of an NSERC Steacie Fellowship. In 2008, he received the Steacie Prize (only one of which is presented nationally in all of science each year), he was honoured with a University Professorship by the U of A, and he was presented with the Merck Frost Award for Organic Chemistry by the CIC.

[Liang Li](#) received the Canadian Society for Chemistry Maxxam Award for his outstanding contributions and pioneering work in the use of mass spectrometry in complex biological systems. He also holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Analytical Chemistry and is an Associate Editor for *Analytica Chimica Acta*.

[Glen Loppnow](#) won the 3M Teaching Fellow Award, one of the most prestigious awards for teaching offered in Canada (and which includes

national exposure for the winners in *Maclean's* magazine). He also received the Vargo Teaching Chair from the U of A. In 2008, he was recognized by the U of A with a Rutherford Award for Excellence in Teaching and a McCalla Professorship. The year before that, he received a Faculty of Science Award for Innovation in Teaching.

[John Vederas](#) was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of London, an honour extended to very few (and to fewer still outside of the UK). Ray Lemieux was the only other member of the Chemistry Department to be so honoured, and Dr. Vederas is only the fourth U of A professor of any department ever to be given membership. This year, he was also awarded the CIC Medal by the Chemical Institute of Canada. Furthermore, Dr. Vederas currently holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry and a University Professorship.



Department Chair Jed Harrison and David Bundle.

Honourable mentions went to professors who received awards in 2008: [Robert Campbell](#) (Petro-Canada Young Investigator Award), [Wolfgang Jäger](#) (inducted as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada), [Charles Lucy](#) (Maxxam Award of the CSC), [Todd Lowary](#) (second year of a Steacie Fellowship), [Arthur Mar](#) (Excellence in Teaching Award from the Faculty of Engineering), and [Rod Wasylshen](#) (Killam Annual Professorship).

[Many thanks to Department Chair [Jed Harrison](#) and Associate Chair (Research) [Fred West](#) for providing their speaking notes and to Assistant Chair (Administration) [Jill Bagwe](#) for providing photos and other assistance.]

Job Postings

Job advertisements are posted on the ACPA website for a three-month period and are e-mailed to the membership. There is a \$100 fee for this service, but this fee will be waived for job advertisements submitted by ACPA members in good standing (Professional Chemists or Chemists-in-Training) on behalf of their organizations. Ads may be e-mailed directly to the [ACPA office](#). Current job postings are listed in the [Careers page](#) on the [ACPA website](#).

The content of this newsletter is provided only as an information service to members. Inclusion of any information does not represent official positions, opinions or support of the Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta (ACPA), the members of the executive, the Board of Directors or staff members. The information is collected from a variety of sources (including members) and is circulated to the membership as information only. ACPA does not guarantee all submissions will be circulated and is not responsible for the accuracy of any information provided.

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