GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Alumnus:

This letter to you, written to bring you up to date on our Chemistry Department activities, provides me with a giant new perspective which includes not only students on the campus now, but embraces also you, wherever you are, however long ago you were a student on the University campus.

The past year could well be labeled "Year of Change." Let me outline what happened in and to the Chemistry Department.

The year was another good one. Our overall enrollment has remained remarkably steady, with almost 600 majors in chemistry, and seven times that number in various classes. We graduated 124 B.S. chemistry majors, likely placing us amongst the upper ten schools to do so. Only one graduate, Pamela Zelmer, was granted the Ph.D. degree this past year, however.

The death of C. E. Delchamps at the beginning of the Fall 1977 term, the sabbatical leave of C. E. Criss (at Lund University, Sweden), and our two new faculty, R. E. Gavley and W. R. Purcell, made of the past year a fascinating one for the faculty. But with some extra help to cover lectures and labs, provided in part by A. H. Gropp and C. L. Stuckwisch, the year was most successful.

In order to replace C. E. Delchamps, as well as J. P. Sickels, who retired in May 1978, the department searched for replacements. Two splendidly qualified individuals were recruited, so that as you read these words, T. E. Cummings, analytical chemistry, and M. R. Van De Mark, organic chemistry, will be teaching and researching in their respective areas.

G. A. Clarke turned his hand to administration, becoming Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, last June 1978. He will, however, "commute" back to the Chemistry Department each semester to teach graduate physical chemistry courses in quantum or statistical mechanics.

Retiring in May 1978 was Col. Fred Duquette, who for five years had so ably handled our central storeroom. He was replaced by Terence Helmers, who graduated four years ago as a chemistry major from your University. And in the office Ann Gilbin was replaced September 1977 by Mrs. Roberta Manning.

One new course was introduced this past year, CHEM 102, "Consumer Chemistry of Nonfood Products," was taught in the Spring of 1978 by C. H. Snyder, who is now well known throughout the area as Mr. Consumer Science!

The teaching laboratories in analytical and physical chemistry were further enriched by the purchase of apparatus available for use by undergraduate students.

Our Winter season (relatively pleasant in comparison to what so many alumni experienced) was invigorated by the presence of C. L. Stevens of Wayne State University and L. Verbit of SUNY at Binghamton. The conferences and seminars these visiting professors presented enlivened enormously our graduate program.

The video cassette tape program is more popular than ever, with another high record of release. The chemistry tapes viewed in one month (September 1977). C. H. Snyder had a University supported project during the Summer of 1978 to spend all of his time on making organic chemistry video tapes.


Most heartening of all was the response to the 1977 Newsletter. Phone conversations, letters, donations all affirm that this tie among all alumni is desirable.

continued, p. 4, column 1

NEW FACULTY

TIMOTHY E. CUMMINGS, born in Mattoon, IL, earned the BS (1970) from the University of Southern Illinois and the PhD (1975) from the University of Michigan. He spent three years at the University of Michigan as Assistant Professor before coming to the UM as Assistant Professor of Analytical Chemistry. In addition to teaching CHEM 216 and graduate courses, Dr. Cummings researches in the realm of inorganic chemistry, using same to solve problems in analytical chemistry. When not researching and teaching, Dr. Cummings enjoys sculpturing, usually in wax and related media.

ROBERT E. GAWLEY, born in Jacksonville, FL, earned his BS degree from Stetson University, Deland, FL, in 1970. In 1975 the PhD was granted by Duke University, following which Dr. Gawley was a Research Associate at the University of North Carolina for two years, preceding his joining the UM Chemistry Department as Assistant Professor of Organic Chemistry. In addition to teaching both undergraduate and graduate organic chemistry, he continues to have research interests in the isoxazoles and organic acid and peptide aldehydes. When not busy in lab or classroom, Dr. Gawley, an active member of the Sierra club, spends his time hiking and camping in central Florida.

continued, p. 4, column 3
HISTORY OF THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

2. MOVING UP

Walter O. Walker served as chairman of the chemistry department from 1932-36. Dr. Walker, born 25 March 1896 in Maywood, Nebraska, earned his BS degree (1919) at William Jewell College (where he also taught as assistant, associate, and full professor from 1925-29, and from which college he also received in 1949 an honorary DSc degree), and the MS and PhD degrees at the University of Chicago in 1925 and 1931. After a brief period of service with A. O. Smith Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Walker came as an assistant professor and department chairman to a UM chemistry department that in 1932 offered 17 chemistry courses, plus lab, in addition to the prior enumerated courses, courses in laboratory technique (Chem 13, 4 credits), and commercial laboratory practice (Chem 14, 4 credits). Only during the first year of his service to the University was Dr. Walker alone, for Egan T. Lindstrom, born 1930 at the University of Miami, had returned from graduate study at the University of Florida. From 1935-45 E. T. Lindstrom served as Instructor in Chemistry, occasionally also teaching courses in physics and math. W. O. Walker continued as chairman of the department and as professor of chemistry from 1933 to the end of the school year of 1936, when he left to become Director of Research, Anslul Chemical Company, Marinette, Wisconsin.

After an interval of 14 years, Walker returned to the University chemistry department, where he continued as a professor from 1950-1953. His industrial experience and expertise, however, resulted in his becoming the second Dean of Science Research and Industry (replacing H. Horton Sheldon), a position he held from 1953-61, when he retired from his deanship after his vigorous administration of his office had increased outside funding of research at this University from one to 7.6 million dollars. Dr. Walker, however, continued as Director of the Industrial Chemical Research Laboratory on the South Campus of the University at the old Richmond Naval Base. Not until December 1968 did Walter Walker finally retire from his last service to UM. Dr. Walker died on 29 November 1975. His services to science, industry, and the University were touchingly memorialized at a private ceremony during which members of the University family emphasized his contributions and faithful service.

It's obvious from data available to this point that the UM chemistry department was almost entirely concerned only with teaching. Indeed, in a department of one or two members offering up to two or three courses in chemistry (albeit with a relatively low student enrollment---a brief memo by W. O. Walker dated 6 April 1933 requested mimeographed material for classes of four each in organic and physical chemistry), the total BS chemistry majors granted from the opening of the University to June 1936 when Walker left, coming largely from what was likely the first, RICHARD E. POLLARD, BS '28, as near as can be ascertained by inspection of all BS transcripts of that period, were only 211 little time was available for creative and scholarly work.

Letters from old files indicate, however, that already in those early days thought was given to the study of scientific problem solving, especially practical problems concerning the South Florida area. Sunshine energy content and elemental analysis of Everglades Swamp muck were two topics of interest; hurricane structural damage (for rather, its prevention!?) concerned W. O. Walker during his last years. Although the vitae of Dr. Walker list numerous publications, none falls within the time span of 1932-36 when he was chairman of the UM chemistry department.

In 1936 Elmer V. Hjort joined the UM chemistry department as an associate professor. A vigorous and picturesque individual, Dr. Hjort rapidly gained academic visibility, eventually being Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at his death in December 1946. Born in Nashua County, Iowa, he earned the BS degree from William Penn College in 1912 and the MS degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1923, which university he served from 1920-36 as an instructor, assistant professor, and associate professor of chemistry. On leave of absence for a year from Pittsburgh, he joined the UM chemistry department in the fall of 1936.

One of the few firm bits of data concerning teaching loads in those early days is found on an old accreditation report filled in by Dr. Hjort in which he listed 451 student-credit-hours and 365 student-clock hours as his teaching load. Four lectures, CM 101(40 students), CM 120 (2), CM 520 (6), and CM 410 (1), and two labs (total of 3 students) are enumerated. Mr. Lindstrom, Instructor in Chemistry, presumably taught most of the labs and some other of the 18 courses listed in the UM Bulletin.

Under the chairmanship of Elmer V. Hjort the department was to alter and change its name from Professor Hjort to President Ashe in the period 1938-40 presented a variety of needs: chemical reference works such as Bellstein,
In response to the 1977 UM-CHEM newsletter, the editor received letters from near and far, old and young alumni. We are all interested in hearing from our contemporaries; as time rolls on this column will, hopefully, become the most important part of the newsletter. Keep in touch!

WILLIAM D. CLARK, BS '50, and PhD, University of Oregon, '58 sends only his address and a request for a copy of the 1977 Newsletter. Now that we know he now resides at P.O. Box 634/E Segundo/CA 90245, Bill should get this newsletter directly. Is that you, Dr. Clark, pictured with Dr. E. V. Hjort in the center of page 15 of the 1945 Ibis?

JON J. KABARA, MS '50, came to Miami from St. Mary's College, Winona, MN, and went on to the University of Chicago to earn his PhD in pharmacology in 1957. After a stint of administration (1967-71) as associate dean of a medical school, he moved back to Miami, where he now does full-time research on lipids. The fatty "gunk," as Jon called lipids, is responsible for more than a hundred publications! Jon is now in the Department of Biomechanics/College of Osteopathic Medicine/Michigan State University/East Lansing/MI 48824.

THEODORE A. LABOW, BS '51, earned the MD from Tufts in 1955, followed by a six-year residency in dermatology in the US Public Health Service. In private practice in New York since 1961, Dr. Labow is also Assistant Clinical Professor of Dermatology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, University of Columbia. He and his wife have two children, Susan and Alan, who are themselves well along the academic road. Whilst touring in Florida during the early spring of 1978 with his wife, Ted recalled a trip taken in late 1950 in the editor's convertible Mercedes to the 25th anniversary convention of AED. We all, including also Ted Hil, Marty Liebling, and Stan Smith, thoroughly froze during that long night's trip up the length of Florida to Tuscaloosa, AL! The envelope which carried Dr. Labow's interesting letter indicated that Ted is in practice with colleagues at 2 East 69 Street/New York/NY 10021.

RICHARD K. MACMILLAN, BS '49, and MD, Temple University, '53 still has his copy of Nordheim's "Organic Chemistry." A quick check of ye editor's records indicated that Dr. MacMillan was in the editor's very first class of organic chemistry, QM 201, in the Fall Semester of 1947. It was a time when the organic chemistry lab (NC 282) on the old North Campus was kept warm by turning up all the Bunsen burners! Dr. MacMillan, F.A.C.P., practices in the areas of Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Diseases.

His letterhead indicated that he shares a professional suite with a colleague at 909 East Brill Street/Phoenix/AZ 85207.

DONALD R. MILLER, BS '55, received his MD degree in '60 from Washington University Medical School, St. Louis. He writes as boldly and vigorously as the editor recalls he studied organic chemistry way back in 1953-54! One concludes from Dr. Miller's letterhead that he now practices medicine with associates located at 1688 Meridian Avenue/Beach Miami/FL 33139.

MARGARET J. MISTARD, BS '62, earned a PhD in horticulture from Ohio State University in '58. The editor talked to her about how it was in the UM Chemistry Department from 1958-42. Her physical description of the old triangular North Campus building which housed the facilities of the department has been woven into unit two of the history of the UM Chemistry Department, printed in this newsletter. Margaret is now Professor of Biology at UM.

DENNIS T. RANSKI, BS '75, just completed his MS degree (1978) at Marshall University. His thesis, dealing with environmental effects of polychlorinated biphenyls, was most timely. Dennis, the youngest of alumni to write us, listed his home address as 532 Beechmont/Dearborn/MI 48124.

ANDREW G. OPFANTH, BS '74, was in his third and final year at New York University College of Dentistry as he wrote us in the spring of 1978. Dr. Opfanth reminisced about his undergraduate days, and commented that he hoped to establish his dental practice in the Miamia area. His address is probably now outmoded, but here 'tis: 245 E 24 Street/New York/NY 10010.

JOAN OSTROW SCHWEBEL, AB '61 and MS '68 (Biology) received the PhD degree in plant physiology from Texas A & M in '73. On the back of a lovely color postcard bearing a picture of the Knowles Memorial Chapel on Rollins Campus, Dr. Schwebel types an interesting account of her experiences teaching Molecular Biology at Rollins College. Having raised a daughter to the point of "almost self-sufficiency," as Joan writes, she will become a full-time teacher. As of the Spring Semester 1978, Joan's address was in the Department of Biology/Rollins College/Winter Park/FL 32789.

HARRIETTE SCHAPIO, BS '56, earned her PhD in biochemistry at the University of Miami in '62, with an academic interlude at Brandeis University which earned her the MA in '59. From 1969 Dr. Shapiro has been at San Diego State University, where she is now Professor of Biology, teaching Cellular Physiology and Immunohemistry. Harriet sends warm regards to her former chemistry teachers, which in the two instances of Professors Sikich and Tebben, are now impossible to transmit, since both are retired. Dr. Schapiro is located at the Department of Biology/ San Diego State University/San Diego/CA 92115.

CHARLES W. SHINN, BS '37, and MA '52, University of Wisconsin, is the oldest alumnus to respond by letter to the first UM-CHEM newsletter. He recalls that there were three labs in the old North Campus building, a general lab, an organic lab, and a special projects lab. The courses in inorganic, qualitative, and quantitative analysis held the labs in the same room; the special projects lab was used more for soil analysis than anything else. Charles said, "We stunk up the whole north side of the building with H-S when we were doing precipitations for qualitative analysis." (Now days the entire job problem is by adding a few crystals of thiocetamide to a given chemical solution. Very rapid hydrolysis of thiocetamide to aceticamide, with formation of H2S in situ, occurs.). Mr. Shinn stayed in the Miami area until World War II, manufacturing paints and waterproofings for masonry buildings with the SEC Manufacturing Company. Eighteen months of explosive manufacture at the Plum Brook Ordinance Works near Sandusky, OH; military service; then teaching, history, not chemistry, at a private school in Michigan followed rapidly one after the other. Now in his second stint as Headmaster, Charles ends his letter by writing that chemistry and math have made him a better history teacher. The address on the letterhead informs us that Charles Shinn receives his mail at Sandpipers/Glen Arbor/MI 49636.

ROBERT W. SNARE, BS '64, earned the MD from the University of Miami School of Medicine in '69, completed a residency in surgery at Jackson Memorial Hospital, and passed the General Surgery Boards in 1974. For four years Dr. Snare (now as Major) has been with the US Army in Wurzburg, West Germany, becoming Chief of Surgery in 1977. The check he sent with his letter was most appreciated; doctors' money will be well and carefully used. The Hell-Volhard-Zelinsky Reaction is still remembered by Dr. Snare! His letter came, of all alumni letters, the furtherest: from USA Meddsc/Wurzburg/West Germany/APO NY 09801.

THORSTEN G. TRICHELL, BS '62, earned the DDS from the University of Michigan in '66. He now practices endodontics in that second largest of all states-Texas! Very continued, p. 4, column 1 -----
Greetings, from p. 1 -----  

My sincere greetings to each of you; have a good year; write and tell us what you are doing.

Harry P. Schultz.

Alumni, from p. 3 -----  

clear in the editor's memory are the conversations we had in the old organic chemistry lab (NC280) on the North Campus. Howard also enclosed a check in his letter, for which our thanks and assurance that the sun will be carefully spent by and for Chemistry! Dr. Tirschwell's stationery indicated that his professional office is at 737 Everhart Road/Corpus Christi/ TX 78411.

FRANK G. WILSON, BS '49 and MS '51, worked on the chemistry of cedar wood oil whilst a UM graduate student. He then was one of the about two dozen persons to constitute the first class at the new UM School of Medicine, earning the MD in '56. Dr. Wilson informs us that he has for ten years done Obstetrics and Gynecology in North Carolina. The editor is sorry not to know the whereabouts of one of Frank's graduate school cohorts, ROBERT H. PATTON, BS '48, MS '51, and PhD from Florida '55. Rumor had it that Bob was with an environmental unit in Tallahassee, Fl. Are you out there, Bob? Dr. Wilson practices with colleagues at Catawba Medical Village/Hickory/NC 28601.

History, from p. 2 -----  

entrance. On our right, we pass a biochemistry lab, then an office in which we might see the tall, lanky form of E. V. Hjort, in seersucker trousers, white shirt and bow tie; or E. T. Lindstrom, stocky, solid, whose ever-lit cigar adds to the gloom and smell of the corridor, or possibly Taylor Alexander, botany professor, who at times helped teach chemistry. A storage area is next, then the curve to the right past the entrance to the zoology area drags our remeniscens feet to a stop. Although the University changed its character markedly during the years of World War II, with many faculty and administrators gone from the campus and other faculty teaching military cadets a variety of technical courses, it appears that the sciences were spared such academic gerrymandering, but at the expense of relatively heavy teaching schedules.

The two-man department, like the rest of the University, reverted for a time in 1943 to a trimester system, with a simultaneous increase in tuition from $250 to $275 per academic year. From 1957-45, 81 chemistry majors received BS degrees from the University.

Many changes commenced in 1945. With the close of World War II Mr. Lindstrom ceased to be Instructor in Chemistry and became Assistant Professor of Physics, although as early as 1942 E. V. Lindstrom had served also as Instructor in Physics. At his death only a few years later (9 November 1949) Evan Theodore Lindstrom was Associate Professor of Physics.

Donald H. Cook, born 15 August 1891 in White Sulphur Springs, Montana, joined the UM chemistry department in 1945, coming to it with BS (1917), Montana State College and the PhD (1923), Columbia University; three years (1917-20) as Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the New Mexico State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts; Assistant Professor at Montana State College (1924-25); and 21 years (1925-45) as Head of the Department of Chemistry, Columbia School of Tropical Medicine, Puerto Rico. Cook, a voluble, nervous, animated storyteller enlivened many a class of freshman and analytical chemistry with his tales of life (as a Private) in the U.S. Army (1917-19) and his repeated expletive of 'Hell's

Fuzzy!'" D. H. Cook retired in poor health in 1956, but remained in the Miami area until his death on 14 February 1960.

TO BE CONTINUED

New faculty, from p. 1-----  

of Nebraska in 1973. After four years as a Research Associate, Dr. Purcell left Northern Illinois University to join the UM faculty as Assistant Professor of Inorganic Chemistry. Here in Miami he busies his research hours studying complexes of metal ions and organic molecules, teaches inorganic chemistry at all levels, and spends a portion of his home hours playing with the two lovely little daughters (Lauria, 4, and Tracey, 2) of Kay and William Purcell.

MICHAEL R. VAN DE MARX, born in Sebawaing, MI, earned the BS from Saginaw Valley State College in 1972 and his doctorate from Texas A & M in 1976. He came to the UM in August 1978 from the post of Research Associate at the University of Minnesota. As an Assistant Professor, Dr. Van De Mark teaches undergraduate and graduate organic chemistry and researches in the field of electroorganic chemistry, carrying out oxidations and reductions of organic compounds with electricity, rather than chemical reagents! Dr. Van De Mark and his wife, Susan, share an apartment with a set of barbells and weights, with which weights four new Texas state records were established in 1975 by the good doctor.

Five US chemists who have won the Nobel Prize are named in the anagram below. Rearrange its letters to spell each last name. We'll print your name along with theirs in our next issue, if you are the first to send us those names! SING ROUND! PROUD CHEMISTS WIN REAL AWARD!