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Message from the Chair

As we welcome spring, I would like to reflect on a successful fall semester. The Department welcomed **Dr. Shahnawaz Rather** as our newest Assistant Professor. His **research group** uses advanced optical spectroscopy to probe, understand and manipulate functional properties of complex energy conversion systems. In other faculty news, Professor Steven

Yates retired from the University December 31, 2023 after 48.5 years of service to the department, college and university. Through his research determining nuclear structure, Professor Yates mentored many graduate students and post-doctoral scholars. Although his presence in the department will be greatly missed, we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Notable events last fall include the department's commitment to our exceptional lecture series in honor of Professors **Susan A. Odom** and **Lyle Dawson**. Also, please join me in congratulating **Gayan Karunasinghe**, **Keerthan Rao**, **Ronnie Wu**, and **Tanner Smith** on their successful PhD defenses this fall. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Chemistry Alumni Board for their contributions to the Fall 2023 Etiquette Luncheon and Career Panel. The Career Panel saw both graduate and undergraduate students in attendance and provided valuable insight into life after graduation.

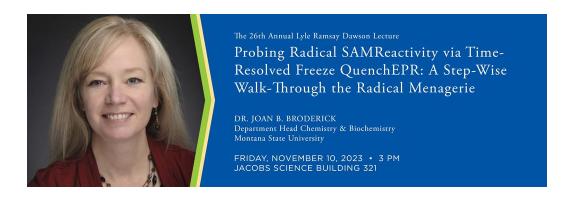
We have several important dates coming up this semester including the **49th**

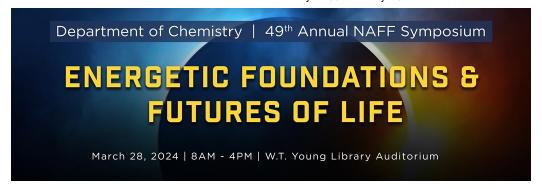
Annual Naff Symposium on Thursday, March 28, 2024. This year's symposium topic is Energetic Foundations and Futures of Life and is being chaired by Dr. Anne-Frances Miller. Speakers include Drs. Shelley Minteer, Wolfgang Nitschke, and Gary Brudvig. The Department will also host our annual Regional Poster Session for Undergraduates on Friday March 29, 2024. I encourage everyone to participate in this opportunity to share your research and network with other undergraduate researchers in the region. All the semester events can be found on our Calendar of Events.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the faculty, staff and students for their efforts to strengthen the department.

Mark A. Lovell Spring 2024







UK CHEMISTRY RESEARCHERS LEAD MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROJECT FOR NEXT-GENERATION ORGANIC SEMICONDUCTORS

A multi-institutional collaboration led by University of Kentucky researchers Chad Risko and John Anthony was one of 37 teams to receive National Science Foundation funding as part of that organization's Designing Materials to Revolutionize and Engineer our Future program.



JOHN ANTHONY HONORED WITH 2023 SEC FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

John Anthony, the C. W. Hammond Professor of Chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences, has been named winner of the 2023 SEC Faculty Achievement Award for the University of Kentucky this spring.



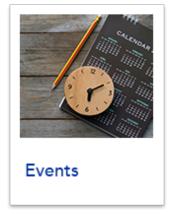
UK PROFESSORS CONTRIBUTE TO KEY ARTICLE EXPLORING NEW VISTAS FOR SOLAR CELLS

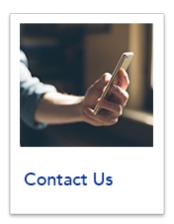
Two University of Kentucky Department of Chemistry professors in the College of Arts & Sciences, several current UK graduate students and a former grad student contributed to an article reporting a major advance in increasing the stability of perovskite solar cells, which was published recently in the journal Science.





If your organization has open positions for chemists, <u>let us know!</u> The <u>UK Stuckert Career Center</u> can help your company find a talented student (or alum) with the right set of skills to make an immediate impact. In addition to full-time positions, we are very interested in helping UK Chemistry students to develop skills and employment experience in internships and co-op positions. If your company offers such positions, please let us know and please register with the Handshake system through the Career Center.







Department of Chemistry 125 Chemistry/Physics Building Lexington KY 40506-0055

Phone: (859) 257-4741 Email: chemistry@uky.edu University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences 202 Patterson Office Tower Lexington KY, 40506-0027

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