Greetings! We publish this annual newsletter to stay in touch with all our alumni, especially those of you who have not been back to campus recently. The chemistry department currently occupies the second floor of Albertus Hall. Whenever you are in the neighborhood, please stop in to see us!

**New Faculty Hire**
Please join us in welcoming Assistant Professor Dr. Jonathan Fritz to the department, beginning August 2012. Dr. Fritz graduated from Carleton College before earning a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of Michigan. After two years as a postdoctoral researcher at Michigan State University he was a Visiting Assistant Professor at Hiram College.

**Alumni News:**
Pat (McCarthy) Wagner ('92) obtained a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Michigan State University and then worked at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Pat is now the Director of Admissions & Registrar for the Graduate Partnerships Program at NIH.

Dorene Zerfas ('04) attended the Medical School at Wayne State University and has one year of residency remaining. Dorene plans to enter private practice after that.

Sarah Pennington ('05) was named the 2012 Elkhart (Indiana) Community Schools Teacher of the Year. Sarah has taught chemistry at Central High School for five years. Read more about this award at http://elkhart.k12.in.us/content.php?id=104.

Shannon Henderson (AQ chemistry student 2006-2008) earned a Master’s degree in Biosystems Engineering from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Michigan State University.

*Join the AQ Chemistry Alumni group on LinkedIn!* (http://www.linkedin.com)
**Summer Research 2012**

Tom Finn (‘13) is the student researcher working with Dr. Elizabeth Jensen to develop a paper-based analytical device for quantification of insecticides on mosquito nets. The project is funded through a Mohler-Thompson summer research grant for science and math students at Aquinas.

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**2011-2012 Faculty Activities**

**Li-Heng Chen** — I continue teaching Organic chemistry I, General Chemistry II, and Environmental Chemistry. I still try to 'lure' people to the great field of Chemistry as a major.

**Sr. Katrina Hartman** — During this past year, I gave two presentations to my Dominican Sisters on the basics of atomic structure so that they can better understand more about the earth from the new cosmology to the present ecological models. At the Grand Dialogue, the presentation was on “Science and the Bible”. I continue to work on the compilation of the history of the chemistry department.

**Elizabeth Jensen** — I am a member of the ACS Task Force on Undergraduate Programming and I am the program chair for the 244th national meeting in Philadelphia in August. I am serving as president of the Midwest Association of Chemistry Teachers at Liberal Arts Colleges during 2012. I also continue to advise the Aquinas Chemistry Society.

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**Congratulations to our 2011-2012 graduating seniors!**

Kayla Lewis  
graduate school at University of Notre Dame  
Marissa Mikkelson  
full-time position at Amway

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Has your address changed? Did you change jobs, get married, have children, or retire? Do you know someone who should be added to our mailing list? Send your news and comments to Sr. Katrina Hartman, hartmkat@aquinas.edu or 1607 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI  49506!

Visit us on the Web!  
http://www.aquinas.edu/chemistry