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!

**Faculty Retirement**

Dr. Katrina Hartman, O.P., will retire this spring. Dr. Hartman has taught a variety of chemistry courses over the past three decades at Aquinas, including organic chemistry, biochemistry and the two-semester general, organic, and biochemistry sequence required for nursing students. She has also mentored many student research projects and served as department chair for more than 10 years. In recognition of her substantial contributions to the college, Dr. Hartman has been awarded the rank of Associate Professor Emerita by the Board of Trustees.

Join us in wishing Sister Katrina a happy retirement!

**New Faculty Hire**

Please welcome Assistant Professor Dr. Timothy Henshaw to the department, beginning August 2013. Dr. Henshaw graduated from Amherst College before earning a Ph.D. in bioinorganic chemistry from Michigan State University. Dr. Henshaw has been an adjunct professor at Aquinas and Grand Valley State University for several years. He will now work full-time at Aquinas, teaching biochemistry and other courses.

*Join the Aquinas College Chemistry Alumni group on LinkedIn!*

(http://www.linkedin.com)

Search groups for “Aquinas College Chemistry Alumni” or request an invitation from jenseeli@aquinas.edu
Summer Research 2013

Andy Zahrt ('14) is the student researcher working with Dr. Jonathan Fritz this year. Andy will be optimizing the selectivity of a direct arylation reaction. The use of direct arylations in principle represents a more efficient route to making biaryl and heterobiaryl compounds than synthesis of these compound via traditional Pd-catalyzed crosscoupling reactions such as Suzuki and Stille couplings. The project is funded through a Mohler-Thompson summer research grant for science and math students at Aquinas.

2012-2013 Faculty Activities

Li-Heng Chen — I celebrated 30 years of teaching at Aquinas this spring. I was surprised to receive "The Office Award" from the Student Senate at the end of the academic year. This award is for the faculty member who “always manages to turn ANY situation into a comedic one".

Jonathan Fritz — This past November I gave a talk on my proposed research at the West Michigan Regional Undergraduate Science Research Conference. I also attended the Michigan College Chemistry Teachers Association meeting this past fall.

Elizabeth Jensen — I continue to advise the Aquinas Chemistry Society and I am finishing a three-year term on the Undergraduate Programming Advisory Board of the ACS. My 2013 Mohler-Thompson research student, Tom Finn, presented the results of our project at the Central Regional ACS meeting this spring.

Congratulations to our 2012-2013 graduating seniors!

Lauren Cichon grad school at University of South Alabama
Tosha Hoadley seeking position in pharmaceutical industry
Carey Mayhew student teaching, secondary education
George Van Den Driessche grad school at Illinois State University
Nicholas Wheeler applying to graduate schools

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 Dr. Elizabeth Jensen at jenseeli@aquinas.edu or 1607 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506!

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