Greetings to you and yours from the Department of Chemistry and warmest of wishes for a successful and healthy 2008! Change is inevitable, and this year was no different.

After seven years of service to the Department, Dr Barry Selinsky officially stepped down as Chair in August. Barry's contributions cannot be easily summarized as his influence permeates the Department from the move into a renovated Mendel Science Center and the hiring of eight of our fourteen current tenured and tenure track faculty, over half of our current faculty! During his terms as Chair, the Department experienced growth in the funding and acquisition of major instrumentation. Grant writing and publication efforts also substantially increased during his time in office. I am personally indebted to Dr Selinsky for his support and guidance in my career and hope that I can provide the same to my colleagues in the coming years. Thank you again Barry for everything you have done for the Department!

In other news, Joe McDonnell, the Building Superintendent for Mendel Hall, retired after 40 years of service. We all thank Joe for his dedication and service. He will be missed! We welcomed Jordan Silvestry in July as the new building superintendent.

Faculty News

I am very pleased to announce that Dr Temer Almadi was granted tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Chemistry. Congratulations to Temer!

In May, Dr Oliver Ludwig was awarded the Philadelphia Section of the American Chemical Society Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching of Chemical Science, which is sponsored by Merck & Co. Dr Ludwig is the first Villanova faculty member to receive this award! Congratulations Oliver!

2007 was also a year of successful grant writing for several faculty members. Dr Anthony Lagalante was awarded grants from both the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service. Dr Christine Martey-Ochola was awarded a grant from the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation, and Dr Robert Giuliani was awarded a grant from the Research Corporation. Congratulations for your efforts and we hope to see similar successes in the coming year!

In March 2008, Dr Amanda Grannas will be leading a group of researchers to Barrow, Alaska for field work in support of her research. Dr Glenn Rowland, a post-doctoral associate working with Dr Grannas, and graduate student Ian Eisele will be leaving with Dr Grannas in March, while undergraduate researcher Ali Bausch will join the group after classes end in May.

Dr Glenn Rowland joined the Department in January as a post-doctoral research associate working in Dr Grannas’s research lab and teaching part-time. Dr William Dougherty joined my lab in August and has also been teaching part-time. We also welcomed Dr Zoreh Hamidzadeh, Dr Kostas Agrios, and Dr Eric Chesloff as full-time faculty members. In June, Dr Carol Bessel resigned to accept a permanent position at the National Science Foundation. We all wish Carol the best of luck in her new position and appreciate the contributions she made to the Department in her time here!

Last, but certainly not least, Dr Christine Martey-Ochola and her husband Charles Ochola welcomed a new baby boy to the family in May. Camayo joins older brother Christian in the Ochola family!

News of our recent graduates:

Our primary aim is to educate and to that end we are extremely proud of our graduates! The Chemistry class of 2007 and their affiliations follow:

BS Graduates: Frank Calvosa (BS/MS program, Villanova); Rebecca Chappell (DuPont R&D, Wilmington, DE); Amanda Conway (PhD program in Molecular Cancer Biology, Duke); Megan Daley (med school '08), Michael Denney (international volunteer before grad school); Ved Desai (med school '08); Matthew Doroski; Alyssa Dusel; Christine Feldmeier (MD Program, Jefferson Medical School); Charles Ferraioli (BS/MS program, Villanova); Broc Flores (Medicinal Chemist, Merck & Co.); James Geraghty (Wyeth); Virginia Greis; Christina Gulacsy (BS/MS program, Villanova); Lauren Harmonay (PhD program, Boston U.); Christopher Kendrix (PhD program, Yale); Michael Mirzabeigi (Jefferson Medical School); Christopher Pascual; Jen Roath (Penn Dental School); Desiree Tetraut; Kellie Whitecavage (BS/MS program, Villanova)
The Villanova Chemist

MS Graduates: Stephen Bolgunas; Riffard Jean-Gilles (General Electric, NY); Gianmarc Johns (Merck); Jonathan Jones (AppBek Co., Philadelphia); Thomas Licisyn, (ISOSciences, King of Prussia); Ashley Sprenkle (GlaxoSmithKline)

One last thought... To say that my first semester as Chair was eventful and interesting would be a bit of an understatement. And it’s not that I didn’t appreciate the jobs that Barry Selinsky and Bob Giuliani did during their terms as Chair, but now that I understand a (very) little more, my appreciation for their dedication and service deepens. I feel fortunate to follow their examples and hope that my term as Chair will bring continued growth and success to a wonderful program.

Scott Kassel
Associate Professor and Chair

Retired Prof John Wojcik writes: Hope all is going well with you, Oliver. Retirement is quite fine. I am doing some rather different things on a volunteer basis. The quiet time after Mass is also a blessing. Of course, my wife and I do a bit more birding but she is still busy giving piano lessons. And some of those repair jobs around the house are finally getting done. I am trying to master argumentation and the subject of material logic (as opposed to formal logic which we all had in Catholic college when sense still reigned). It is difficult. I suppose I will master it just before I will no longer need it. John.

Here’s what’s new in the Villanova area: At the ACS Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting in June I spoke with Tricia Sladicka ’05 (Merck), Jason Diffendale ’97 (Wyeth), and pharmaceutical consultant Matt O’Brien MS’75, PhD’76. Your editor overcomes his diffidence to mention that he received the Philadelphia Section ACS award for “Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in Chemical Science” at this meeting.

Using his FBI experience, Mike Byrne ’89 did some crime scenes here last February for our Criminalistics course. Mike received his Masters in Forensic Toxicology from the University of Florida. (Jeff Schubert ’06 tells me that Mike Reihl ’97 is with the FBI too.) Our Professional Development Seminar for the spring of ’07 included talks by Mike Byrne, Bill Hurley ‘62, and Mike Lamb ’75. Ron Magolda ’76 gave the annual lecture sponsored by Tony Silvestri ’58. Ron is Wyeth’s VP for neurosciences and for women’s health. He has 84 publications and 27 patents.

Here’s what we have heard from you, our “reaction products”: Al Derr ’46 offers some thoughts after reading Fr Jenkins’ history of our department: The wartime years were an unusual experience. I still remember Dr Haenisch as a great teacher and friend. Does Fr Jenkins still scratch his left ear with his right hand over his head? [Editor: He did when he taught me, too!] I started in Nov ’43 and completed my degree in June of ’46 under the three semesters per year of those times, including classes on New Year’s Day. Al (MA, Business, Binghamton U.) Later, Al adds: Although I have been retired for the last 17 years, because of the passing of a very good friend, I have had to assume the presidency of “The Theatre Organ Society of the Delaware Valley, Inc.” Any local alumni interested in good music of this genre are invited to contact me by e-mail: atrw93@att.net.

Alumni Notes
Volume 27, started January 2007
Oliver Ludwig ’57, Editor

Continuing the tradition of Dr Quam, here’s our “Christmas” updating alumni and alumnai on our and their activities. We encourage you to fill us in on your own news so that we may inform everyone next Christmas. Speaking of history, I have placed Fr Jenkin’s history of our Department at www.villanova.edu/arts/chemistry/societies/alumni.htm. His work encompasses the years 1847 to 1962, when he moved up(?) to Astronomy. It’s a fun read, especially since his wry humor inserts itself occasionally. Old alums Jim Markham ’50 and Joe Clark and your editor, both ’57, together with my colleague and former Chemistry Chairman Bob Giuliani, are working on updating it to the present, and so would appreciate brief paragraphs which other alumni might wish to contribute. Also on the site is a list of deceased and ‘lost’ alumni; please send us any updates.

We had 100% of the Class of 1957 Chemistry graduates at the Alumni Reunion last June. Ed Tomczuk is Chancellor Emeritus of Penn State Delaware County, Hank Whelan is retired VP of PQ Corp, Herb Ramnath is retired President of General Electric Plastics, and Joe Clark is retired from NIST. Both Hank and Joe are retired from ACS positions as well. All retired but me; I guess I didn’t get the memo.

Chemistry Department, Villanova University, Villanova PA 19086
From John Pio '63: I have something of importance that I would like to contribute back to the university. When we were moving from Mendel Hall [now Tolentine] to the new Chemistry building back in the early 60's, I managed to capture two wooden signs from the Mendel laboratories, for the Analytical and General Chemistry laboratories. I found them recently when cleaning out some old boxes and would like to get them back to the department for archive purposes. At least I can give something back to the university for the quality of my education. John. [Ed.: We have them and will add them to a display case.]

John Kelly '63 still works for The Valspar Corporation in Texas as Market Manager, Metal Buildings, with 43 years service and counting.

Chris Uzelmeyer '63 emails: To All of my Villanova Chemistry friends, Class of '63 and Others: Retired from Shell Chemical in 1996 after 29 years with them, and then went to work for Union Carbide as a Director of R&D in conjunction with the sale of the polypropylene business to Carbide. Retired from UCC in 2001 as they were acquired by Dow Chemical. My wife Kathy and I live in a golfing community north of Houston. Our sons Tom and Bill also live in Houston and work in the medical field. Wishing you all well for 2008 and beyond, Regards, Chris

From Don Pichler 'MS '64: I trained under Dr Zajac, subsequently I completed my PhD in Chemistry at the University of New Mexico in 1971, and then enrolled in the School of Medicine, receiving my MD in 1976. I was sorry to hear of the passing of Dr Zajac and both Lou DiBello MS '64 and Mary Ann Demenycz MS '64. My best to you, the faculty, and staff. Carpe Diem! Donald Pichler PhD, MD.

Villanova's Summer 07 Alumni Magazine mentions that Michael Burke '67 is at the University of British Columbia, developing cardiovascular drug molecules.

From Paul Fennelly '67: I was last at the Chemistry Dept about 5 years ago, when I came to give an invited seminar on "Careers in Chemistry". I also spent part of the day visiting with some faculty old and new. It was a nice day, great to be back on campus, and enhanced by visiting with my daughter Eileen, who was a junior at Villanova at the time. Currently, I'm in charge of Worldwide Business Development for ENSR Corporation – a major Environmental Science and Engineering firm. We do about 400 million in projects all over the world, primarily for large multinational corporations and employ about 2500 people. I'm reasonably active with the Villanova Alumni Club in Boston, and if there is some way I can be of help to the Chem Dept, let me know. I had a great experience while a student there. [Paul's PhD is from Brandeis University.]

From Jim Reap '86: It seems like...a long time ago in a galaxy far away...but from Villanova, I taught one year at Gloucester Catholic HS, then went off to grad school at the Univ of Pittsburgh. George DeTitta '69 was there at the same time! I married and started a family in grad school (crazy, I know), and finished in 1975 with a PhD in synthetic organic chemistry. Paul Greco was my advisor at Pitt. I started with DuPont in Feb 1975 at the Experimental Station here in Wilmington, put down roots, and have been with DuPont for 32 years. Pat and I have been married 37 years and we have two grown children, four grandchildren with #5 due in November! I've had a chance to visit VU from time to time since we are in close proximity and enjoy following VU athletics. Best Regards, Jim

From John Walsh '70: It is with great sadness I got the Notes from the Chem Department informing about Bob Grob's demise. Bob was a great teacher and advisor and I always enjoyed his opinions. It is a great loss. The first job I ever had was because of analytical chemistry course that I had. For three years while I was in Med School I ran a clinical chemistry lab on evenings and weekends. It gave me enough money to make it through med school at that time. Times have changed.

Paul Marcoux '70, PhD 1976 KSU Physical Chemistry writes that he had been working for Hewlett-Packard for years in Mountain View CA and then, within the past 10 years, moved to Ft Collins CO, and worked for Hewlett-Packard, Agilent Technologies, and Avago Technologies. He writes: I have been quite fortunate that throughout all these changes, I have remained employed and doing the same job function since August 2000. My desk has not moved in seven+ years. Our elder daughter, Amy, graduated from CSU and is married. No grandchildren as of this writing. Our younger daughter, Jill, graduated from CU. Amy and her husband live in Fort Collins and work in the area. Jill lives and works in downtown Denver. We are fortunate to have them close by. My wife, Judy, and I are doing well. Paul

Ed Donahue '70 emails: I am still living and working in Phoenix. My surgical practice focuses on the diagnosis and surgical treatment of breast cancer. In January I will be the President of the Maricopa County Medical Society which serves the Greater Phoenix Metropolitan area. I'll send you a copy of our magazine when it prints next week. Stay well! Ed.
The Villanova Chemist

From Vince Siminitis '71: Thank you for your efforts to stay connected with chemistry department alumni all these many years. I sincerely appreciate it, and I am sure just about all of us do. I hope the university recognizes and appreciates the value you independently provide. I give you an update on the post-Wildcat life of one reasonably successful and definitely happy Villanova chemistry graduate. I stayed in the local area after graduation and got started as an analytical chemist with Food and Drug Research Labs, Inc. in Conshohocken. I left there to go to Merck, Sharp and Dohme in West Point, where I worked in their raw material and product-testing labs for two years before deciding my future was probably in management. (I knew by then I would never be a great chemist, but realized I had developed other marketable skills at Villanova.) I earned my MBA from Drexel while working first in an entry-level management position at Merck, and subsequently as a Manufacturing Supervisor in their tablet department. I left there after 5 years to take a GMP Training/Auditing position at Rorer in Fort Washington.

I rose through the ranks to Director level in my eight years at Rorer by taking on a variety of Operations Management positions, ranging from Quality Assurance and Compliance, to Solid Dosage Form Manufacturing, to Packaging, QC Lot Release, and finally to Materials Management, which included Purchasing, Production Planning, and Warehouse Management and Logistics. My heart was always in Quality, though, and I ultimately couldn't resist a recruiting pitch in 1986 by a former boss who wanted me to take on and develop a Commercial Quality organization for (at that time) a small biotech company [Genentech] with one product in South San Francisco, California. So as they say, we "loaded up the trucks and we moved to Beverly..." It was a fantastic, challenging, and extremely gratifying experience, being able to play a leadership role for 20 years in the first and always most innovative biotech pharmaceutical company, establishing FDA and public trust and confidence in a new science and technology while bringing groundbreaking new drugs through clinical trials to multi billion dollar commercial success.

The opportunity to learn the new science from the original developers of it, in many cases one-on-one with them in their own offices or laboratories was exciting. My Villanova education prepared me well for this, even though I was constantly aware that a lot of what I was learning wasn't taught because it didn't exist when I was in school just two decades earlier. As the company grew and its needs changed, I became more interested in global quality policies and systems and enabling computer and software technologies, and took on roles that enabled me to lead projects in those areas for the company's Quality organization, which had grown to over 700 people by then – more than were in the entire company when I joined.

In April 2006, I decided it was time to do something else. I retired from Genentech and committed to a period of community service. I am currently Board Chair of the Peninsula Family YMCA in San Mateo, California. I am also contemplating going to UC Berkeley for a Masters in Public Health, not because I need it for my volunteer work or for a new career, but for the additional mental stimulation in retirement. (Sudoku just isn't enough.) I think it would be fun to test myself against the young hotshots at Berkeley. I also plan to take piano lessons, write country songs, and enjoy time at our vacation house in Lake Tahoe. Genentech was good to me. The ability to retire at 56 provides a lot of options. Our son graduated from college last year with a degree in International Relations with a focus on Latin America and a career interest in environmental issues. My daughter is a freshman in college, thinking about an event-planning career. Both kids decided to get their higher educations in California's university system. I couldn't interest them in going cross-country to the big Y. The price is right and the quality good here at home, though, so that's been great. My wife and I celebrated our 34th wedding anniversary this year. Thanks for all you did for me and others in the chemistry program then and since. Vince Siminitis

From Charlie Kimmelman '71: I have been in NYC for the past 21 years as an Otolaryngologist-Head and Neck Surgeon. I am in private practice with an academic appointment of Associate Professor at Weill Cornell Medical College here in the city. My chemistry background has been quite helpful in the development of new products for head and neck disorders. I conceptualized, animal tested, and brought to market a product named "SeproGel ENT." This gel contains cross-linked hyaluronic acid molecules and is used to prevent scarring and facilitate healing after surgery of the ear, nose & sinus cavities and larynx (voice box). Additionally, I maintain an active private practice, and am involved in resident and medical student teaching. Future goals involve the incorporation of ENT research overseas. Charles P. Kimmelman, MD, FACS.

Tom Aretz, '72 MD is Vice President, Global Programs, Harvard Medical International, Associate
The Villanova Chemist

Professor of Pathology, Harvard Medical School, and Associate Pathologist, Mass. General Hospital

Norm Nielsen '74 writes: I keep in touch somewhat with [classmates] Dan Michalak and John Vitalit. Dan lives in Wilson NC and is an OB/GYN. John lives in Xenia OH, had been an anesthesiologist but left that profession some time ago, and last I heard, he was teaching some courses at a local college I have many fantastic memories of VU and Chemistry. [Ed.: Norm and I met at his 25th Reunion in June and again at the VU-LaSalle basketball game last December.]

Bill VanSaun PhD '75 writes: I always enjoy reading the annual Christmas Newsletter from the VU Chemistry Dept. Thanks to you who collect, edit, assemble, and distribute it. In my sixth year of retirement after a successful and rewarding career as Director of Discovery Research at FMC Corporation in Princeton NJ, I always seem to be busy. DIY projects, volunteer and outdoor activities, reading (especially science and hard science fiction), and visiting with my three grown sons and their families fill the days.

From Val Sanford Denny '76: It was wonderful to see you on our son Michael's graduation day from Villanova - Imagine 2 degrees in those 4 years. He's very proud to have been part of the history of Villanova, being the first Chem major to get the BS Chem and BS Biochem. He is on his way to Penn State in January for their nanotechnology program. From there, who knows??? Thank you for being part of both my son's and my education in chemistry! Val '76, MSSS '78 (Chem, Geology and Astronomy)

Norm D'Allura '76 visited here with his daughter who is considering attending VU. Norm says that duPont sold its spandex fiber division to Invista, resulting in shrinkage in Norm's research group. [Ed.: I thought spandex was supposed to cause shrinkage!]

John Finn '77 is Chief Scientific Officer of Trius Therapeutics. Our focus is on the discovery and development of antibacterial drugs, especially those to treat resistant bacterial infections. Our first drug TR-701 is entering Phase 1 trials in Jan '08 and our research programs are turning out some very exciting novel classes of antibiotics. Our website is triusrx.com. John. [John's PhD is from Illinois.]

From Sr Elizabeth Worley MS '79: Life has been more than busy these last few weeks as I have begun a new ministry in Orlando, FL. At the invitation of Bishop Thomas Wenski, former Auxiliary Bishop of Miami and a long time friend, I have moved to Orlando to begin service to the Diocese as its Chief Operating Officer. The position carries a double title, Chancellor for Administration/COO. My focus will be on developing an efficient structure for the administration of the various programs and services of the diocese. I have much to learn about the operations of a diocese and hope that my experience at Mercy Hospital and Catholic Hospice - along with a lot of support from the folks here and an enormous amount of prayer - will make this work well for the Diocese of Orlando. Because Mercy Hospital is very dear to me I will remain on the Mercy Hospital Foundation Board, allowing me the opportunity to visit every two months for meetings. I hope to see you whenever an opportunity arises. In the meantime be assured of a continued place in my prayers.

Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University, where Sirirat Ho-Ampawanwong Kokpol PhD '79 is Professor and Chair of the Chemistry Department, is changing to an autonomous institution. [Just imagine the committee meetings!]

From our College of Arts & Sciences newsletter: David Mazzo, PhD '79 has been named president and chief executive officer of AEterna Zenatis Inc, a biopharmaceutical company. Dr Mazzo joined the company from Chugai Pharma USA where he has been president and CEO since April 2003. Dr Mazzo has broad experience working in a variety of multi-cultural environments in the United States, Europe, and Asia, where he amassed a track record of successful global product development, registration, and launch. He has held positions of increasing responsibility with Merck, Baxter, Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, Hoechst Marion Roussel, and Schering-Plough. Dr Mazzo holds a BA in Honors (Interdisciplinary Humanities) and a BS in Chemistry from Villanova, as well as an MS and PhD in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst).

From Angela Ervin MS '83: Well finally I get down to penning something after years of reading "The Villanova Chemist". For background, I was granted a BS (Biology) in 1981 and an MS (Chemistry) in 1983 from Villanova. I went into the PhD program at University of Delaware for a short stint; however I just had to follow my husband at the time (Ken Ewing PhD '85) to Washington DC. I was fortunate that the Navy needed an MS level scientist and I was immediately employed by the Naval Research Laboratory in 1985. I spent over 13 years of my career as a civilian gov't employee, working in the areas of inorganic synthesis, corrosion control, analytical method development, and fiber optic sensor development. I was so fortunate because I was able to be involved in some many different areas of science....it was fun!
The Villanova Chemist

During these 13 plus years, I finished a PhD at the George Washington University (Chemistry), and had two lovely daughters. Also during those years, I was detailed to the Office of Naval Research and the Environmental Protection Agency, where I worked on program management tasks.

I left gov't service in 2000, to work as a consultant to the gov't with a small company. Those years as a consultant provided me with the opportunity to become a manager of people, acting as a supervisor of technical types (quite a challenge), as well as continuing to act as technical consultant to several gov't clients.

Now, I am back in the federal gov't. I am a Program Manager at the Department of Homeland Security in Washington DC. I manage programs in the area of next-generation chemical detection systems. I also manage several SBIR (Small Business) projects centered on detection of humans in cargo containers. I started out as a bench-scale researcher, writing proposals and fighting for funding but honestly, I like this side, finding all the really smart folks to do the cutting edge research and fighting internally for the dollars to get that research funded.

I will never forget my days (and nights) at Villanova. I thank God that I was given the opportunity by my parents, my teachers, my co-workers, to end up with a very successful and fruitful career. If you wish me to share my thoughts on my career path or even if you all would like me to come to Villanova to describe programs and opportunities within DHS, I would love to do that. Just let me know. Angel (Angela M. Ervin, Ph.D. Program Manager, Chemical Countermeasures, Department of Homeland Security Science & Technology Directorate.) [I have passed her offer to the organizer of our Professional Development Seminar.]

It was good to see Joe Urban '85, now Assoc Prof of Chemistry at the US Naval Academy, and his son at the VU-Syracuse basketball game in March. He writes: I'm not the only Wildcat on the faculty of the USNA: Bob Ferrante '73 is a physical chemist in our department (not sure what year, but I'm younger! He's smarter!).

From Dr Marianne Wolfram Zappone '88: I always look forward to the Chemistry Newsletter and seeing what everyone is up to. As for myself, after working at Colgate Palmolive Technology Center in Piscataway NJ in the Home Care Product Development area for 14 years, in 2007 I became Associate Director of Technology in Oral Care Product Development. I live with my husband Andy '87 BA and three children in Burlington, NJ.

From Laura Adam '90: We had a small VU alumni meeting a few weeks ago when Safiye Sag Erdem MS '85 visited us in Baltimore. Bill Mathews PhD '92 joined us by phone. Safiye spent three weeks at Emory in Atlanta doing research but I'll let her tell you more. She is currently professor at Marmora University in Istanbul in the inorganic department. [Husband] Mike MS '90 is a materials engineer and working on proliferation issues for the National Security Agency at Fort Meade. You won't find him on the web. Bill is at Hopkins - but you probably know that. I'm working at the FDA. I went to University of Maryland and received a postgraduate certificate in Bioregulatory Engineering in 2004 and now work on chemistry issues related to the manufacturing of medical devices. If any Villanova students are interested in government service, please have them contact me or Mike.

Mike and I have two boys, Andreas (13) and Marcus (7). Most of our summer was spent getting kids to the Annapolis yacht club where Andreas races his Optimist class sailboat for the AYC junior team. Bill's son Lucas is the same age as Marcus and the boys enjoy each other's company - so that is our excuse to get our families together once in a while. Laura (Laura A. Adam, General Surgery Devices Branch, Office of Compliance, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration)

Prof Bob Giuliano tells us: I had a visit today from Joshi Ramanjulu '91. He is a research scientist at GlaxoSmithKline. He got a PhD in chemistry at UPenn, and then was a postdoc at the Scripps Institute in La Jolla, CA.

Michael Ott '91 writes: I attended UC Santa Barbara where I received my PhD in Organic Chemistry. Once you're in California, it's tough to come back. I then took a job for The Clorox Company in the San Francisco Bay Area which has been a wonderful experience. I'm now Director of R&D and drive the new products pipeline for Clorox. The chemistry is very interesting, focusing on areas such as surfactancy, emulsification, and rheology. Not a dull moment. On the personal side, Sabina and I have been married for 11 years and our two children (Julia-9, Sam-7) continue to grow and amaze us.

Gary Speler MS '91 writes: My 3½ year old daughter (Emma Elizabeth) and 1½ year old son (Gary III) are as happy, healthy, and beautiful as can be. My wife (Aimee) passed the CPA Exam, and is considering graduate school in accounting or finance.
Aimee plans on maintaining her "stay at home" mom status until the children are in school full-time. Until then, the children are showered with love and affection 24/7. Professionally, I am still practicing patent law, and focus exclusively on chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices. My law firm (based in Minneapolis) has one of the largest patent "life science" groups in the country, with almost 20 chemical/pharmaceutical/biotechnology attorneys. I have been a partner now for about 3 years, and spend a considerable amount of time traveling and lecturing on chemical and pharmaceutical patent law. I will be going to India this spring (for the sixth time) and Europe (for the third time) to lecture on various aspects on US Patent Law. I am always looking forward to hearing from any professors or alumni from my days at 'Nova.

From Jack Williams PhD '92: I am sorry Dr Schauble retired – does not make me feel too young! As for me, I want to teach forever or until I have cardiac arrest while giving a lecture in Organic Chem II! Best to everybody in the Department (who remembers Jack?)! I always have fond memories of my time at Villanova, and I remember well your class in quantum mechanics (the story of the monkey looking out of the box). Jack (Jack D. Williams, Professor of Chemistry, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Mercyhurst College, Erie PA)

Damon Barbacci '93 writes: I have been with Merck for more than 5 years now and very much enjoy being a part of pharmaceutical research and development. I often visit the Villanova campus for meetings of the Delaware Valley Mass Spectrometry Discussion Group and enjoy strolling down the corridors of Mendel Hall reminiscing of my time there. Best Regards, Damon (Damon C. Barbacci, PhD Research Fellow Pharmaceutical Analytical Chemistry Merek & Co) [Damon and Layle expect their third child next month.]

From Pete Iovine '94: After graduating from VU in 1994, I obtained a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. During my stay in Philadelphia I met my wife, Roseann, and we married in 1999. We moved to San Diego CA where I did a two year post-doctoral fellowship at the Scripps Research Institute. During my time at Villanova and Penn I became interested in academics. After completing my post-doc I pursued academic jobs eventually landing an assistant professorship at the University of San Diego (USD). I have been at USD for 5 years and this year I will be up for tenure. Recently I was awarded the NSF CAREER award for untenured faculty in support of my research and teaching. This grant will greatly expand my research program and engage the local educational community. My wife and I have one son, Lucas. I am very much interested in hearing from other '94 grads (piovine@sandiego.edu). Thanks to all my teachers and colleagues at VU as you have made a significant impact on my career.

From Doug Dieter '97: I'm wrapping up my Doctorate of Public Health and working full-time here in northern NJ. Not married yet, but working on that, and mostly traveling and enjoying life. I'm a VP in The Bank of New York's high yield group. I am officially a trading desk analyst with responsibility for healthcare investments. This means that I effectively analyze healthcare companies and advise my bank and other banks and hedge funds on buying/selling bonds through our trading desk. I enjoy the work, it forces me to stay on top of the literature for healthcare and the sciences, and I get the opportunity to regularly interact with executives at major corporations. If I had to do college all over again, I would have double majored in chemistry and accounting. I bumped into Liz Latusek '97 and her lawyer husband at Villanova's Reunion in June. It's hard to think that it has been 10 years since she graduated; it's even harder to recall that it has been 50 years for me!

Pat Dougherty, 00 writes Prof Giuliano that, from his apartment in London, he can see the Queen walking her dogs. He works in management consulting with biotech companies. He writes: Please tell everyone in Chemistry 'Hi' for me. [Not 'cheery-by'?]

Kyle Fliszar '00 emails Barry Selinsky et al: All – I just wanted to let the department know that you have one more alumnus with a PhD. I defended my thesis yesterday at Lehigh University in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. I'll officially graduate in May, with the attendance of graduation contingent on the birth of our second child. Busy time. Kyle (Kyle A. Fliszar, Sr Analytical Chemist, Pharm ADC, Merek and Co.)

Two new doctors have good news for us: from Jennifer Barbarow '00: I finished my doctorate at UC Berkeley this past May and am now working for Chevron. I wrote my thesis on three projects that I completed involving ring-forming reactions. A total synthesis of the Elysiapyrines, catalysis of six pi electrrocyclizations and making glycosylamines from straight chain cyano alcohols.

And from Arya Kumar '01: I received my PhD in biomedical engineering from Case Western
earlier this year and I'm currently in 3rd year med school on track to getting my MD in 2009.

Melinda Turner Tedesco '02 writes to Secretary Nancy Proud: I married Bryan Tedesco (class of 2001, comprehensive sciences major), thus the last name change. Since graduating from Villanova I attended the University of Pennsylvania's chemistry PhD program, only to realize it wasn't for me about 6 months into it. Since leaving Penn in 2003, I have been working in the pharmaceutical industry on the contract research side. I began working in the lab, but quickly moved to the business side of the industry. Over the past 4 years I have moved up through the ranks and am currently Director of Business Development for the east coast of the US with Cyprotex Discovery. I have been with Cyprotex for 2 years. My company is based in Macclesfield, United Kingdom, and performs preclinical ADME and pharmacokinetic research for pharmaceutical and biotech companies all over the world. I am responsible for generating business in the US and working with customers to support their drug discovery efforts. I have also kept up with Jeff Lutton; he is currently doing his orthopaedic surgery residency in Riverside, PA. His wife, Molly, gave birth to a baby girl (Emily Lynn) last September.

And Jeff Lutton '02 adds: After Villanova I went to Georgetown along with Anthony Avery '02 for medical school. We're both orthopaedic surgery residents now, he's in Monmouth, NJ, and I'm in Danville, PA. I have a 15-month-old named Emily and another on the way, due at the end of May. Things are great up here in Danville.

Chris Jones '03 is a PhD candidate in the department of Molecular Biology at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. In the same class, Chris DiFeo and Heidi Shimp are completing their PhDs in chemistry at Yale University. Maurice Marsini is completing his PhD in chemistry at the UC Santa Barbara. Lauren DellaGreca is married and works for DuPont in Wilmington, DE. Nancy Atta, now at Villanova's Campus Ministry, was married at the Villanova Chapel in November. Nick Siciliano '04 is in the PhD Program at Thomas Jefferson U. in Philadelphia.

From Angela Mondavi '04: In November 2006, Angelina received her Master's in Oenology (winemaking) from University of Adelaide's Waite Campus in South Australia. Once she received her Masters, she returned to Napa Valley where she is currently working as the assistant winemaker for Pine Ridge Winery. Her next adventure is studying to obtain the Master Sommelier (MS) and Master of Wine (MW) diplomas, but this will take some time.

Meghan klaric '04 emails: I finished my master's degree in chemistry at the University of Southern California in May 2007, and I just returned to Villanova for law school.

From Adrienne Kline Cummings '04: Chris Cummings '04 and I have had an exciting year. We were married at Villanova's Chapel on August 18. We were blessed to have Dr Giuliano and his wife serve as Eucharistic Ministers at the Mass. We have also recently found out that I was accepted into the Air Force's anesthesia residency program and I'll be moving to San Antonio in the spring to complete the four-year program. Chris will be finishing his PhD at Yale and follow soon after. Perhaps then we can finally get jobs! Adrienne.

Jenny Schultz '05 wrote Dr. Selinsky: I got into UC Davis (the best winemaking program in the country)! So it looks like I will be heading out to California to once again start my graduate studies in Enology and Viticulture. I think a 5-hour plane ride is much more tolerable than being around the world in Australia. I could not have done this without your help. I will make sure to send you some of my wine once I start my career! I hope all is well for you. Jenny

Oscar Miranda MS '05 is in a group at Georgia Tech doing work on biosensors. He writes: I am doing a lot of research and working hard with several graduate students and post-docs at Georgia Tech. I will also go at University of South Carolina, perhaps to Catherine Murphy's Lab.

Margaret Grow '06 tells us that: I'm still at U of Maryland Baltimore County, currently working under Dr. Marie Christine Daniel, whose research is with functionalizing nanoparticles for the treatment of cancer.

Mike Giuliano '06 writes: I hope things are going well for you and the new groups of students who are hopefully getting as much out of your class as I did. I still think about your class quite a bit and I've used thermodynamics more times than I'd like to admit as a bio-organic chemist. I'm well into my second year of graduate school in the PhD program at UW-Madison and I'm loving it here in Wisconsin (when it's not below freezing!). I've been working for Sam Gellman at UW-Madison for about a year and a half now and it's been just great. I've been studying non-natural peptides and their structures via x-ray crystallography and a bunch of biophysical techniques. It's different from anything I've done and I love it. This winter has

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love it. This winter has been especially good because I just recently got engaged to my girlfriend Missie, whom I met my senior year at Villanova – we’re currently in the beginning stages of planning everything but we’ll be trying to reserve Villanova’s Chapel once we’ve got a date.

Kendell Mahanna ’06 writes: I am currently finishing my Master’s of Food Science at the University of Illinois and I plan on graduating in May 2008. My thesis is “Consumer Perception and Acceptance of Food Bars” which includes consumer research as well as product development on all types of food bars, meal replacement, protein, cereal and granola bars. Also, the exciting news is that I just recently accepted a job as a scientist in R&D at Frito-Lay in Plano, TX. It is exciting to know that this is what I have worked for and it is finally here. I look forward to starting at Frito-Lay and getting to work on new products which will eventually make it onto a store shelf!

A&S Newsletter June: Christine Feldmeier ’07 is this year’s recipient of the Thomas J. Mentzer Memorial Award granted by the Center for Peace and Justice Education. The award honors a Villanova graduating senior who has contributed significantly, through his or her volunteer service work, to “expanding opportunities for the poor and underprivileged.” Next year, Feldmeier will study medicine at Thomas Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where she intends to continue to enlist support for and serve the San Juan clinic. She plans, in her words, “to use my medical training in the future to continue to make a difference in the lives of the poor.”

From Mike Mirzabeigi ’07: I’m going to be at Tulane in New Orleans for this upcoming school year. It is a one year MS in pharmacology program that is run by their med school. If all goes well, and we’re hurricane-free, then I should be defending my thesis sometime next July.

I received some good news not long after exchanging emails with you the other day. I was accepted to Jefferson Medical College for the fall ’07 start (less than two weeks!). So the good news is that I’ll be starting medical school, and the great news is that I hope you can keep me on the mailing list for a beer and a burger. [Ed.: Yeah – we all know that med students have lots of disposable time!]

Well, I hope you enjoyed reading about one another as I did. Please keep us in mind when Good Things happen, so we can share them with our Villanova Chemistry family.

All the best! …Oliver, ’57

20 January 2008