Professor Janice Reutt-Robey, Chemistry and Biochemistry has been appointed Associate Director of the Chemical Physics Program. Professor Reutt-Robey received an A.B. from Haverford College in 1980 and her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1986. Professor Reutt-Robey was the former Director of Graduate Studies of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department. Has been the thesis advisor for a number of Chemical Physics students. Her research is in the area of surface chemistry, nanoscale science, supramolecular nanostructures, chemisorption and mass transport processes, crystal growth and engineering, surface morphology, scanning probe methods, surface spectroscopy and microscopy.

Professor Reutt-Robey brings experience, judgment and many new ideas to the Associate Director position.

Professor Robert Walker has accepted a Professorship in the Department of Chemistry at Montana State University, Bozeman, MT. Professor Walker has been with the University for eleven years and was Associate Director of the Chemical Physics Program (CHPH) since 2003. As Associate Director Professor Walker served on the CPHP Admission Committee, advised incoming students, served on the Qualifying Examination Committee, and was the Ph.D. advisor of Xiaoyi Zhang (Ph.D. 2003), William Grimes (Ph.D. 2007), Tilman Rosales (Ph.D. 2009) and Debjani Roy (Ph.D. 2009). We wish him the best in his new position.
The first annual IONS-North America conference is taking place in September, 2009 in Washington DC and College Park, Maryland. IONS, the International OSA Network of Students, connects optics and photonics scholars from around the globe. IONS conferences are pledged to offer a wide spectrum of academic experience for the attending members and assist students in building professional networks, a singular difference from other scientific conferences. We encourage students to attend the conference, and submit an abstract.

The conference is being organized by the UM SPIE/OSA student chapter. For more information on the chapter, go to http://www.studentorg.umd.edu/spie. IONS is an opportunity to network with optics students and professionals from around the world, broaden your knowledge in optics, learn about local research institutes and laboratories, and advance your career in science. Program details are available at the conference website http://www.ions-project.org. Registration is free of charge, and is now open.
Fall 2009 - Important Graduate School Deadlines

SEPTEMBER 4, 2009
All Graduate Degree Candidates: Last day to electronically submit Application for Graduation.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2009
Doctoral Students: Last day to submit Nomination of Dissertation Committee form. Committee form must be submitted at least six weeks before the scheduled defense.

OCTOBER 6, 2009
Master's Thesis Students: Last day to submit Approved Program form and Nomination of Thesis Committee form. Committee form must be submitted at least six weeks before the scheduled defense.

Non-Thesis Master's Students:
Last day to submit the Approved Program form.

NOVEMBER 20, 2009
Doctoral Students: Final date to submit Dissertation electronically, and Dissertation Publication form. Final day for Dissertation Directors to send Report of Examining Committee form.

DECEMBER 9, 2009

Non-Thesis Master's Students:
Final date to submit Certification of Master's Degree Without Thesis form.

Submit all forms to:
Debbie Jenkins
4247 CSS Bldg., to be forwarded to the Registrar’s Office.

Graduate School Policies and Regulations

Wavier of Mandatory Fees: waiver of Mandatory Fees may be granted to any graduate student, including Doctoral Candidates, if the student will be away from the University for a semester or a year. An application for waiver of Mandatory Fees must be submitted to the Graduate School 30 days before the beginning of the semester for which the waiver is sought. The waiver may be granted for a semester or a year.

Leave of Absence for Childbearing, Adoption, Illness or Dependent Care:
In recognition of the effects that childbirth, adoption, illness, and caring for incapacitated dependents (such as children, ill or injured partners, or aging parents) may have on the time and energy that graduate students have to devote to their educational programs, the University allows students in such circumstances to apply for a leave of absence of up to two semesters during which time they do not intend to make academic progress toward the completion of their degree. The time taken on an approved leave of absence is not included in the time limitations for degree completion and advancement to candidacy.

Length of Leaves
Application for a leave of absence may be made on a one- or two-semester basis. A leave of absence ordinarily will not be granted for more than one academic year. Leave requested for a longer period are approved only in exceptional circumstances. An approved leave for one semester will be extended to two semesters as needed, if so requested by the applicant prior to the expiration of the approved one-semester leave of absence.

Application Procedures
A leave of absence for childbearing, adoption, illness, or dependent care normally must be requested and approved prior to the beginning of the academic term for which it is being requested. A letter of request should be addressed to the Dean of the Graduate School and should provide a
A detailed explanation of the circumstances leading to the request and a justification of the time requested (one semester or one year). The request must be approved by the student's faculty advisor and Graduate Director prior to submission to the Graduate Dean. The faculty advisor, Graduate Director, and/or Graduate Dean may request a doctor's statement. Approved leaves will stop the student's "time-to-degree clock."

**Special Considerations**

- **Registration Requirements.** Students on approved leave of absence are not registered at the University and, therefore, do not have the rights and privileges of registered students. Students must be registered during a semester in which they fulfill a University or departmental degree requirement, such as taking qualifying exams or submitting a dissertation/thesis. In addition, students must also be registered in order to be eligible for any form of University financial aid (e.g., a teaching or research assistantship) and to be certified as full-time students.

- **Impact on Funding.** When contemplating a leave of absence, graduate students are advised to consult with the sources of their funding to determine whether a leave might involve a long-term financial loss. Because academic programs and financial aid packages may be constructed and sequenced over a period of years, individual interruptions to the normal sequence of academic progress and scheduled employment may result in a loss of future funding and a slower time to completion of degree. In some programs, a leave of absence may mean that students may have to join a new project upon return, with the likelihood that their research may take longer to complete. Whenever a leave of absence is being considered, a student should meet with the advisor to develop a plan for resumption of study and gain a clear understanding of future funding opportunities. Some outside funding agencies frown on interruptions to a degree program. Some only allow leave for medical reasons or military service. Others require prior approval of the fellowship agency.

- **Students with outstanding educational loans** need to consider the effect of taking a leave of absence on their loan status. For some student loans, a grace period for repaying the loan begins once the student stops registering. If the leave period is longer than the grace period, then the student may have to begin repaying the loan while on a leave of absence. Prior to taking a leave, students should arrange to meet with a Student Financial Aid officer, and/or contact their lenders.

- **International students.** Non-immigrant F-1 and J-1 students and their dependents must maintain legal immigration status at all times. Students with F-1 or J-1 visas must be enrolled full-time every semester at the University while they remain in the United States. The only possible exception that might allow a student to remain in the United States while on an approved leave of absence might be a serious illness or medical condition. Students are advised to consult with the staff of the Office of International Educational Services for more information when considering a leave of absence.

- **Student Accounts.** Students are advised to check with the Bursar’s Office prior to taking an approved leave of absence in order to determine the status of their student accounts. Students are advised that accounts that are overdue will be subject to regular procedures in accordance with University
guidelines, notwithstanding any approved leave of absence: specifically, late fees and finance charges will continue to accrue, students will be blocked from future registration upon their return, and accounts will be referred to the State Central Collection Unit, with the imposition of additional collection charges, for non-payment in accordance with regular time-frames.

• University Housing. The University’s general policy is that students must be registered to be eligible for University housing. For specific information about continued eligibility for University housing during an approved leave of absence, students are advised to contact the Department of Resident Life. Additional restrictions may apply to students leasing housing through Southern Management Corporation. For specific information, students should contact the appropriate rental agent.

• Access to University Resources. Students who are on a leave of absence do not have a valid University of Maryland Identification card and therefore are not entitled to use University resources, such as the libraries, recreational centers, shuttle buses, and other services covered by mandatory fees. Students seeking information on use of the libraries while on an official leave of absence may find it at http://www.lib.umd.edu/PUBSERV/spemck.html, or they may contact the McKeldin Library Circulation Department, Special Borrowers Office, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Congratulations!

Your schooling may be over, but remember that your education still continues.

2009 INCOMING CLASS

Tyler Drye
Clemson University, Clemson, SC

Jemellie Galang (Spring)
University of Maryland

Michael Warehime
Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA

Rian You
Sun Yat-sen University, China

Steven Ziemak
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

RECENT 2009 GRADUATES

Tilman Rolsales, Ph.D.
Post-doctoral Fellow
National Institute of Health
National Heart Lung and Blood Institute

Adrian Southard, Ph.D.
Undecided

Yun Tang, Ph.D.
Post-doctoral Fellow
Department of Materials Science and Engineering
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Chemical Physics & Biophysics

Fall Reception

Friday, September 18, 2009
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Chemistry Building Atrium

All Chemical Physics, Biophysics Students, Faculty and Government Scientists are welcome.

Please R.S.V.P. by

Monday, September 14, 2009

Debbie Jenkins, dajenkins@umd.edu
301-405-4780

or

Caricia Fisher, cjfisher@umd.edu
301-405-9307