Top stories in this newsletter

**Steve Soper joins KU Chemistry**

Alumnus Steven A. Soper returned to KU Chemistry as a Foundation Distinguished Professor in August 2016. Soper earned his Ph.D. in Bioanalytical Chemistry from the University of Kansas in 1989 under the direction of Emeritus Professor Theodore (Ted) Kuwana. Since his graduate days at KU, he has proceeded to develop a very prestigious research career in the fields of bioanalytical chemistry and biomedical engineering and established significant collaborations throughout these fields. Soper is the Director of the Center for BioModular Multi-scale Systems, CBM2, for Precision Medicine and brings over $5 million in funding. Click here for more information about Foundation Distinguished Professor Steven Soper’s appointment at KU.

**New buildings on the KU campus horizon**

KU Chemistry is excited to announce the new Integrated Science Building (ISB1), which is a significant part of the Central District redevelopment plan on KU’s main campus. The Central District construction began in early spring 2016, with the demolition of Stouffer Place and the site preparation work continuing through the summer. The construction of the ISB building is expected to be completed in time for fall 2018 courses. The Central District will also include a new student union in place of the demolished Burge Union. For more about the construction, click here.

**Alumni in the News**

Douglas Neckers receives 2016 Theodor Förster Lecture Prize

KU Chemistry alumnus, Dr. Douglas Neckers, has been named as the recipient of the Theodor Förster Lecture Prize for 2016. McMaster Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus at Bowling Green State University, Neckers earned his Chemistry Ph.D. at KU as one of Emeritus Professor of Chemistry Earl S. Huyser’s first graduate students. Click here for the press release.

Jeffrey Johnson named Outstanding Publication of the Year Awardee

KU Chemistry alumnus, Dr. Jeffrey Johnson, has been named as a recipient of the 2016 Outstanding Publication of the Year Award by The Journal of Organic Chemistry. Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of North Carolina, Jeffrey Johnson earned his B.S. degree in chemistry at KU in 1994 and worked under Emeritus Professor Robert Carlson.

**Andy Borovik visits KU as guest speaker**

Andrew Borovik – A Special Visit

Andy Borovik of the University of California-Irvine, was the guest speaker for the Annual Tiffany Maher Memorial Lecture presented on Friday, September 9th. He is a leader in the field of bioinorganic chemistry with research that includes producing more effective chemical processes by molecular design enhanced by biological enzymes.

Borovik was a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Kansas from 1996-2006 and at Kansas State University from 1993-1996. He earned his B.S. in chemistry from Humboldt State University in 1981 and his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 1986.

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