



August 5, 2014
Media Contact: Joanna Norris, Director
Department of Public Relations
(904) 620-2102

UNF Awarded Prestigious Jean Dreyfus Boissevain Lectureship Award

The Department of Chemistry at the University of North Florida has been presented the prominent Jean Dreyfus Boissevain Lectureship Award for Undergraduate Institutions, which brings in a high-profile lecturer and supports undergraduate research.

The Jean Dreyfus Boissevain Lectureship Award, launched in 2010, provides an \$18,500 grant to bring a leading researcher to a primarily undergraduate institution to give a series of lectures in the chemical sciences and to support two undergraduates in summer research. Tentatively, both the lectures and selection process for the undergraduate research fellowships will be organized in the spring 2015 semester.

“With the Dreyfus award, UNF chemistry undergraduates will be able to interact directly with an internationally renowned scientist, while also providing them with an unparalleled opportunity to spend the summer engaged in hands-on research. This is the kind of experience that opens doors to exciting careers,” said UNF Associate Vice President for Research Dr. John Kantner.

Only five universities receive the award each year, and UNF is the first Florida university to receive the grant. The grant proposal was developed and submitted by Dr. Kenneth Laali, UNF chemistry professor and Presidential Professor, and Dr. Christos Lampropoulos, UNF assistant professor of chemistry. Award criterion is based on faculty research programs, internal/external research support and undergraduate participation in research.

UNF chemistry faculty are engaged in several areas of research, including analytical chemistry, bioorganic chemistry and biochemistry, environmental chemistry, inorganic and materials chemistry, organic and physical organic chemistry and physical chemistry.

Chemistry faculty have secured external research grant support from numerous organizations, such as the Research Corporation, National Science Foundation-Major Research Instrumentation and the American Chemical Society-Fluorine Division, to name a few. Chemistry students at the University participate in an active and growing undergraduate research program, present research posters and co-author peer-reviewed publications.

The lectureship is named in honor of Jean Dreyfus Boissevain, president of the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, a leading non-profit organization devoted to the advancement of the chemical sciences, from 1956 until 1991. The Foundation programs advance young faculty of early accomplishment, develop leadership in environmental chemistry and enhance chemistry education and public interest in chemistry.

The UNF Department of Chemistry's mission is to provide excellent educational experiences in the classroom and in the laboratory at all levels and in all sub-disciplines of chemistry, with the goal to foster in its students a solid background in the foundational aspects, an understanding of the scientific methods of inquiry and an appreciation of the significance and relevance of chemistry in daily life.

UNF, a [nationally ranked](#) university located on an environmentally beautiful campus, offers students who are dedicated to enriching the lives of others the opportunity to build their own futures through a well-rounded education.

-UNF-