



## Students Present Research

Last year OSSM Chemistry Professor, Dr. Fazlur Rahman, began a research project as a mentorship with Brian Lee (Muskogee, '05), and Aniq Rahman (Norman, '05). As a result of their research the students presented their work at the 60<sup>th</sup> American Chemistry Society Regional Meeting in Dallas on September 29, 2004. The title of their research was *Biologically Important Compounds: Coordination of the Tetrahydropyrimidine thiol to Cationic Silver and Copper*.

Dr. Rahman explained that chemistry of coinage metals, such as copper, silver, and gold has generated considerable interest in recent years in light of their potential application in medicine, photographic emulsions, and chemical sensors. These metal ions are well known for their antibacterial use, combating infantile blindness. The work Dr. Rahman and his students did encompassed molecular design and X-ray structural elucidation. The long-term objective of their research is to test the effectiveness of these compounds in antibacterial and anti-tumor activities in order to develop metal-based drugs.

In their continuing mentorship, the students and Dr. Rahman are in the process of testing the compounds for antibacterial and anti-tumor studies in collaboration with Dr. R. Ishmael at the Nat Cell Laboratories in Oklahoma City.

## Foundation Leader Featured Speaker

Jennifer Li (Edmond, '06) opened *OSSM Wednesday* this past week with a beautifully performed piano solo, and Jacob Mayden (Oklahoma City, '05) introduced our special guest, Dr. Michael Anderson, president of the Presbyterian Health Foundation (PHF).

Dr. Anderson is a graduate of the San Francisco Theological Seminary and pursued postgraduate work at Oxford University and the University of Edinburgh, which concluded with a Ph.D. in theology. He has written over one hundred articles in religious journals and is the author of four books. Now his commitment is to lead PHF in its support of medical research through biotechnology companies at the PHF Research Park, which is located just south of our campus on Lincoln Boulevard. His presentation included the latest information about the companies that occupy the research facility, and he explained some of the work they are doing and the products they are producing.

## Counselor's Corner

The Gates Millennium Scholarship is available online at [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org). The application is somewhat tedious and requires both a nominator and a recommender, at least one of whom must be from the student's home community.

Eligible seniors are limited to: African American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American, or Hispanic American students who are citizens, legal permanent residents, or U.S. Nationals.

Latest additions to college representative visits are:

**Northwestern University**, October 20

**John Brown University**, October 22

**Notre Dame**, October 28

**Rice University**, November 1

(4:00 p.m. on Monday of extended weekend)

**Wellesley College**, November 5

**Please note:** the Yale Regional Meeting date is October 18 - 7:00 p.m.

## Reminder:

Over 200 students and family members plan to attend the OSSM Open House on Saturday, October 23, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Ms. Donnolo is extremely grateful to all of the OSSM juniors and seniors who have volunteered to help. OSSM parents are welcomed to attend this event. We are still in need of some parent volunteers to chat with guests in the Great Hall at the end of the event when refreshments will be served. Please let her know if you are interested in helping ([sdonnolo@ossm.edu](mailto:sdonnolo@ossm.edu) or 405/522-7802).

## Thank you to . . .

. . . Nathan Crain (Helena, '06), Brent Luke (Shawnee, '06), Amber Loftis (Bartlesville, '06), Afsaneh Talai (Norman, '06), and Jennifer Nguyen (Oklahoma City, '06) from a grateful Ms. Donnolo for helping greet and tour with with prospective students this week.

## Happy Birthday to:

Ms. Elizabeth Kannady

October 20

Prof. Bill Turpen

October 23

# The Humanities Faculty

**Professor Karen Hamel** came to teach at OSSM in the fall of 1996, but left us after the 2000/2001 school year to continue her education at Magdalene College of the University of Cambridge, in Cambridge, England. In the fall of 2003, the professor returned to OSSM to teach World Literature. Before joining the OSSM faculty the first time, Professor Hamel had worked for Intermec UK Limited as a sales account manager, in England. During the year just prior to her return to OSSM, she taught European History at Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada and during the summer studied and traveled in Russia.

Mrs. Hamel has a B.S. in Zoology from the University of Wyoming, and an M.A. in English, with a focus on Rhetoric, Creative Writing, and British Literature, from the University of Houston. While in England she earned her M.Phil. from the Department of Anglo Saxon, Norse and Celtic, with a focus on Medieval History.

Professor Hamel is married to OSSM Western Civilization Professor, Dr. Chris Hamel. This semester the Hamels are “co-teaching” the Western Civilization course, so that she can devote time to her own writing career. She is also coordinating the lecture series for *OSSM Wednesdays* (all school assemblies).

In private life (or maybe not-so-private since the Hamel’s are the resident faculty family for the 3rd floor girls) Professor Hamel is Mom to Kristin Anthony, her daughter who is a junior at Oklahoma City’s Classen School of Advanced Studies. She also enjoys special claim to Tara, David, and Amanda Hamel, and is grandma to one-and-one-half year old Erin.

In her spare time, Professor Hamel reads about the medieval monks of England and France, about medieval heresies, and for fun, the current alternative histories that feature the Templars and conspiracy theories. She is currently working on a novel which explores some of that alternative history and a screen play set in Cambridge, England. She is interested in geology and collects rocks and minerals on annual visits to Arkansas and occasional visits to other geologically interesting areas like the Urals. Ask her about her specimens of Charoite from Siberia!



**Dr. Shelley Rees** joined the faculty this semester to teach the writing labs for seniors and juniors. She had lived in Texas all of her life until she moved to the Oklahoma City area last year when her husband, Mike, a Ph.D. mathematician, took a position as a software engineer with Boeing’s B-1B program.

Dr. Rees attended the University of North Texas at Denton where she earned her B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in English. Her area of specialization was 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature. Her other academic interests include philosophy and media studies.

Since moving to Oklahoma, before coming to teach at OSSM, Dr. Rees taught English Composition I & II at Rose State College. Prior to that, she taught English at a private high school in Dallas, and was an English instructor for Upward Bound Math and Science. She also taught a variety of writing and literature courses at North Central Texas College and was a graduate teaching fellow at North Texas.

The Drs. Rees have a son, Vaughn, who is in second grade in Edmond, where (a future OSSMer, says his mom) he is in the Gifted and Talented Program. The family has a sweet (but dumb, says Dr. Rees) 12-year-old dog named Markie and two cats. Dr. Rees spends a good deal of what spare time she can eke out at Vaughn’s sporting events, reading novels, and enjoying family favorites on television (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Judge Judy*, *The Amazing Race*, *Law and Order*, *The Crocodile Hunter*, *Spongebob*, *Everwood*, *American Idol*, *The Apprentice*, and *Monty Python’s Flying Circus*). Dr. Rees watches *DragonballZ* with Vaughn although, she says, “I don’t know how I ended up sucked into that!”

Dr. Rees attends academic conferences whenever she can. Last fall she chaired a panel at the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Conference in New York City, and this past summer she presented a paper at the Slayage Conference in Nashville on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

(Watch for more about our humanities faculty in the weeks to come.)