**DR. KENNETH K. LAALI**
**Chairperson of forthcoming Deparment of Chemistry and**
**Professor of Chemistry**

It is the recommendation of the Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Physics and the tenured Faculty of the forthcoming Department of Chemistry, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, that Dr. Kenneth K. Laali be appointed as a tenured Professor of Chemistry and Chairperson of the newly forming Department of Chemistry, effective 1 July, 2009.

Dr. Laali earned his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Manchester (UK), and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Tehran (Iran). He also completed postdoctoral work at King's College London, University of Strasbourg, University of Amsterdam, ETH Zurich and the University of Southern California. He is currently a tenured Professor of Chemistry at Kent State University, where he has been since 1985. Some highlights of Dr. Laali's teaching expertise include graduate and undergraduate level courses in organic chemistry. He has been research advisor to over 35 undergraduates and a major advisor to numerous successful graduate students.

Dr. Laali has an extensive scholarship record including 159 refereed published manuscripts, four books and seven book chapters. He has been principle investigator (sometimes with others) on grants and contracts totaling nearly $1,200,000.00 throughout his career, with awards coming from such notable agencies as the NIH.

Dr. Laali has served as referee for seven leading chemistry journals including the Journal of the American Chemical Society and the Journal of Organic Chemistry.

The Department of Chemistry voted unanimously to extend tenure as a condition of employment for Dr. Laali. He will bring the leadership and direction necessary for the development and continuation of our forthcoming new Department of Chemistry.