

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** August 27, 2013  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Kelly Stachowicz, Deputy City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Proclamation Recognizing Davis-Beirut Name Reaction

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### **Recommendation**

Informational

### **Fiscal Impact**

No fiscal impact other than staff time to prepare.

### **Background**

A “name reaction” is a chemical reaction named after its discoverers. In 2011, through the work of researchers UC Davis and American University Beirut, a specific chemical reaction was named, a great honor in chemistry. The reaction was named the “Davis-Beirut Reaction,” also bringing honor on and recognition to UC Davis and the Davis community. The attached proclamation recognizes this achievement.

### **Attachments**

1. Proclamation

## PROCLAMATION

### RECOGNIZING THE DAVIS-BEIRUT REACTION IN THE FIELD OF CHEMISTRY

WHEREAS, UC Davis and American University of Beirut (AUB) are internationally recognized institutions established by the American public (UC Davis by the citizens of California in 1905 and AUB by American Missionaries, chartered by the State of New York, in 1866); and

WHEREAS, having a Name Reaction is a special and rare honor in recognition of discovery in chemistry; and

WHEREAS, the cities of Davis, California, USA and Beirut, Lebanon have been honored by the Name Reaction “The Davis-Beirut Reaction”; and

WHEREAS, the Davis-Beirut Reaction, named in a 2011 *Organic Letters* publication (a prestigious publication of the American Chemical Society), is now well documented in the Chemical Literature; and

WHEREAS, the Davis-Beirut Reaction is of fundamental significance in heterocyclic chemistry and has important implications in human health-related issues such as in the development of inhibitors of myeloperoxidase with implications for individuals with cystic fibrosis; and

WHEREAS, the discovery of the Davis-Beirut Reaction has been made by Dr. Mark J. Kurth (Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at UC Davis) and Dr. Makhluif J. Haddadin (Professor of Chemistry at AUB) as helped by their undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral co-workers at both UC Davis and AUB; and

WHEREAS, UC Davis and AUB are great institutions of higher learning in research, especially in chemistry; and

WHEREAS, the Davis-Beirut Reaction is a vivid example of the rewards of international collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Davis-Beirut Reaction research efforts have been funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Tara K. Telford Fund for Cystic Fibrosis Research at UC Davis, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, American University of Beirut Royalty Funds, and Professor Haddadin’s paid research leaves from AUB; and

NOW, THEREFORE, ON BEHALF OF THE DAVIS CITY COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF DAVIS, I, Mayor Joe Krovoza congratulate Professors Kurth and Haddadin for their discovery and acknowledge with gratitude the honor and recognition bestowed on the entire Davis community.

Dated: August 27, 2013

Joseph F. Krovoza  
Mayor