For Immediate Release
Contact: Jody Cofer
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Spears, Miller, Fannin Research Published by International Society

Robin J. Spears and Philip A. Miller, Murray State University (MSU) alumni, and their faculty mentor Dr. Harry Fannin, Professor of Chemistry, co-authored a study entitled "A Low-Power, Reduced-Pressure Inductively Coupled Helium Plasma Source for Atomic Emission and Absorption" and recently had their work published in the journal *Applied Spectroscopy*.

The journal issue focused on innovation in plasma atomic spectroscopy. Spear's and his colleague's research was a preliminary study to find an "inexpensive retro-fit to conventional atomic absorption systems." The project results were positive although future studies are warranted.

Spears, who is now pursuing a doctorate in chemical engineering at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN, was active in undergraduate research during his time at MSU. He received support from the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity (URSA) and the former MSU McNair Scholars Program.

Miller, who is now pursuing a dental degree at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, was also active in undergraduate research during his time at MSU.

Applied Spectroscopy is published by the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. The Society "is a non-profit organization dedicated to the dissemination of information related to spectroscopy. In business for over 40 years, the Society is committed to education and to providing quality benefits to our 3,000 members worldwide. The objective of this Society is to advance and disseminate knowledge and information concerning the art and science of spectroscopy and other allied sciences. The scope of this Society is to undertake and promote activities which shall accomplish the objective. The term spectroscopy as used here means the science and art of absorption, emission, Raman, mass, and related forms of spectral study for determining the composition and structure of matter."

A copy of the research article by Spears, Miller, and Fannin can be viewed at http://campus.murraystate.edu/services/ursa/.