

## ACS – Northeast Wisconsin Section

American Chemical Society

March 2011

### **2011 – The International Year of Chemistry**

March begins the next installment for our local section. A significant change has occurred this year with our speakers program. The national ACS office is no longer covering the expense nor providing our speakers. This is both a good and bad development. Certainly the financial and organizational help from the national office made it easy to get lots of speakers each year at our meetings. However, the pool of potential speakers willing to go through the national office 'process' wasn't as large as it could have been. I am proud to say that in response to this change, the Northeast WI local section has teamed up with the Central WI, Milwaukee, and Upper Peninsula local sections to organize four speakers this year that will tour through WI and the UP. This new approach will allow us to find speakers engaged in active research programs as well as younger speakers. Our first speaker will be from Notre Dame. He offers a very promising talk centered on drug research collaboration between academics and industry. I encourage you to come hear him at UW-Oshkosh this month. We have 3 more planned to occur in April, September, and October. Suggestions for potential topics or presenters are always welcome ([ccunning@kcc.com](mailto:ccunning@kcc.com)).

I would be remiss if I did not also mention (in case you haven't been reading C&EN or almost any journal) that 2011 is the [International Year of Chemistry](#). Several chemistry-related organizations throughout the world have joined together for this event. The IYC is a great spark for all of us to do something positive in our communities in the name of chemistry. Whether it is a small classroom demo, or deciding to become an ACS officer, now is a great time to start. The ACS has materials available to help with [demos and other activities](#). Please let us know if you are planning anything – we would love to hear about it!



Corey Cunningham – Chair

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### ◆ **March 2011 Section Meeting** ◆

Professor Paul Helquist  
University of Notre Dame

#### **“Collaborative Drug Discovery Research in an Academic Setting”**

Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm  
UW-Oshkosh  
Halsey Science Center – Room 57



[Map](#)

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## **Professor Paul Helquist – “Collaborative Drug Discovery Research in an Academic Setting”**

In a joint set of ventures, the [Wiest](#) and [Helquist](#) laboratories at Notre Dame, specializing in computational chemistry and drug synthesis, respectively, are supported by various funding mechanisms to reach out to investigators in other fields and at many institutions to form multi-disciplinary collaborative teams for the purpose of drug development. Most often, the external collaborators are at medical schools or other biomedical institutions and have major strengths in biological or clinical studies but do not have the chemistry expertise required for drug development. These collaborators have often identified a potential therapeutic protein target from cellular studies, or they have conducted compound screenings to identify initial hits. The next logical steps in these investigations are the design of protein binders or hit optimization, requiring the computational and synthetic chemistry input of our laboratories. The resulting compounds are provided back to the external collaborators and other appropriate parties for more extensive biological studies. Over the past few years, these collaborative ties have been established with many investigators at Cornell University Weill College of Medicine, Tufts University Medical School, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Washington University School of Medicine, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Broad Institute, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Purdue University, State University of New York at Albany, and Biological Sciences at Notre Dame.

This presentation will place emphasis on computational modeling, compound selection, and chemical synthesis efforts employed in pursuing leads from our collaborators. Examples will include potential drugs for treating cancer and a rare, inherited disease.

## **Preparing for College Chemistry**

On Saturday 9th April, the [ChemShare](#) High School Teachers group and local Northeast Wisconsin College Chemistry faculty invite you to participate in a panel discussion of connecting K-12 curricula with college requirements. The event will be held at UW-Oshkosh (Halsey Science Building 457) with a brief tour of the chemistry department starting at 9.30am, followed by the panel discussion at 10am that will focus on what skills our high school students need to succeed in college chemistry classes. Faculty from a variety of local institutions of higher education will be present. A light lunch sponsored by the Northeast Wisconsin local section of the American Chemical Society will be available afterwards. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Pat Hallquist (Oshkosh Lourdes High School, [phallquist@ucs.k12.wi.us](mailto:phallquist@ucs.k12.wi.us))

## **2011 Chemistry Olympiad**

Each year our local high school students test their knowledge and skills in chemistry by participating in the [U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad](#). Kara Pezzi, the Northeast Wisconsin USNCO Coordinator and chemistry teacher extraordinaire, once again is facilitating our students in study sessions and exam administration. If you have not yet considered some students for this event and have interest, please contact [Kara](#).

## **Biofuels & Cooperatives Workshop: Sweetwater Organics / Milwaukee Makerspace**

The Green Diesel Wisconsin Foundation, Town & Country RCD, and Transition Milwaukee are offering an all-day [workshop](#) for anyone interested in bringing biofuels to their community. The morning session will focus on how to coordinate a biofuels project in your community with an extensive discussion and conversation with experts in the field on forming and maintaining successful cooperatives. This portion of the program will be held at Sweetwater Organics in Milwaukee,

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and you will have the option to tour their advanced urban farm with aquaponics. In the afternoon we will head “next door” to the Milwaukee Makerspace, a collective of small-scale producers and “technical” folks working on various projects, including electric cars. In addition to getting a tour of their place we’ll hear from those working in the field about fuel ethanol and other sustainability projects happening in Jefferson county, and installing blending pumps/stations, like the biodiesel station in Manitowoc, that could be installed in your community. This workshop is sure to provide a wealth of valuable information for anyone interested in seeing more locally produced (and consumed) fuel, and the steps required to make it happen where you live and work.

The cost of the workshop is only \$30! but limited to 35 attendees. To keep the price low, we won’t be providing lunch, but have an excellent nearby Café Tarragon, that will be ready for us. Also, Sweetwater Organics is offering half-off their \$20 tour price for workshop attendees, so bring \$10 if you want to take the tour. For more details, contact [Bob Brylski](#).

## ON THE WEB

### Google Alerts

Not sure if you are familiar with this, but on the Google website, one can set up alerts to receive a regular update on a select search. It’s a bit buried, and therefore may not be fully appreciated: navigate to Google, click on the “more”, and then click on the “even more”. First there is information, then knowledge, then wisdom.

### Online Freebies – Chemistry International, Bulletin of the Korean Chemical Society

In keeping with identifying fine free chemistry resources on the internet, here’s another: IUPAC publishes “[Chemistry International](#)”, full text available online. The January/February 2011 issue celebrates the research of Marie Curie. Issues can be downloaded in .pdf, a great resource for high school student research. Another: the [Bulletin of the Korean Chemical Society](#); no worries, it is in English.

Want more free chemistry online? Check out a page on our [NEWI Section Website!](#)

### One More!

If that isn’t enough, how about 700+ audio/video/powerpoint presentations? The ACS offers up free content from both of last year’s [National Meetings and a Green Chemistry Conference](#). This is exceptional content for no cost.

### Cut to the Chase, Online Content

Not sure if you’ve seen this site, [eDocfind](#) is a search site that allows you to search, and find ‘hits’ in a specific format (Word, pdf, Excel, Flash, etc.). It is a reasonable site. Google Scholar also highlights pdf hits, but often they are not available online content.

### Northeast Wisconsin Section Newsletter

Do you have items to share? Put it in the newsletter! Send an [email](#) and we’ll be glad to get it in print.

<http://newisc.sites.acs.org/>