

ACS – Northeast Wisconsin Section

American Chemical Society

October 2012

Cast Your Vote!

Greetings fellow members! What a summer, it seems like the lack of rain just made it go so fast. I hope you all had a great time and are easing back into the semester or fall projects at work/home. I know we are all getting a little tired of the political ads that seem to be running non-stop, but I wanted to draw attention to the fact that our local section will be having elections in November as well. We have a new chair, James Wang, starting with the new year but we are always looking for new volunteers for positions. Our dependable crew of Bob Brylski, Steve Hurley, and Martin Rudd continue to do great work for the local section but would love the chance to work with new officers. The positions we have are Treasurer, Secretary, Chair Elect, and Public Relations. The work load is not strenuous and you would be in good hands with this team in learning the ropes. These offices give you the opportunity to identify speakers, learn the inner workings of a local section, attend leadership conferences offered by the ACS, and get to know more of your local section chemistry colleagues. I highly encourage those with any interest to submit their nominations to our current Secretary at Steven.Hurley@kcc.com to get your name on the ballot. Again, voting will take place at the November meeting but we have plans to move to an electronic system in the near future. I hope to see your names on the list and see you at our October meeting at UW-Oshkosh on October 16th.



◆ **October 2012 Section Meeting**

Professor David F. Wiemer

“Our Search for Natural Insecticides”

Tuesday, October 16th at 6:30 pm
UW Oshkosh
Room 260
Halsey Science Center



[Map](#)

ACS – Northeast Wisconsin Section

American Chemical Society

October 2012

Professor David F. Wiemer, “Our Search for Natural Insecticides”

The leafcutter ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae, Attini) are classed as agricultural pests throughout the tropical Americas, both because of the massive amount of leaf material that they harvest and their special fondness for agriculturally important plants. Colonies whose foraging is restricted to areas of native forest encounter a great variety of potential host plants, but while the ants are considered polyphagous they are quite specific in their preferences for some plant species and dislike of others. We have been investigating avoided plants for the presence of natural chemical defenses against this insect. From the leaves of unpalatable plants, we have isolated a number of compounds that function as ant-repellents. Representative structures will be presented, to illustrate modern techniques for determining the structures of natural products (e.g. 2D NMR and chemical synthesis). Some speculation on the basis of this ant-repellent activity also will be offered. Application of the strategies developed from studies with leafcutter ants to investigation of other types of insect-plant interactions will be presented as well.

[Dr. David Wiemer](#) is F. Wendell Professor of Chemistry at the University of Iowa. He has ‘home ties’, having received his B.S. in Chemistry from Marquette University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, and Post Doc experience at Cornell University. He is currently an ACS Fellow, and a Fellow with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has over 170 publications to his credit, as well as 6 patents. He has consulted for a number of years for Procter & Gamble, but we still welcome him to “Kimberly-Clark country”!

Northeast Wisconsin Section – November Elections

The Northeast Section is will have officer elections for 2013 at the November section meeting. If you are interested in a position, or would like to nominate someone, please contact steven.hurley@kcc.com. We welcome new officers and will most assuredly provide transition and support for newcomers.

A Host of Academic Opportunities!!

We are very fortunate in our section to have many fine learning institutions at all levels, with excellent staff. Three new opportunities are available, please pass the word!!

- [Assistant Professor of Chemistry](#) – UW-Oshkosh; deadline, October 12, 2012
- [Assistant Professor of Chemistry](#) – Ripon College; deadline, November 19, 2012
- [Assistant Professor of Chemistry](#) – St. Norbert College; deadline, October 25, 2012
- [Assistant Professor of Chemistry](#) – Marian University; deadline, December 15, 2012

Speaking of Excellence, Congratulations to Kara Pezzi!

Kara Pezzi, a NE Wisconsin Section Award winner, is recognized regularly for her passion for chemistry and her motivation to pass her knowledge to all who will listen. Kara has now been honored with a 2011 Presidential [Award](#) for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. This prestigious award was issued to only 97 teachers in 2011 throughout the United States! Congratulations Kara! Catch the [Fox News reel!](#)



UW-Oshkosh Alumnus to be Honored with a 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award

Anton Hopfinger, a distinguished research professor of pharmacy at the University of New Mexico and professor emeritus of medicinal chemistry and pharmacognosy at the University of Illinois will be honored at a reception and dinner October 12th, to receive UW-Oshkosh's highest honor – the [Distinguished Alumni Award](#). Graduating from UW-Oshkosh in 1966 with degrees in Math and Physics, he went on to earn a Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry from Case Western Reserve. His research has changed the face of computational chemistry; he has been called the “father” of the multidimensional QSAR or quantitative structure-activity relationship.

Catch the Great Lakes Green Chemistry Conference

The Hyatt Regency in Chicago will host the [Great Lakes Green Chemistry Conference](#) from November 13th – 15th. There is a discounted registration for educators, and I am confident that our section would approve some support for anyone interested in assistance to attend this local conference!

ACS National Section Meetings – Lectures Online

The ACS National Section has made [presentations](#) available from the National Meetings, free for viewing. If you have not attended recent section meetings, here's a chance to catch up!

ON THE WEB

SlideShare

[Slideshare](#) is a home to millions of presentations, thousands related to chemistry.

Chemical Strategies Partnership

[CSP](#) is a nonprofit agency that focuses on the responsible use of chemicals in industry to minimize waste and risks.

Labtube.tv

[Labtube.tv](#) is trying to be Youtube for the scientific community.

UW-Madison Biotechnology Center

The Biotechnology center records their [lectures](#) and makes them available online.

Technical Writing - Lite

[LabLit.com](#) is a site that allows you to put your science into words, fact or fiction!

Water, Water Everywhere

[Water Structure and Science](#) is devoted to the science of water.

PubChem

[PubChem](#) is like PubMed for chemicals!

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/>