



Illinois State University

DEPARTMENT  
OF CHEMISTRY

*Celebrating 50 years*

**BLUE NOTES**



September 15, 2016 – Issue 2016-15

## GRADUATE THESIS COMPETITION

Congratulations to James Brault (Dr. Friesen's Lab)! His thesis, "*Characterization of Cytidyltransferase Enzyme Activity Through High Performance Liquid Chromatography*," was selected by the Graduate Studies Directors for the college award in Group A, Sciences and Mathematics. His thesis, along with two others (Group B, Social Sciences, and Group C, Humanities), will be sent to the Graduate School for the next stage in the James L. Fisher Master's Thesis Competition.

## SCIENCE ROCKS! IN PEORIA

A big "Thank you!" goes out to the Illinois Heartland ACS volunteers, including Greg Ferrence and Frank Shaw, who helped out at Science Rocks! at the Peoria Riverfront Museum on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The museum attendance during the event was about 1400 people, many of whom stopped by to check out the science displays.

## FALL 2016 SEMINAR SERIES

**3:00 p.m. in Julian Hall room 225**

- September 23 Erasmus Jugovic, "Biological Adaptation to Heavy Water in Growth Mediums"
- September 30 Ruixiao Gao, "Synthesis and Characterization of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) – Porphyrin Hybrids"
- October 7 *Alumni Day* – Phil Januszewski (M&P Presentations)
- October 14 Navneet Sahota (Literature)
- October 21 Kristen Eilts (Literature)
- October 28 Dr. Jeremy Driskell
- November 4 Jade Katinas (Medical Chemistry Literature)
- November 11 Dr. Gordon Selling (USDA-ARS), "Improved Spandex and Corn Based Products"
- November 18 Craig Haynes (Literature)
- December 2 Daniel Hart, "Fermenting Solutions to an Old Tequila Problem: The Bioremediation of Blue Agave Waste"
- December 9 Faculty Candidate
- Finals Week Faculty Candidate (if necessary)

## DATES AND DEADLINES

- September 16 **-Family Weekend Showcase (2:30 p.m. in JH 225)**  
-Last day to withdraw from a first-half semester course. A withdrawal grade of WX is assigned.  
-Last day to drop the Credit/No Credit (Pass/Fail) from a first-half semester course.
- September 19 Catalog copy sent to colleges, departments, and schools for "red-ink" editing and Editorial Requests for the 2017-2018 Undergraduate and Graduate catalogs (with a return to Jeri Ryburn by November 28).

- September 20 Last day to drop a full-semester course and receive 25% tuition adjustment. There will be no adjustment in charges for full-semester course withdrawals after this date.
- September 26 Midterm grade submission available. Grade submission system is available until the 10 p.m. deadline on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.
- September 27 Begin preliminary audit on December 2016 Bachelor Degree candidates. Deficiency Statements will be emailed to students with deficiencies with copies sent to dept/school. (Electives added to plans and petitions for graduation exception submitted prior to preliminary audit will result in fewer deficiency statements.)

## STUDENT, FACULTY and STAFF ACTIVITIES

### Funding

1. **T. Andrew Mitchell**, "RUI – Exploration for [5+2] Cycloadditions toward Novel Heterocyclic Scaffolds," National Science Foundation, \$210,000, September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2019.

### Publications

1. Venkata A. K. Adiraju, **Gregory M. Ferrence**, **Timothy D. Lash**, "Rhodium(I), Rhodium(III) and Iridium(III) Carbaporphyrins," *Dalton Transactions* **2016**, 45 (35), 13691-13694.
2. <sup>(UG)</sup>Brandon M. Nelson, <sup>(UG)</sup>Mihir K. Chavda, <sup>(UG)</sup>Johnathan Oliphant, <sup>(UG)</sup>Jalisa M. King, **Lisa F. Szczepura**, **Shawn R. Hitchcock**, "Enantiomerically Divergent Pathways in Tsuji-Trost Reactions: Exploiting the Structural Differences between  $\beta$ -acyloxy-*o*-(diphenylphosphino) benzamides and  $\beta$ -amido-*o*-(diphenylphosphino)benzoates," *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **2016**

### Faculty Presentations

1. Craig P. McClure, Cory D. Jensen, **Gregory M. Ferrence**, "Spreading the Word about Professionalism (Professional Ethics): Reconnecting with the Ethics Subdivision of the Division of Professional Relations (PROF)," 252<sup>nd</sup> ACS National Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, August 21-25, 2016. This was presented as an invited poster for SciMix.

### Student Presentations

1. <sup>(UG)</sup>Nora K. Fredstrom, **Shawn R. Hitchcock**, **Gregory M. Ferrence**, "Compliance Versus Commitment: An Undergraduate's Perspective on Safe Practice in the Research Lab," 252<sup>nd</sup> ACS National Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, August 21-25, 2016. This was also presented as an invited poster for SciMix.

