



Please send submissions to: Katie Gallagher at [galla134@msu.edu](mailto:galla134@msu.edu) or 302B Biochemistry (mailbox on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

Vol.39, No. 15, Apr. 10-14, 2006

## Calendar

### Monday, April 10

**Chemistry Seminar:** Tight binding and light-triggered release agents for iron. Michael Baldwin, University of Cincinnati, 11:30 a.m., 136 Chemistry.

**Entomology Seminar:** Toward a vulnerability assessment of the U.S. metropolitan areas to the invasion of non-indigenous species. Manuel Colunga-Garcia, 4:00 p.m., 244 Natural Science.

**Plant Research Laboratory and Plant Biology Seminar:** The role of the FT mRNA in photoperiodic regulation of plant growth and development. Ove Nilsson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, 4:10 p.m., 101 Biochemistry.

### Tuesday, April 11

### Wednesday, April 12

**Ecology, Evolutionary Biology and Behavior Program Seminar:** Crayfish diversity in epigeal and hypogean environments (decapoda: cambaridae). Horton Hobbs, Wittenberg University, 3:30 p.m., 247 Plant Biology.

**Food Science and Human Nutrition Seminar:** Biotechnological modification of wheat grain carbohydrates to enhance end-use quality and nutraceutical attributes. Ravindra Chibbar, University of Saskatchewan, 4:00 p.m., 101 Biochemistry.

**RTSP Flow Cytometry Core Facility Seminar:** Cytometric bead array and the FACSArray analyzer: detection of secreted cytokines and proteins. Andy Oberyszyn, BD Biosciences, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., 114 Biochemistry. A live demonstration of the bead array assay on a FACSArray cytometer in 519 Biochemistry will follow the seminar.

### Thursday, April 13

**24<sup>th</sup> Annual John A. Boezi Memorial Lecture - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Seminar:** From ribotides to synthetic genetic circuits, an ode to John Boezi. Andrew Ellington, University of Texas, Austin, 11:30 a.m., 101 Biochemistry.

**Chemistry Seminar:** Catecholamines: chemical messengers in health and disease. Graeme Eisenhofer, National Institutes of Health, 4:10 p.m., 138 Chemistry.

**Center for Integrative Toxicology Seminar:** Safety and toxicology studies in drug development. David Jacobson-Kram, Ph.D., U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 11:30 a.m., Holden Hunt Club 1967 Room, Holden Hall. Limited seating available and lunch will be provided. **Please RSVP to Carol Chvojka at [chvojka@msu.edu](mailto:chvojka@msu.edu) or call her at 432-3313.**

### Thursday, April 13

**2006 Annual Biochemistry Student Awards Banquet:** Cocktail hour at 6:00 p.m. and dinner buffet at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Awards, and honoring Dr. Andrew Ellington, the 2006 John A. Boezi Memorial Alumnus Awardee. Please RSVP to Teresa Vollmer (vollmer@msu.edu) or stop by Room 210 Biochemistry. The cost for the banquet is \$5.00 for graduate and undergraduate students, \$10.00 for academic and research staff, and \$15.00 for faculty.

### Friday, April 14

**Science at the Edge:** Interdisciplinary Physics Seminar - Is it NMR or is it crystallography: solving protein structures via the CLOUDS approach. Miguel Llinas, Department of Chemistry, Carnegie Mellon University, 11:30 a.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

**Transcription Journal Club:** No meeting this week.

## Announcements

**J. R. Brunner Protein Symposium Call For Oral Presentations:** Graduate and undergraduate students in all academic disciplines are invited to give an oral research presentation. The research must be related to proteins. Oral presentations should be 12-13 minutes in length and will be followed with a 2-3 minute opportunity for questions. There will be prizes given to first, second, and third place winners. To register, send an electronic copy of the abstract along with name, e-mail address, phone, mailing address, title of presentation, author and affiliations and abstract less than or equal to 250 words to Linda Young at [youngli@msu.edu](mailto:youngli@msu.edu). You will receive an e-mail confirming the receipt of your abstract. If you have questions please contact Linda Young. **Registration due date: Midnight, April 21, 2006.**

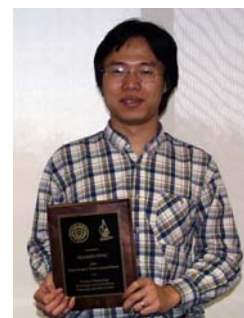
## Position Vacancy Notices (copies of notices are in maroon binder in Room 302A)

**Pfizer Inc.** has a **summer internship opportunity** available, at its Kalamazoo, MI site, for a student interested in structure elucidation using NMR spectroscopy and database matching. The successful candidate will be an undergraduate or M.S. candidate with an interest in the elucidation of small molecules by interpretation of NMR spectral data. Familiarity with NMR application software would also be beneficial. Length of the internship would be determined by the candidate, but should be at least 2 months. Interested candidates should apply online at [Pfizer.com](http://Pfizer.com) (requisition number 054388) and send resume directly to [stephen.h.grode@pfizer.com](mailto:stephen.h.grode@pfizer.com).

## Spotlight

**Xiaomin (Shawn) Deng**, third year Graduate Student in Biochemistry, recently received the Merck Student Travel Award for the Society of Toxicology, Experimental Pathology Specialty Section. He was among many others from our department who attended the annual meeting in San Diego the first week of March.

Xiaomin works with Dr. Robert Roth in Pharmacology and Toxicology. He is investigating the mechanisms of drug-induced idiosyncratic hepatic adverse reactions.





**Monica Markovski**, a senior in the honors college, has been awarded the Richard Lee Featherstone Endowed Prize for Outstanding Seniors. She is an LBS-Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major. The Richard Lee Featherstone Endowed Prize is given annually to the student who displays characteristics such as an enthusiasm for the teaching and learning process, an intellectual curiosity unbounded by traditional disciplinary orientation, a distinguished record of applying and sharing leadership expertise, and a strong commitment to serving other people.

Monica was nominated by LBS advisor, Philip Strong, and supported by mentors Dr. William Wedemeyer and Dr. Robert Shelton. Working in the Wedemeyer lab, she is currently studying the structure, folding and self-assembly of EpsG, the type-II pseudopilin of *Vibrio cholerae*.

Some of her academic accomplishments include being on the Dean's List throughout her college career. Monica is involved in Mortar Board and Phi Kappa Phi. Last year, she was the recipient of the \$1,000 Biochemistry Department Research Fellowship. Monica received a merit award for her biochemistry oral presentation at the UURAF, and was awarded the Tom & Mary Krigas College of Natural Science scholarship for her interdisciplinary collaboration.

Some of Monica's extracurricular activities include being a member of the Lyman Briggs Ambassadors, Organic Chemistry Club, and the College of Natural Science representative for the Academic Assembly of ASMSU. She has participated in ACS Relay for Life, St. Jude's Up 'Til Dawn Letter Writing Party, Holmes Hall Orientation Team Peer Advisor and ADS presentations for the biochemistry department.

Monica has been accepted in the Biological and Biomedical Sciences Ph.D. graduate program at Harvard, and will be attending in the fall. After graduate school, she hopes to become a research professor where she can have her own research laboratory and still be able to teach young students the joys of science and scientific discovery.

### Quote for the Week

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.  
- *Sir Winston Churchill*

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