

Calendar

Monday, September 25

Joel Lwande Preliminary Exam: Structure and assembly of YscF, the major pilin of the type III secretion system of *Yersinia pestis*. 9:00 a.m., 208 Biochemistry.

Dima Alkawwas Preliminary Exam: Heterodimer formation between P2X and nAChR ligand-gated ion channels in fast synaptic transmission of the enteric nervous system. 1:00 p.m., 208 Biochemistry.

Plant Research Laboratory and Plant Biology Seminar: Regulating plant hormones by conjugation; jasmonates, auxins, and more. Paul Staswick, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 4:10 p.m., 101 Biochemistry.

Tuesday, September 26

Center for Integrative Toxicology and the Dow Chemical Company Seminar: The use of toxic equivalency factors to assess potential human health risks posed by dioxin-like compounds: Keeping up with the science. Laurie Haws, 10:30 a.m., 162 Food Safety Toxicology.

Microbiology and Molecular Genetics Seminar: A plague on these worms: Modeling *Yersinia pestis* transmission with *C. elegans*. Creg Darby, University of California, San Francisco, 4:10 p.m., 1425 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Wednesday, September 27

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Seminar: Proteolytic processing in the trans golgi network: Specificity, structure, inhibition, and vesicular transport. Bob Fuller, University of Michigan, 4:10 p.m., 101 Biochemistry.

Chemistry Seminar: Ambidextrous peptides and proteins for functional applications. Indraneel Ghosh, University of Arizona, 3:00 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Ecology, Evolutionary Biology and Behavior Program Seminar: Genes, gene families, and genomes: Difference in the survivorship of duplicate genes and implications. Shin-Han Shiu, 3:30 p.m., 247 Plant Biology.

Thursday, September 28

Animal Science Seminar: Hemochromatosis gene variants modify placental transfer of lead. Karen Chou, Ph.D., Michigan State University, 10:30 a.m., 1310 Anthony Hall.

Carcinogenesis Laboratory Seminar: Neurodegeneration and genotoxic stress: Aprataxin, a novel player involved in DNA repair. Olivier Becherel, Ph.D., Queensland Institute of Medical Research, 12:00 noon, 162 Food Safety Toxicology.

Neuroscience Program Seminar: BDNF, hippocampal synaptic plasticity and memory: From cell biology to behavior. Bai Lu, National Institutes of Health, 12:15 p.m., 1425 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Chemistry Seminar: Chemical and light-driven proton transport across a lipid bilayer toward artificial photosynthesis on a waveguide electrode. Scott Saavedra, University of Arizona, 4:00 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Calendar continued

Thursday, September 28

Physiology Seminar: Electronic research administration – find apply, and succeed (A tutorial for using online services). Richard Brandt, Financial/Research Administrator, 4:00 p.m., 1425 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Friday, September 29

Science at the Edge: Engineering Seminar: Utilization of macromolecular architectures: Synthesis of highly targeted intracellular delivery systems and the design of organic quantum dots. Eva Harth, Vanderbilt University, 11:30 a.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Transcription Journal Club: Presentation by **Ajith Vengellur**, 12:00 noon, 502 Biochemistry.

RTSF and Roche Applied Science Seminar: The genome sequencer 20 system - A revolutionary technique for DNA sequencing from Roche. Tom Jarvie, 1:00 p.m., 1415 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Announcements

Albany 2007: The 15th Conversation, June 19-23, 2007. This meeting is presented by the Department of Chemistry and Biological Sciences, University at Albany SUNY. The Conversation is essentially an academic event staged fully within the matrix and life of an urban lively university at a cost affordable to students, faculty, and researchers. For details of lectures, registration, meals, housing, and submission of abstracts, please visit <http://www.jbsdonline.com/15thconversation.cfm>.

Rowland Junior Fellows Program: The Rowland Junior Fellows are young experimentalists who have the opportunity to perform independent research under ideal conditions: a five year term, full salary, funding for start-up, operation, a postdoc, help from technicians, and best of all, full access to the Institute's shops and services. These Fellows are unusual people, with both good ideas and good hands. They are selected for their scientific achievement, their creativity, their resourcefulness as experimentalists, and their ability to work independently. The Rowland Institute at Harvard is soliciting applications in all the natural sciences and engineering fields, with special attention to interdisciplinary research and the development of new instrumental methods. They are expecting to take one or two more Fellows next year. Although they put no hard restriction on prior experience or career path, the program is aimed at fresh Ph.D's or postdocs with up to two years experience. **The deadline for applications is November 1, 2006.**

Position Vacancies (copies of notices are in maroon binder in Room 302A)

Several **tenure-track faculty positions** are available in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry at **Georgia Institute of Technology**. Exceptional candidates in the following areas are encouraged to apply: Inorganic Chemistry, Macromolecular Structural Biology, Organic Chemistry, and Bio-Analytical Chemistry. Outstanding candidates at all ranks are encouraged to apply. Candidates with interdisciplinary interests will be considered for joint appointments with other departments. Further information is available at <http://www.chemistry.gatech.edu>. Applications will be considered beginning **October 13, 2006**. Applications received past the date will be considered until the positions are filled.

An **Assistant Professor position** is available in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the **University of Delaware**. The department invites applications in biochemistry and in synthetic organic chemistry. The tenure-track appointment will begin September 1, 2007. The successful candidate will demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence in research and teaching and is expected to establish an externally funded and highly visible research program that complements current research activities in the department. Review of applications will begin on **October 1, 2006**.

A **tenure-track position** is available in the Division of Biological Chemistry at **Wayne State University**. The department is seeking applications for candidates at the assistant professor level. Candidates must have a Ph.D. and the potential to develop a nationally recognized, externally funded research program of outstanding quality in any area of biological chemistry. The department offers exciting opportunities for candidates with research interests complementing a large group of faculty working in the areas of DNA, RNA and protein biochemistry, enzymology, carcinogenesis, biophysical, bioorganic, and bioinorganic chemistry, as well as molecular and cellular biology. Please visit <http://chem.wayne.edu> for further information. Review of applications will begin in **October 2006**.

Position Vacancies continued

An **Assistant Professor position** is available in the Department of Biochemistry at **Purdue University**. The department invites applications for a tenure-track position in an area of biochemistry related to diabetes, metabolic syndrome, or cardiovascular disease. The successful candidate will be expected to develop a nationally and internationally recognized research program, interact with scientifically diverse faculty across campus and demonstrate excellence in teaching. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: cholesterol and lipid metabolism, glucose homeostasis and transport, hormonal control of metabolism, nutrient mediated gene expression and adipogenesis. Applicants should have a Ph.D. or M.D., a strong publication record, at least two years of post-doctoral experience or its equivalent, the potential to develop a vigorous extramurally-funded research program, and a commitment to research and teaching excellence. Screening of applicants will begin **September 25, 2006** and continue until the position is filled.

Spotlight

Jessica Reif, Lab Aide, has been with the department for one year. She is currently working in Rob Last's lab. Most of her time is spent working on various assays the lab is doing for the 2010 Project. These include whole plant morphology, seed morphology, and chloroplast morphology. Jessica spends most of her time working on chloroplast morphology, which looks at the shape, size, and number of chloroplasts from three different areas of leaves. She also helps with planting, care of the plants, and harvesting the seeds.

Jessica is originally from Ludington, Michigan. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, which allows her time to indulge in her other passion, nature photography. Jessica also enjoys reading, biking, and spending time at the beach when she's in Ludington.



Jeff Lounds has conquered the Mackinac Straits! Friday, September 15th, while we were at our desks working diligently, Jeff and two cohorts, Bob Belonga from the US Coast Guard Auxiliary in a power boat and Wayne Blomberg from Ryde Marine in a kayak, launched from Mackinaw City at 7:10 a.m. and completed the 4.1 miles in just under 2 hours and 20 minutes. Seeing the bridge under his left arm and the sunrise under his right as he swam the distance was one of the most amazing things Jeff has ever seen. It has taken Jeff two years to organize the crew and

get the right weather to complete this swim, quite a milestone for a 53 year old, especially when you consider that he has done two triathlons and ridden the DALMAC this summer, and has another triathlon yet to go in 2006. Sincere thanks and gratitude to Bob Belonga of St Ignace, Wayne Blomberg of Harbor Springs, and the entire Ponshevaing crew that supported his efforts for the past two years in reaching this goal. To see his time splits between each pier of the Mackinac Bridge, please [click here](#).



Quote for the Week

When you can't have what you want, it's time to start wanting what you have. – *Kathleen A. Sutton*
