

Iowa Section of the American Chemical Society



Section Web Address: <http://membership.acs.org/i/iowa/>

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Monday November 16, 2009 Meeting

Location: Grinnell College, Grinnell Iowa. From Grinnell, it is less than an hour's drive to Des Moines and about an hour to Iowa City ***see directions for travel and map on back***

Social Hour: 5:30 – 6:00 (Noyce Science Center)

The reception is in the first floor of Noyce Science Center (Building EH) outside of room 1023. See directions for parking. A Grinnell College map is located at site <http://www.grinnell.edu/aboutinfo/map/>

Dinner starts at 6:00 Dinner is in the Rosenfield Center (Building DL), just north of the Noyce Science Center. Menu: All you can eat pasta and stir-fry (meat and vegetarian)

Meal Cost: Buffet cost is \$11.50/ person (cash or check only please).

Meeting/ Tour: 7:00 – 8:15

The gallery is in the Bucksbaum Center (Building EG).

Reservation Deadline: November 16, 2009. RSVP to Elaine Marzluff at marzluff@grinnell.edu or 641-269-4314. Please include your name and phone number for return confirmation if leaving message on answering machine.

About Grinnell College

Grinnell College has an attractive 120-acre campus of spectacular academic facilities that include the Noyce Science Center, featured in architectural journals; and the Bucksbaum Center for the Arts, designed by Cesar Pelli. The College also owns the 365-acre Conard Environmental Research Area (CERA), located about 14 miles from the campus and used on a regular basis for research and teaching.

“Molecules that Matter” Exhibit

This exhibit will be the featured event for our meeting. Leslie Wright, gallery director, will give a ½ hour tour and then people will have another ½ hour to 45 minutes to explore on their own. Both she and other gallery staff will be on hand to answer any questions people have while browsing.

An exhibition exploring 10 significant molecules of the 20th century: aspirin, isooctane, penicillin, polyethylene, nylon, DNA, progestin, DDT, prozac, and the buckminsterfullerene/nanotube. Developed jointly by the Chemical Heritage Foundation and the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College, the exhibition includes large models of the molecules, important works of contemporary art that comment on and utilize these molecules as materials and/or subjects, and works of popular culture. Admission is free to the exhibit.

Local Section News – Notes from the September 2009 meeting

After a wonderful meal provided by Wartburg College, Dr. Wanda Reiter-Kintz presided at the September 2009 meeting. Dr. Christine DeVries receives special thanks for coordinating this meeting. There were approximately 50 in attendance and the next meeting was set for November 16, 2009 with election of officers. Wanda then introduced guest speaker Dr. Warren Bush. Dr. Bush utilized a three-prong mechanism for finding employment in today's economy. His first directive involved examining one's personal interests such as working for a big company or a small company, replacement jobs or state of art jobs. He suggested to start early in assessing one's own advantages and limitations. His second directive involved examining employment trends. The Gulf Coast and Midwest are trending in replacement jobs rather than new state of the art industrial chemical jobs. Current growth areas include research and testing, electronics, pharmaceuticals, medical, and biochemical. His third directive involved strategies of finding jobs. He suggested to

start one year in advance, visit with people who hold your interests, and create a resume focused on the job you want. He warned of online job sites because about half were created for the sole purpose of identity theft. He recommended using the ACS (chemjobs.com – vetted by the ACS), periodicals, Chamber of Commerce, Better Business Bureau, ACS local sections and scientific temp companies.

Dr. Bush's presentation was of great help to the many students attending the meeting.

Expanded Newsletter: Our newsletter is not mailed every month. Please access updated information at our website: <http://membership.acs.org/i/iowa/>.

We regret that Dr. O'Brien was unable to meet with us for the November meeting. We will do our best to reschedule "Famous Mad Hatters" at a future date.

News from the 44th Midwest Regional Meeting

The Iowa Local Section hosted the regional meeting that was held from October 21-24, 2009 in Iowa City, Iowa at the Sheraton and Vetro Hotels. There were a record number of abstracts for a Midwest Regional Meeting with a total of 567. Past president E. Ann Nalley and President Elect Joe Francisco were in attendance. We would like to thank everyone for his or her hard work in planning the 44th Midwest Regional Meeting.

Here is some information regarding the Merck Index:

ACS has announced that Merck & Co., Inc., has donated more than 12,000 copies of The Merck Index to schools and chemistry teachers around the nation as a national partner in recognition of NCW. The Merck Index is an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information. Members of ACS Local Sections are distributing the books. As part of its annual celebration of National Chemistry Week, the Iowa Local Section of the American Chemical Society will donate 50 copies of The Merck Index, a valuable education resource, to community colleges and high school chemistry teachers. Please contact Wanda Reiter Kintz or Mark Schmidt if you are interested in receiving a copy or help distribute copies to high schools in your area.

Directions to our meeting location

From the East or West take I-80 to Exit 182, go north towards Grinnell about 3 miles on Highway 146. Turn right on 6th Avenue (Highway 6). Proceed about 4 blocks to the college and turn left into parking lot immediately after you cross the train tracks. ***It is ok to park without a permit in this lot after 5pm.*** A campus map is available at <http://www.grinnell.edu/aboutinfo/map/>

The 411 on one of the "Molecules that Matter"

Aspirin or acetylsalicylic acid, is a derivative of salicylic acid that is a mild, non-narcotic analgesic useful in the relief of headache and muscle and joint aches. The drug works by inhibiting the production of prostaglandins, body chemicals that are necessary for blood clotting and which also sensitize nerve endings to pain.

The father of modern medicine was Hippocrates, who lived sometime between 460 B.C and 377 B.C. Hippocrates was left historical records of pain relief treatments, including the use of powder made from the bark and leaves of the willow tree to help heal headaches, pains and fevers.

By 1829, scientists discovered that it was the compound called salicin in willow plants that gave you the pain relief.

<http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/blaspirin.htm>

A special thanks to Elaine Marzluff for coordinating this meeting!

See you at Grinnell College!