Greetings

I hope that everyone is having a productive spring semester! To help keep ChemBits going strong, please help us by sending information regarding awards, fellowship applications or fellowships received, papers published, external presentations, or any other relevant information to chembits@nd.edu.

- Steven Corcelli, Director or Graduate Studies

News and Announcements

Stipends are increasing!

12-month stipends for the 2013–2014 academic year will be increasing by 2.5% from the current $26,667 to $27,333.

Health insurance is decreasing!

The 12 month premium for health insurance for the 2013–2014 academic year is increasing to $2148, however the Graduate School subsidy is also increasing to $1725. Therefore, the amount you will be charged will decrease to $423 from the current level of $476. Moreover, beginning next year there will not be a cap on the benefits payable per year. Currently, there is a $100k cap.

Reilly Lectures

Gregory Fu (California Institute of Technology)
Wednesday, April 17 @ 4 PM in 123 NSH
Thursday, April 18 @ 4 PM in 123 NSH
Friday, April 19 @ 4 PM in 123 NSH

Nieuwland Lectures

David Milstein (Weizmann Institute)
Monday, April 29 @ 4 PM in 123 NSH
Tuesday, April 30 @ 4 PM in 123 NSH
Wednesday, May 1 @ 4 PM in 123 NSH
Awards and Recognition

Congratulations to Brandon Haines, Matthew McDonald, Erin Wilson, and Matthew Wilson for being selected to be among the 550 most qualified young researchers to participate in the 63rd Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting, from June 30 to July 5, in Lindau, Germany. It is tremendous that Notre Dame will have 4 students in the 72 student delegation from the U.S.

Fellowships

Awarded

Laura Herder was awarded one of the two Patrick and Jana Eilers Graduate Student Fellowships for Energy Related Research for her project of "First-principles Modeling of Mechanism of Methane Oxidation over Pt".

Joseph Michalka and Zack Terranova will be participants at the 2013 Workshop on Multiscale Theory and Simulation at the University of Chicago June 16-19. This also includes a travel award.

Shiran Zhang received the 2013 Kokes Award for the 23rd North American Catalysis Society (NACS) meeting in Louisville, KY, June 2-7. This award includes travel expenses and registration fees.

Publications


“Reduced Graphene Oxide – Silver Nanoparticle Composite as an Active SERS Material” Sean Murphy, Libai Huang and Prashant V. Kamat, J. Phys. Chem. C 2013, 117(9), 4740–4747. Link.


External Presentations and Outreach

Zack Terranova will present a poster titled “Simulating the Solvation Dynamics of Ionic Liquids” at the Climate Change and the Common Good conference April 8–10 at the University of Notre Dame.


Dissertation Defenses

Congratulations to John Zintsmaster (Advisor: Jeff Peng) for completing his Ph.D. thesis defense “Experimental and Molecular Dynamics Study of the Dynamics of PIN1 and Their Influence on Enzymatic Function”.


(There Is) Life After Graduate School

Eric Stefan will soon be moving on to a postdoctoral appointment at the Broad Institute in Cambridge MA.