



**American Chemical Society  
Western Michigan Section  
March, 2013 Newsletter**

### **Speaker for the March ACS Meeting**

Richard Lord, PhD, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, GVSU, gave a very nice talk on Monday, March 11 at 6:30 PM at Aquinas College. The talk was entitled "What Can Computational Chemistry Do For Inorganic Chemists?" and was well received. About 30 people attended the talk. The abstract and bio are below:

A tutorial for what computational chemistry can do for inorganic chemists interested in transition metal complexes was presented, with a focus on commonly overlooked points one should consider before entering this field. This was accomplished by analyzing both successes and failures of density functional theory based methods for a variety of chemical questions.

Richard Lord has joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Inorganic Chemistry. He graduated from Indiana University in 2010 with a Ph.D. in chemistry, working under Profs. Mookie Baik and Frank Schultz. His dissertation research focused on the electrochemical properties of transition metal complexes exhibiting unusual electron transfer behavior. Immediately prior to his arrival at GVSU, he was a post-doctoral fellow at Wayne State University working with Profs. John Endicott, Berny Schlegel, and Claudio Verani on the spectroscopic characterization of transition metal complexes featuring redox active metals and ligands. His research at GVSU will use computational methods to understand how redox active ligands influence: (i) small molecule activation mechanisms and (ii) electrochemical and magnetic properties of transition metal complexes.

### **Activities planned for the rest of the year:**

(1) Seminar series featuring new faculty at the five colleges/universities in the section:

<i>Nov 08, 2112</i>	<i>Dr. Mark Thomson, Ferris (seminar was at Old Boys' Brew Pub in Spring Lake)</i>
<i>Mar 11, 2013</i>	<i>Dr. Richard Lord, GVSU (seminar was at Aquinas)</i>
<i>Oct 02, 2013</i>	<i>Dr. Beth Anderson, Hope (seminar to be given at GVSU)</i>
<i>Nov, 2013:</i>	<i>Dr. Jonathan Fritz, Aquinas (seminar TBD)</i>
<i>Date TBD:</i>	<i>Dr. Crystal Bruxvoort, Calvin (seminar TBD)</i>

(2) Summer visit to Big Rapids Cranker's Brewery Tour. Likely in June, 2013...stay tuned for more details



### Positions Available Locally and Nationally



Our local section is looking for members who wish to serve with our local section. The following positions are available: **Membership Coordinator**, **Historian** and **Web Master**. If you have a talent for one of these positions, please contact Jim Krikke ([krikkeji@gvsu.edu](mailto:krikkeji@gvsu.edu)) for information.

Help is also needed at the National Level and the local section will compensate for travel costs. Please contact Mark Thomson (Mark [Thomson@ferris.edu](mailto:Thomson@ferris.edu)) for details on how you can help.

Please consider volunteering. It's not that much work and can be a great resume builder!

### Offers for Students Attending ACS Meetings

The local section is happy to announce two great deals for students who wish to attend both Regional and National ACS meetings.

1) Central Regional meeting fees will be waived for students (high school and college) attending a Regional Meeting. (see above)

2) Students attending National ACS Meetings will be given the opportunity to each receive a \$50.00 travel stipend from the local section. An application form is located on the West Michigan ACS website.

### West Michigan Section to Co-host the 2015 Central Regional Meeting

Plans are being made for the West Michigan Section to host the Central Regional Meeting with the Kalamazoo Section in 2015. Any members wishing to get involved in the planning process should contact our Councilor, Dr. Mark Thomson (FSU) at [MarkThomson@ferris.edu](mailto:MarkThomson@ferris.edu). See below for information on this year's Central Regional meeting.

### Central Region Meeting (Central MI University, May 15-17, 2103)

The 44th Central Region Meeting (CERM2013) of the American Chemical Society will be held on May 15-17, 2013 on the campus of Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. The theme of the meeting is "Building Blocks for a Sustainable World."

Plenary lectures highlighting the theme of sustainability will occur each day with guest speakers Dr. Martine Vermeulen, Dow Corning Global Manager of Product Safety and Regulatory Compliance (retired), Dr. Mark E. Jones, Dow Chemical Executive External Strategy and Communications Fellow, and Dr. Kishor Wasan, Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of British Columbia.

Technical program highlights will include poster sessions, undergraduate research symposia, a beer and wine making symposium with a related visit to a brewery, a day-long silicon science symposium to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the discovery of organosilicon compounds and the 70th anniversary of Dow Corning Corporation (confirmed speakers include Tobin Marks, Northwestern University; Paul Chirik, Princeton University; Khalil Amine, Argonne National Laboratory; Mark Loboda, Dow Corning; George Nolas, University of South Florida; and Jim Falender, Central Michigan University), sustainability and materials-related (including nanotechnology) symposia, chemistry and global health, re-examining water fluoridation, and water-biogeochemistry.

Special events will include a vendor exposition, technical and career workshops, chemistry related art and history exhibits (“History of The Dow Chemical Company Plant in Mt. Pleasant - 1903-1930”, “Images of The Dow Chemical Company from the Brush of Arthur Knighton-Hammond”, and “History of the Midland ACS Section, 1919-2013”), and social receptions.

The Awards Banquet on Thursday night will feature presentation of the ACS Division of Chemical Education Regional Award for Excellence in High School Chemistry Teaching, the E. Ann Nalley Regional Award for Volunteer Service to ACS, and the Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences. The featured speaker will be Dr. Mary Kirchhoff, ACS Director of Education.

**Advance registration** for the meeting will end on **April 19, 2013**. Regular registration will continue through May 17, 2013. Please visit the CERM 2013 website (<http://2013cerm.sites.acs.org/>) for registration, accommodation, and contact information, useful Web links, and up-to-date details on events as they become available.