

THE Central Arkansas CHEMIST



The Newsletter of the Central Arkansas Local Section of the American Chemical Society

March 2014

Meeting

Monday, March 31, 2014

5:00 pm Dinner
Doc's Grill
1301 Beebe Capps Expressway
Searcy, AR

RSVP Grover P. Miller (MillerGroverP@uams.edu) by March 29th!

7:00 pm Program
Darin E. Jones, PhD

**"Peripheral Cannabinoid-1 Receptor
(pCB-1) Agonist for Pain"**

David B. Burks American Heritage Bldg
Heritage Auditorium
907 East Market Avenue
Searcy, AR

Driving Directions:

Take U.S. Hwy 67/167 to Searcy. Exit onto Beebe Capps Expressway (Exit 45) towards the west. After ~1.5 miles, Doc's Grill is on the left immediately past Zaxby's Restaurant.

For the talk, continue on Beebe Capps Expressway to the Main Harding Entrance with the Marquee and turn right onto Burks Boulevard toward the campus. Upon reaching the stop sign/dead end, turn left. Turn right at each of the next three stop signs. This will lead directly to the David B. Burks American Heritage Building. Park in any of the parking lots around the building. The auditorium is on the first floor.

Contact Ed Wilson for additional directions: (501) 278 7268

conducted postdoctoral research on the stereoselective synthesis of functionalized tetrahydrofurans with Professor Steven Angle at the University of California, Riverside. Dr. Jones then moved to the pharmaceutical industry where he successfully led drug discovery projects from high throughput screening to clinical development in multiple disease areas including cardiovascular, inflammation, metabolic disorders, and oncology. He is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock. His research interest continues to be in organic and medicinal chemistry.

Abstract: G Protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) are a super family of transmembrane receptors which upon activation by an external molecule, initiate signal transduction pathways which ultimately results in a cellular response. Members of this protein are easily the largest group of "druggable" targets in the body. Currently, nearly 40% of all pharmaceuticals target a GPCR including most of the top-selling drugs (Zantac, Claritin, Zyprexa, etc.). The cannabinoid receptors and specifically, cannabinoid-1 receptor (CB-1) is the most widely expressed GPCR in the brain. Consequently, CB-1 has garnered considerable interest as a therapeutic target over the past decade. The discovery and development of novel CB-1 receptor agonist for the treatment of neuropathic pain will be discussed.

Local ACS Section News

The Central Arkansas Section wants YOU!

Do you want to be more involved in local section activities, but you're not sure where to start? There are several opportunities available to serve on committees or as an officer on the Executive Board.

Please contact Grover P. Miller (MillerGroverP@uams.edu) for more information or with nominations for Chair Elect.

About the Speaker

Dr. Darin E. Jones has extensive research experience in small molecule drug discovery. He completed his Ph.D. degree in chemistry at the University of Missouri working with Professor Michael Harmata on the development of the [4+3] cycloaddition reaction. He

Plan Ahead for Local Section Meetings & Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Event</i>
April 22	UALR	Awards Banquet
Sept TBA	TBA	Meeting, Speaker TBA
Oct TBA	TBA	Meeting, Speaker TBA
Nov TBA	TBA	Meeting, Speaker TBA

Have questions? Visit the section's website!

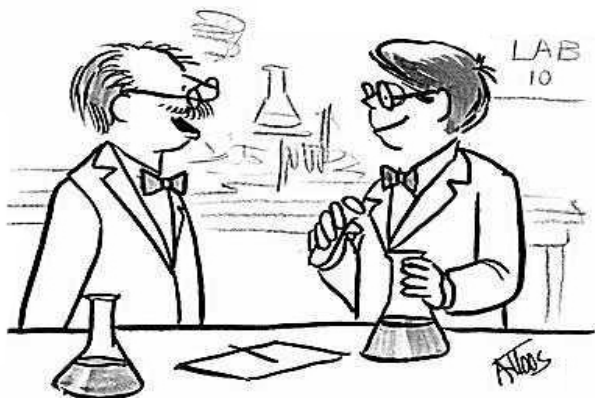
<http://centralarkansas.sites.acs.org>

You'll find the section's meeting schedule, announcements, information about Section services, and other useful links.

Demo-Palooza

April 5, 2014 from 3:00 – 6:00 pm
University of Central Arkansas Campus

The UCA Chemistry Club invites all Arkansas chemists to an afternoon of fun and collegiality. Demonstration specialists Dr. Jerry Manion and Dr. Bill Deese will divulge their secrets as they perform fun science experiments for the audience. A goal of the event is to provide interactions between university chemistry clubs throughout Arkansas as they build their repertoire of community activities.



**"Wait, wait, before you mix them,
you have to say, 'Pow!'."**

The event will conclude with a complimentary dinner, but we need to know how many mouths to feed! If you wish to join us for dinner, please RSVP Faith Yarberrry at fyarberrry@uca.edu by March 24, 2014. If you have dietary needs or would like a vegetarian option, please include this information in your response.

We look forward to seeing you soon!!

Student Chapter Spotlight:



Harding University
Dr. Edmond Wilson, Advisor
Dr. Harlie Cole, Co-Advisor

On February 27, the Harding Student ACS Chapter (the Gedanken Society), travelled to Magness Creek Elementary in Cabot and put on a Science Fair. Several demonstrations and hands-on activities were performed, including luminol reactions, Mentos in Cokes, liquid nitrogen ice cream, elephant toothpaste, and corn starch cement. Additional activities included space book readings, R2D2 met with the students, spectrometers were constructed from CDs and paper, allowing children to view atomic and molecular spectra. All of the activities were a big hit with the 200 children and parents who attended.

We want to spotlight YOUR student chapter! Contact Sara Hubbard (hubbards@obu.edu).



Science Café – Little Rock

co-sponsored by the ACS

Science Café events host 2-3 panelists who address a monthly topic as it relates to his/her experience and expertise. After each speakers' brief (10-15 min) talk, the audience asks questions and discusses the topic. A moderator fills in the gaps and facilitates questions. The Science Café provides an opportunity to meet new people, learn new things, and discuss current scientific research and applications in plain English. Join Us!

Upcoming Science Café Events

March 25 – **Exoplanets: The Next Frontier?**

April 22 – **The Future of Data Storage**

May 27 - **Glowing in the Dark: Radiation & You**

June 24 – **Concussions: How Many are Too Many?**

<http://www.sciencecafelr.com>

Local Events Spotlight:



98th Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Academy of Science

April 4-5, 2014

Harding Univ., Searcy, AR

Registration is Open!

Awards are given for the best student papers and poster presentations.

Banquet Speaker:

Dr. Amber Straughn is an Astrophysicist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD and serves as the Deputy Project Scientist for James Webb Space Telescope Communications and Outreach. Amber grew up in the small farming town of Bee Branch, Arkansas where her fascination with astronomy began under beautifully dark, rural skies. She obtained her B.S. in Physics at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville in 2002, and completed her M.S. and Ph.D. in Physics at Arizona State University in 2008. She has been involved in NASA programs since her undergrad years, beginning with flying an experiment on NASA's microgravity KC-135 plane (the "vomit comet") in 2001.

Her broad research interests include galaxy formation and evolution, galaxy mergers and interactions, physical processes induced by galaxy interactions including star formation and black hole growth, emission-line galaxies, and dark energy and its effect on the galaxy merger rate. In addition to research, Dr. Straughn also interacts frequently with the media, having done numerous live television interviews, media features for NASA, and has appeared on the History Channel, Spike TV, and the Late Night with Jimmy Fallon's "Hubble Gotchu" segment.

Contact Dr. Ed Wilson (Wilson@harding.edu) for information.

3rd Annual Central Arkansas Undergraduate Summer Research Symposium

July 23, 2014

UAMS, Little Rock, AR

Contact Drs. Grover P. Miller (MillerGroverP@uams.edu) or Kevin D. Raney (RaneyKevinD@uams.edu) for information.

National ACS News

247th ACS National Meeting & Exposition



March 16-20, 2014 in Dallas, TX

Early registration ends February 6!

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/spring-2014.html>

248th ACS National Meeting & Exposition



August 10-14, 2014 in San Francisco, CA

Abstract Submission Open!

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/fall-2014.html>

If you have an article or job posting for publication consideration, please send it to Sara Hubbard (hubbards@obu.edu).

The *Central Arkansas Chemist* is published as needed by the Central Arkansas Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Section Chair, Dr. Grover P. Miller, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, (501-526-6486) and the Secretary is Dr. Sara E. Hubbard, Ouachita Baptist University, (870-245-5533). Address all correspondence to the Section Secretary and send contributions in electronic form (hubbards@obu.edu). The Central Arkansas Local Section Web site is <http://centralarkansas.sites.acs.org>.
