

# University of Alabama Chemistry

## Professor to Present Seminar at SWOSU

01.10.2013

Dr. Laura Busenlehner, assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Alabama, will give a seminar at Southwestern Oklahoma State University on Thursday, January 17, on the Weatherford campus.

Busenlehner's seminar is titled "*The Role of Frataxin in the Neurodegenerative Disease Friedreich's Ataxia*". Her seminar will focus on the inorganic chemistry, biochemistry and biophysical characterization of the Frataxin protein.

The seminar, sponsored by the SWOSU Department of Chemistry and Physics, is open to the public and will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Room 207 of the Chemistry, Pharmacy, and Physics Building. Admission is free.

Busenlehner graduated from Auburn University in 1997 and received her Ph.D. in biochemistry and biophysics from the lab of Dr. David Giedroc from Texas A&M University in 2003. Following graduate school, she was both a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Postdoctoral Research Trainee in Environmental Toxicology and a Ruth L. Kirschstein NIH Research Postdoctoral Fellow in the lab of Dr. Richard Armstrong at Vanderbilt University.

Her current research is centered on the study of proteins involved in metal-related diseases and conditions. In 2009, Busenlehner received a National Science Foundation career grant to study frataxin, an iron binding protein that when absent or available in reduced amounts leads to the neurodegenerative disease Friedrich's ataxia.

For more information about the seminar, contact SWOSU's Dr. William Kelly at 580.774.3202.