

Brown Bag Lunch at SWOSU to feature Teaching Innovations in Inorganic Chemistry

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The April Research Interest Group Brown Bag Lunch at SWOSU will take place Thursday, April 18, on the Weatherford campus and will feature teaching innovations in inorganic chemistry.

The public is invited to the 12 noon lunch in the East Ballroom of the Memorial Student Center. Drinks and dessert will be provided; bring a lunch or purchase one on the main floor of the union and bring it to the second floor.

The April 18 topic will be "Inorganic Chemistry Lab: A Project Format" presented by Dr. Tim Hubin of the Department of Chemistry and Physics. Dr. Hubin has won many awards for his innovative teaching, including being named a Bernhardt Scholar at SWOSU, a DaVinci Fellow by the Oklahoma DaVinci Institute, and a Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar, a national award by the Dreyfus Foundation.

Dr. Hubin has changed the format of one of his lab courses in order to provide a broad and rich laboratory experience in the techniques of inorganic chemistry and to allow students to produce publishable and novel research results.

In the redesigned course, students carry out a multi-step synthesis which results in each student having a unique metal-ligand combination. The balance of the semester consists of students characterizing their complexes through various instrumental techniques. Each student prepares a journal-formatted manuscript and a poster presentation on their results. Two published articles in peer-reviewed journals and several more manuscripts in progress, have resulted from this research/lab experience.

Dr. James South, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at SWOSU, said the Brown Bag Lunch Series is for the purpose of celebrating and discussing research at SWOSU. Everyone is invited to attend – students, faculty and community members. The research will be explained in layman's terms, with the focus on making the work accessible to everyone present.

Although SWOSU's primary mission is teaching, a large amount of research is conducted on campus, much of it involving undergraduate students working alongside faculty members. South said this valuable research experience is typically available only to graduate students in larger institutions, but SWOSU has worked very hard to make research an integral part of many majors, and several faculty members at SWOSU have won national awards as research mentors.

This is the final Research Interest Group brown-bag lunch of the spring semester. For more information, contact South at 580.774.7152.