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## Illinois Wesleyan Professor Receives Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award

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## **Illinois Wesleyan Professor Receives Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. --The board of directors of the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation approved the nomination of Ram Mohan, Illinois Wesleyan University assistant professor of chemistry, for the Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award for the 2001-2002 academic school year. Five teacher-scholars are selected annually from institutions throughout the nation.

Designed to provide support to young faculty members at the early stages of their academic careers, the Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar program awards an unrestricted grant of \$60,000. Five-thousand dollars of the grant is allocated to the teacher-scholar department for undergraduate educational purposes.

The foundation seeks teacher-scholars that demonstrate leadership in encouraging undergraduate students to become effective members of the chemical profession. By going beyond the routine classroom responsibilities, teacher-scholars support undergraduate students in the chemical sciences through teaching, mentorship and research with undergraduate participation.

"Not only has Mohan displayed continuing dedication to the education of undergraduates, but he also has demonstrated outstanding scientific accomplishments," said Robert Lichter, executive director of the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation. "The award is presented to him in acknowledgement of both these aspects of advancing the chemical sciences and in the expectation that he will continue to be a leader in the research and non-research components of chemistry education."

"Nomination at the university itself was an honor because it meant that my colleagues and the administration appreciated my work," said Mohan. "Having my nomination approved by the foundation also was very exciting, but I view this award as a recognition of all the work my students have done since a large part of the award is decided by the mentorship of undergraduates."

"Dr. Mohan is really good with working with undergraduates," said Laura Weiland, a senior chemistry major. "He spends a lot of time with us and makes sure we know what we're doing, and no one in the lab feels lost."

### **About Ram Mohan**

Mohan, a faculty member at Illinois Wesleyan since 1996, received a bachelor of science degree (with honors) in chemistry from Hansraj College in Delhi, India, in 1985; a master of science degree in organic chemistry from the University of Delhi, India, in 1987 and a doctorate in chemistry from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, in 1992.

A post-doctoral research associate at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1992-94, Mohan also was a visiting assistant professor of chemistry at Coker College, Hartsville, S.C., in 1994-96.

Mohan, a member of the American Chemical Society(ACS) and the American Pharmacognosy, has won six research grants from IWU and ACS. He also is the co-author of 15 research publications and has made scientific presentations at meetings of professional organizations such as the American Chemical Society.