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Student Named ACS Scholar

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Student Named ACS Scholar

March 1, 2013

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— On Tuesday, March 5 at a banquet and seminar in Peoria, senior chemistry major Neil Baldwin, will be one of the five 2012 Illinois Heartland Section American Chemical Society (ACS) Collegiate Scholars honored.

ACS awards the honor to recipients based on their grade point average, contributions to research in the field and overall involvement in activities.

Baldwin has been working with Professor of Chemistry Ram Mohan since the second semester of his sophomore year, which concluded at the end of his junior year. He has worked on developing environmentally friendly organic synthesis using iron compounds. Iron compounds are relatively non toxic, easy to handle and inexpensive. In particular, his work has focused on converting alcohols to esters. In the past, many corrosive or toxic catalysts have been used for the same transformation.

A resident of Tinley Park, Ill., Baldwin hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in organic chemistry after graduating from Illinois Wesleyan University.

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