



Spring 4-15-2003

## Decatur Student Participates in Research Conference

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### Recommended Citation

Hanna, Jeffery, "Decatur Student Participates in Research Conference" (2003). *News and Events*. 4743.

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April 15, 2003

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### *Decatur Student Participates in Research Conference*

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Joseph B. Binder, a senior chemistry major at Illinois Wesleyan University from Decatur, participated in the 14th annual John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference on April 12.

Binder, a graduate of Saint Teresa High School, was among 56 Illinois Wesleyan undergraduates whose projects were featured at the event. His project was a joint effort with fellow Illinois Wesleyan student Emilia Poppe.

The title of their project was "Linking Polyoxometalates With Amide Bonds."

The annual conference, named for explorer-geologist John Wesley Powell — a Civil War veteran and a founder of the National Geographic Society, who joined Illinois Wesleyan's faculty in 1865 — recognizes the research projects and creative endeavors of Illinois Wesleyan students. Sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan's Provost's Office and the IWU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, the event showcases Illinois Wesleyan students and their individual research projects with oral and poster presentations in such diverse fields as chemistry, Greek and Roman studies, economics, psychology, nursing, political science, biology, computer science, and international studies.

At this year's event, Jason R. Babcock, a 1994 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan and currently a research scientist at Ultramet, Inc., in California, discussed his work on development components for the next generation of the space shuttle.