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2010 John Wesley Powell Research Conference Set for April 10

March 24, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The annual John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference will be held at Illinois Wesleyan University on Saturday, April 10 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. across campus, featuring keynote speaker and chemist Timothy Zwier.

The event is free and open to the public.

The day will be dedicated to student research, whether through poster and oral presentations, music performances or art displays. A unique opportunity for undergraduates to be recognized for their research endeavors, the 2010 conference will include presentations from a broad range of disciplines. In the past, these have included posters from students in fields such as economics, environmental studies, Greek and Roman studies, theatre, biology and business administration. Research posters will be displayed in morning and afternoon sessions along with 10 sessions of 15-minute oral presentations.

The day's keynote speaker will be the M. G. Mellon Distinguished Professor of Chemistry Timothy Zwier of Purdue University, who will speak at 1:30 p.m. in Anderson Auditorium of the Center for Natural Sciences (CNS) (201 Beecher St., Bloomington). His speech is entitled "The Happy Marriage Between Laser and Supersonic Expansion."

Zwier leads a research program at the interface of chemistry, physics and biochemistry at Purdue. He is currently receiving research funding from the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, and NASA, and his research can be found in publications such as *Science*, *The Journal of the American Chemical Society*, and the *Journal of Physical Chemistry*. Zwier's research includes using molecular spectroscopy to study conformations and hydrogen bonding in biomolecules, photochemistry of small hydrocarbons found in planetary atmospheres, and chemical isomerization processes that lead to aromatic ring formation in combustion.

The John Wesley Powell Conference will be held in various locations across campus, including CNS, The Ames Library (1 Ames Plaza East, Bloomington) and the Merwin Art Gallery of the Joyce Eichhorn Ames School of Art Building (6 Ames Plaza West, Bloomington).

The schedule of conference events is as follows:

9 a.m. - 10 a.m. – Morning Session of Poster Presentations, Commons of CNS and The Ames Library; Educational Studies Poster Presentations, The Ames Library

10 a.m. - Noon – Oral Presentations, CNS; Educational Studies Oral Presentations, The Ames Library.

11 a.m. - Noon – Performances of Music Student Composition, CNS 101

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Keynote speech by Timothy Zwier of Purdue University, Anderson Auditorium in CNS.

2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. – Afternoon Poster Session, Commons of CNS

2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. – Presentation by Senior Arts Students, Merwin Art Gallery

For additional information, contact the office of the associate provost at (309) 556-3255, or www.iwu.edu/jwprc/.

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