

## Visiting Speakers

**Prof. Dasantila Golemi-Kotra**, Department of Chemistry, York University, Toronto, Ontario, will speak on "Understanding the *Staphylococcus aureus* response to cell wall inhibitors" on Monday, January 12, 2009 at 11: a.m. in NRE 2-003

**Cumes:** The next cumulative examination will be held on Saturday, January 10 @ 11:00 a.m. in room E3-25.

**Christmas closure – The University will be closed from Dec. 25, 2008-Jan. 1, 2009 inclusive**  
**The Chemistry Department will be closed from December 24, 2008-Jan. 1, 2009 inclusive.**

### The Chemistry Graduate Student Society

cordially invites you to join us in our  
Annual Winter Celebration  
for the Chemistry Department Faculty,  
Staff and Graduate Students and their  
families.  
Join us for the festivities on

January 10, 2009  
at the University's Faculty Club!

**Tickets are \$30**  
from Mel or Mike (E4-13).

Numbers are limited, so come by soon and secure  
you're part of the fun!

Drinks at 6 pm, buffet; dinner at 6.30 pm.  
Delicious food will be followed by dancing and amazing door prizes!

## Employment Opportunities

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are posted on the bulletin board across from the elevators on the third floor.  
Please do not remove the employment notices from the bulletin board.

Employment opportunities are posted on a new internet site: <http://www.careerowl.ca>.

**Naeja Pharmaceutical Inc.** is a fast growing pharmaceutical research and development company, located in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada focused on pre clinical contract research. We are currently seeking a research scientist with strong knowledge and background in synthetic organic chemistry and experience in Medicinal Chemistry. Please forward your CV/resume to: Naeja Pharmaceutical Inc. attn: Human Resources Manager; 4290-91A St., Edm.k, AB T6E 5V2; Fax: (780) 461-0196 or e-mail [career@naeja.com](mailto:career@naeja.com) for more information.

**New York University** is commencing a search for a distinguished individual with an established reputation in teaching and research who is interested in building a prominent research program and playing an active role in shaping the growth of biomedical and synthetic organic chemistry with the Department of Chemistry and expanding collaborations between the Department and other University units. Please see <http://www.nyu.edu/pages/chemistry> for more details.

**Trent University**, Department of Chemistry and Department of Physics and Astronomy invite applications for a mid-career faculty position. Please see [www.trentu.ca/materialscience](http://www.trentu.ca/materialscience) for more information.

University of California, Davis, Department of Chemistry, invites applications for an open rank Chemistry faculty position associated with the UC Davis Energy for the Future Initiative targeting major issues facing California and the nation. Please see <http://energy.ucdavis.edu> for more information.

**Wyeth Vaccines Research**, Pearl River, NY requires a principal research scientist I EX13, early phase Development. Job Summary: The incumbent will develop and/or design analytical assays for physico-chemical and structural characterization of carbohydrates, proteins and glycoconjugates including: NMR spectroscopy, GC, GC-MS, MS, HPLC, and CE. The incumbent will design, execute and/or develop a qualification of release, characterization, and stability assays for testing/characterization of intermediate, in-process, formulated, or final fill vaccine samples or raw materials used in the manufacture of vaccine materials in Vaccine R&D. The incumbent will represent Early Phase Analytical Sciences in appropriate project teams. Identify appropriate technologies and develop methods to more fully characterize vaccine candidates. Please see employment board for more information.

**Brandon University** invites applications for a one year term position in the area of biochemistry in the Department of Chemistry. Please see employment board for more information.

## **Twas the night before Defence** (or A Visit From Citrate)

**T**was the night before defence, when all  
through the lab  
Not a gel box was shaking, with stain or  
with MAb;  
The columns were hung in the cold room with  
care,  
In hopes that my protein, I soon could  
prepare;

**T**he post-docs were nestled all smug in  
their beds,  
While extracts of barley muddled their  
heads;  
With the tech in the suburbs and PI the  
same,  
I had just settled down to another video  
game.

**W**hen out of the fridge there arose such a  
clatter  
I sprang from the terminal to see what was  
the matter.  
Away to the cold box, I flew like a flash  
But the stench was o'erpowering and I threw  
up beef hash.

**T**he mould on the dampest of walls were cold  
Had the softness of kittens only seven  
weeks old;  
When what to my view, a thing I despise  
But a half eaten sandwich and four tiny  
mice;

**W**ith a little old scientist, so lively and  
galling,  
I knew at a glance was Linus Pauling.  
More vapid than undergrads, his charges  
they came,  
And he whistled, and shouted, and called  
them rude names.

"**N**ow, Watson! Now Francis! You strange  
little modellers!  
On Luria! On Bertani! You stupid old  
broth'lers!  
To the top of the bench, to the top of the  
wall!  
Purify! Purify! Purify all!"

**A**s dry heaves before the committee meeting,  
bend  
A young student's body and his colon  
distend,  
So up their earlobes, acytes they grew,  
With a sack full of antibodies, their skin  
turning blue.

**A**nd then, for a second, I heard from the  
'fuge,  
An unbalanced rotor spinning something too  
huge.  
Where I put down my hand, to better hear  
the sound,  
Came the snapping of sparks from a wire  
sans ground.

**P**auling's hair was all wavy, and I thought I  
must be sick  
'Cause the curls in his hair looked just  
like a helix.  
On an arm load of oranges, he started to  
snack  
An I recalled his fetish with citrate, the  
quack.

**H**is eyes were all wrinkled, but the cheeks  
were yet red;  
Not too shabby for a man who was several  
years dead;  
The leer of his smile was just a tad scary  
And the snow on his rooftop made his head  
yet quite hairy;

**T**he end of a pipette, he held in his teeth  
And a pile of kimwipes lay around his big  
feet.  
He held a small vial of something quite  
gel-ly,  
A mercaptan no doubt, for it make him quite  
smelly.

**H**e changed 'round the columns, adding to  
the confusion  
And I laughed to spite my own paranoid  
delusion.  
A wink of his eye and a rotation of his  
head,  
Told me whatever I drank would soon leave  
me dead.

**H**e spoke not a word, just buggered up my  
work,  
And dried all my resins, that silly old  
jerk.  
And separating his middle finger from  
first, fourth and third,  
That crazy, old bugger, just flipped me the  
bird.

**H**e grabbed up his cohorts and ran down the  
hall,  
And away they all flew, letting me take the  
fall.  
That is why, dear Committee, I am sorry to  
say,  
I need a five year extension, starting  
today.