

Professional Development Grant Report- 2016

Arkansas Tech University

Chemistry Seminar Series for 2015-2016 Academic Year

By

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Restatement of professional enhancement opportunity

The purpose of this project was to organize a chemistry seminar series. The program involved inviting some of our former chemistry graduates, particularly are past Senior Chemistry Fellows Award recipients, who are now eminent chemical professionals, to speak to our students. The speakers will introduce our students to research and graduate programs at their institutions.

Review of the professional enhancement opportunity

There is substantial benefit of bringing to Tech distinguished chemical professionals for networking and professional exposure of our students and faculty. This chemistry seminar series will expose our students to career options and afford enhancement of professional engagement to our faculty.

Summary of experiences had

Three speakers were invited to give talks at Tech. The speakers were:

1. Dr. Jason C. Yarbrough, Assistant Professor of Chemistry Department of Chemistry and Physics, West Texas A&M University: Dr. Yarbrough, a Tech Alumnus, gave a seminar on the topic "Single-Site Catalysts for the Stereo-Controlled Copolymerization of CO₂ and Epoxides".
2. Dr. Brian J. Frost, Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Nevada, Reno: Dr. Frost's presentation was on "Advances in the Aqueous Chemistry of PTA: Coordination Chemistry, Derivatization, and Catalysis"
3. Dr. Cynthia Sides, Founding Director of the IGNITE program and Associate Director for the Office of Entrepreneurship at the University of Arkansas: Dr. Sides, a Tech Alumna, gave a talk entitled "Building Blocks for You and Your Career".

Many students and faculty attended the presentations. Chemistry Club members and faculty had the opportunity to interact one-on-one with the quest speakers.

Conclusion

Financial support from ATU Professional Development Grant for the chemistry seminar series is gratefully acknowledged.