



# Chemistry Seminar

Developing Laboratory Experiences for  
Preparatory Chemistry-A Sabbatical Adventure

**Dr. Jack McKenna**

Department of Chemistry  
St. Cloud State University

Wednesday, October 28

12:00 p.m.

WSB -122

Preparatory Chemistry (CHEM140) was created in 1997 because over 50% of the students in General Chemistry (CHEM210) either dropped the course or got a grade of "D" or "F". A placement exam was instituted and successful completion of the Toledo Placement Exam allowed entry in CHEM210. Students who were not successful were then required to complete CHEM140 prior to admission into CHEM210. A laboratory experience for CHEM140 was required and a group of faculty selected a number of experiments and adapted them for use at SCSU. Since there has not been a champion for CHEM140 since that time, the laboratory program has remained essentially unchanged for the past thirteen years. As part of my sabbatical, I planned to visit a number of universities to observe their undergraduate laboratory program and ultimately develop a new laboratory curriculum for CHEM140. The results of this project will be discussed.

Dr. McKenna will be available to meet with  
students from 1:00-1:30 p.m. in WSB-344