



Chemistry Department Homecoming 2011

Friday, October 21, 2011

3:00 PM

Alumni Reception, Join us for hors d'oeuvres in Abbott Hall Room 232.

4:00 PM

Alumni Speaker Dr. Peter A. Beal presents "*Nucleic Acid Chemical Biology: Studies in RNA interference and RNA editing.*" in Abbott Hall Room 138

5:30 PM

Banquet & Scholarship Awards Presentation, Alerus Center, Eagle Meeting Room 10.

Professor Peter A. Beal received his B.S. from University of North Dakota in 1989. While at UND, Beal carried out undergraduate research with Professor Donald Bergstrom where he learned nucleoside analog synthesis. Peter Beal received his Ph.D. under the direction of Professor Peter B. Dervan at the California Institute of Technology in 1994 and was an NIH postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University in the laboratory of Professor Stuart L. Schreiber from 1994-'96. Beal joined the faculty of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Utah in 1996 where he rose to the rank of Full Professor in 2005. He moved to UC Davis in 2006 where he holds the tenured rank of Professor. His principle areas of expertise are in nucleic acid chemistry and chemical biology. His awards and service to the research community include: NIH First Award (1998), Camille Dreyfus Teacher Scholar Award, 2002, Organizer, Symposium on Small Molecule/Nucleic Acid Interactions, ACS, 2004, Robert Parry Teaching Award, University of Utah, 2005; Co-organizer, Symposium on Bioorganic Chemistry and Biosensors, NORM, 2006; Member of NIH study sections: NIGMS Special Emphasis Panel for Centers of Excellence in Chemical Methodologies and Library Development (2003), Drug Discovery and Mechanisms of Antimicrobial Resistance (*ad hoc* 2004), Bioorganic Chemistry and Natural Products (*ad hoc* 2004), NINDS Special Emphasis Panel for Assay Development and High-Throughput screening (2006), Synthesis and Biological Chemistry A (*ad hoc* 2007, *charter member* since 2008). Beal teaches organic chemistry at the undergraduate level has developed several new classes in nucleic acids chemistry and chemical biology at the graduate level. He is also a cofounder of the Chemical Biology Innovation Group at UC Davis. He has mentored over 25 Ph.D. and M.S. students. His Ph.D. students have gone on to postdoctoral positions at top universities including Caltech, Yale, Berkeley, Stanford and MIT. Former Beal lab members currently hold positions in the biotechnology industry, government laboratories and academics.

