

## ***Instructionally Related Activities Report Form***

SPONSOR: Simone Aloisio

PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT: Chemistry

ACTIVITY TITLE: Chemistry Department Seminar

DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: Fall and Spring semesters

Please submit via email to the IRA Coordinator along with any supporting documentation at [david.daniels@csuci.edu](mailto:david.daniels@csuci.edu) within 30 days after the activity.

Thank you for your commitment to engaging our students!

### **A. ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

- (1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY;
  - (2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?
  - (3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?
  - (4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?
  - (5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?
  - (6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?
  - (7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)
  - 8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY (DO NOT INCLUDE ACCOUNTING STRINGS)
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### **B. ATTENDEE LIST- SUPPORTING DOCUMENT:**

In addition to the report form, *in a separate document*, attach to your email a list of attendees complete with each student major and grade level. This for IRA Committee reference only and will not be published on the IRA website. Include your name and the title of your IRA activity on the document.

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### **C.IMAGES FROM ACTIVITY:**

Please embed 3-5 images in this document (or attach in .JPEG format) that demonstrate student participation with captions/titles.

### **(1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY**

We had seminar speakers every Friday for our seminar class during the fall semester. Speakers came from academia, industry, and government. Our Fall speakers can be found on our website (<https://chemistry.csuci.edu/programs/seminars.htm>).

Our Spring speaker, Dr. Hoby Wedler, will be here on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Our spring event is geared towards a larger audience. We had about 60 attendees at our speaker last spring. This spring, Dr. Wedler, who was born blind, will be discussing sensory chemistry, as well his own career path. You can see Dr. Wedler give a talk on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJDHovTiWBk>

### **(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?**

CHEM 496

1. Explain, describe, and summarize research on current topics in chemistry and biochemistry research.
2. Articulate in writing lessons learned when hearing about outside research.
3. Analyze the work of other researchers critically.
4. Relate knowledge gained from speakers to their own knowledge base, especially related to their research.

CHEM 499

- Evaluate a chemical problem and determine how molecular shape, electronic structure, thermodynamics, kinetics, and intermolecular interactions are involved in the behavior of the system.
- Present and discuss results of scientific work in a professional, well-organized and substantive way.
- Communicate chemical information to both a colloquial and specialized audience. •Demonstrate the ability to write to the scientific audience using the accepted convention of the day.
- Evaluate and accurately reference background information from previous studies in the literature.
- Discuss and critique other students' scientific work in a constructive way.

The relevant learning objectives of the courses related to this funding are listed above. Students in the seminar course were able to hear professionals discuss their research. They were able to relate it to their own classwork and research. They saw the conventional way that scientists present their work orally, and were able to critique this work.

### **(3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?**

It exposes the students to more science than we could possibly provide at CI. It elevates the intellectual curiosity of our students and our department faculty. The main reason professionals come to give talks at CI is to recruit our students for graduate school and for jobs, so it increases the opportunities for them after graduation.

### **(4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?**

We need to advertise the events more broadly. As you can see from our website, we need to do a better job.

**(5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?**

We could bring coffee and cookies to bring more people. I wish I could attend every one of them.

**(6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?**

Seminars are good for department and for universities.

**(7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)**

We did not do these yet, but we will for the Spring speaker.

**(8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY.**

For local speakers, we gave an honorarium of \$150. For speakers that had to travel, we estimated travel costs and gave speakers additional funding for travel. For example, if a speaker had to drive from beyond Los Angeles or Santa Barbara, we gave an additional \$150 for one night's lodging and transport costs. Most of our speakers came from southern California. If a speaker had to fly in, the most we would give for Fall seminar is \$750. For Spring seminar, our speaker is usually more well known. We also asked the speaker to visit a class and have pizza with our students, so we reward this with a larger honorarium. This Spring, we are offering Dr. Wedler about \$1500 and he is flying in with an associate from northern California.

**B. ON SEPARATE DOCUMENT, PLEASE ATTACH ATTENDEE LIST  
(PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFO REMOVED)**

**C. PLEASE INCLUDE UP TO 6 IMAGES IN THIS DOCUMENT TO DEMONSTRATE  
STUDENT PARTICIPATION**

