

UNH Materials Science Seminar

11:10-12:00, Thursday, Feb. 28, 2008

Kingsbury Hall S145

University of New Hampshire

From C₄H₂ to Nanotubes: Slip-Sliding into Materials Science

Professor Richard Johnson

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<http://pubpages.unh.edu/~rpj/>

This talk will feature selections from our recent work, which has ranged from a detailed study of interconversions among C₄H₂ isomers (How many can YOU draw?), to studies on modified carbon nanotubes, to the development of new degradable polymers. Central themes include strained molecules and reactive intermediates, rational structure design and the use of advanced computational methods (molecular modeling) to predict strain, structure and reactivity. Our recent work on the applications of microwaves to graphite and carbon nanotubes will also be presented. The talk will include a brief primer on some modern computational methods.

Richard Johnson received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemistry from Syracuse University. Following postdoctoral appointments at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, and the University of Wisconsin, Madison, he joined the faculty at Iowa State University. In 1985, he moved to UNH, where he is now Norman and Marie Waite Professor of Chemistry. In 2006, he received the CEPS Excellence in Teaching Award.
Host: Professor Glen Miller