



PRESS RELEASE

**Shah Appointed Research Scholar at
Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute**

For Release: Monday, February 13, 2006

Dr. Manish Shah has been appointed a research scholar at Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute.

Shah is working on a structural biology project funded by the National Institutes of Health, specifically working to advance the research toward the development of new antibiotics and anti-cancer agents in the clinic. Shah will be working with Dr. Andrew Gulick.

Dr. Gulick's existing research at HWI has led to the structural determination of several microbial enzymes called Non-Ribosomal Peptide Synthetases that are involved in the synthesis of small peptide antibiotics. Bacteria produce these enzymes to compete and inhibit the growth of other bacteria within the host environment. Production of these peptides allows the bacteria to establish an infection and thus compounds that block this pathway may serve as novel antibiotics.

Shah's post-doctoral research will attempt to characterize these proteins and related enzymes, structurally and functionally, and investigate their mechanism. This would provide the insights for the modeling, synthesis, and development of potent peptide pharmaceuticals. The team's conclusions would in turn help support drug discovery efforts for the development of promising antibiotics for tomorrow.

Shah received his Ph.D. and master's degree from the University of Nottingham in England and his bachelor's degree from Karnatak University in India.

He resides in Buffalo, New York.

Celebrating 50 years of exceptional crystallographic research, HWI is an independent, non-profit facility specializing in the area of fundamental biomedical research known as structural biology. Our team of more than 70 staff members is committed to improving human health by studying the causes of diseases, as well as potential therapies, at their basic molecular level. We are located in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in downtown Buffalo, New York, in a new state-of-the-art structural biology research center at 700 Ellicott Street. For more information, visit HWI's website at <http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu> or call 716-898-8600.