



PRESS RELEASE

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**Local Scientist to Give Seminar and Poster Presentation in Europe**  
*William Duax, Hauptman-Woodward distinguished research scientist, to present*

William Duax, Ph.D. will give a seminar and a poster presentation at the international European Crystallographic Meeting in Louvain, Belgium from August 7 – August 11, 2006 entitled “Folding, Cofactor Binding, Catalysis, Oligomerization and Function of 13,000 Short-Chain Oxidoreductase Enzymes.”

The presentation provides information on human enzymes responsible for cancer and heart disease.

Duax received his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Iowa and a bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from the St. Ambrose College.

***About Duax’s Research Interests***

Duax is conducting research in the areas of bioinformatics, proteomics and genomics. He is predicting the structure and function of 5000 hypothetical genes that are members of the steroid dehydrogenase family. Members of that family of enzymes are implicated in the origin of cancer, high blood pressure, Alzheimer’s disease, arteriosclerosis and polycystic kidney disease. Through analysis of the system of these 5000 proteins and the genes that express them, he is tracing the evolution of the genetic code to its origin more than three billion years ago. He is testing his predictions using the technique he applied in the past to determine the molecular basis for the action of hormone drugs and antibiotics.

***About HWI***

Celebrating 50 years of exceptional scientific 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 [www.hwi.buffalo.edu](http://www.hwi.buffalo.edu) or call 716-898-8600.