DR. JOHN SPENCE TO SPEAK AT HWI STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY SERIES SEMINAR

John Spence, Ph.D., is scheduled to lecture at the Hauptman-Woodward Institute on Friday, May 6, 2011. Spence plans to present a lecture entitled “Femtosecond protein nanodiffraction with an X-ray laser.” The lecture will begin at 4 p.m. at 700 Ellicott Street immediately followed by a reception.

Spence is currently a Regent’s Professor in the Department of Physics at Arizona State University. Spence leads a research group at ASU that undertakes experiments in condensed matter, biophysics and diffraction physics based around the use of electron and X-ray beams for imaging, spectroscopy and diffraction. He received his doctoral degree from Melbourne University in 1973.

In addition, Spence is an affiliate of the center for Biophotonics Science & Technology at the University of California at Davis. His research project at UC Davis is on the topic of "progress towards protein structure determination using serial crystallography.” His serial crystallography method is being tested as a way of overcoming the notorious difficulties associated with the X-ray diffraction of proteins, in which the sample is difficult to prepare and the radiation damage ultimately limits the resolution of the structure.

ABOUT HWI

2011 marks the 25th anniversary of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry which was granted to Buffalo’s only Nobel Laureate and HWI namesake Dr. Herbert A. Hauptman. The anniversary will be celebrated throughout the calendar year with special events and publications. With more than 50 years of exceptional scientific research, the Hauptman-Woodward Institute is an internationally-renowned independent, non-profit facility specializing in life-altering research. Our team of more than 75 members is committed to improving human health through the study of the causes of diseases, as well as potential therapies, at their fundamental molecular level. HWI is 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 or call 716-898-8600.

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