MICHIGAN STATE’S DR. LESLIE KUHN TO SPEAK AT HAUPTMAN-WOODWARD STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY SERIES SEMINAR

Leslie A. Kuhn, Ph. D., is scheduled to lecture at the Hauptman-Woodward Institute on Tuesday, March 29, 2011. Kuhn’s presentation is entitled, “Gaining Insights on Ligand Binding and Specificity by Screening Binding Sites for Similarity.” Her lecture is jointly sponsored by HWI and the University at Buffalo’s School of Medicine and Biological Sciences Interdisciplinary Series. The lecture will begin at 4 p.m. at 144 Farber Hall at the UB South Campus and will be immediately followed by a reception.

Kuhn is currently Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Computer Science and Engineering at Michigan State University (MSU) and an adjunct professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at MSU. Kuhn’s research is focused on understanding how proteins fold, recognize and bind other molecules. This information is then used to optimize protein and inhibitor design, and involves collaboration with researchers in computer science, physics, chemistry, molecular biology, and medicine. Kuhn’s focus is to decode the factors that contribute to protein-ligand interactions, which include flexibility and solvation.

She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania in 1984. Kuhn continued her education at the University of Pennsylvania and received her doctoral degree in Biophysics. She completed her postdoctoral research at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA.

ABOUT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Michigan State University Spartans work to advance the common good in uncommon ways. The nation’s pioneer land-grant university, MSU began as a bold experiment that democratized higher education and helped bring science and innovation into everyday life. Today, MSU is one of the top research universities in the world—on one of the biggest, greenest campuses in the nation—and is home to a diverse community of dedicated students and scholars, athletes and artists, scientists and leaders.

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.