



# American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section

## MARCH 2012 NEWSLETTER

The four hundred and first meeting of the American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section will be held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, March 14th in Room 128A/B of the Natural Sciences Center ('New Science Building' on the campus map) on the campus of Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA. The speaker will be Dr. Gong Chen from Penn State University.

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### **"New Palladium-Catalyzed C-H Functionalization Methods for Organic Synthesis"**

**Dr. Gong Chen**  
**Assistant Professor of Chemistry**  
**Pennsylvania State University**

Dr. Chen will present the latest progress in developing new synthetic methodologies based on palladium-catalyzed functionalization of carbon-hydrogen (C-H) bonds from his laboratory. His lab is interested in addressing some of the most challenging issues in the C-H functionalization field: the functionalization of unactivated sp<sup>3</sup> hybridized C-H bonds, the development of synthetically useful C-H functionalization protocols, the application of these methods to difficult synthesis problems, and the exploitation of these methods in the synthesis of complex natural products. Specifically, his talk will be focused on the development and synthetic application of a series of picolinamide-directed palladium-catalyzed functionalization of C-H bonds at remote positions.

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Dr. Gong Chen is currently an assistant professor of chemistry in the department of chemistry of the Pennsylvania State University. His research is focused on the synthetic and biological studies of complex carbohydrates and peptides, and the development of new synthetic methods for synthesis of complex natural products. Dr. Chen obtained his BS degree from Nanjing University in China. He got his Ph.D. degree in Organic Chemistry at Columbia University with Prof. Dalibor Sames. After his postdoctoral training at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center with Prof. Samuel Danishefsky, he started his independent academic career at Penn State in 2008. In 2011, he received the CAREER award from the National Science Foundation.

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**DINNER:** The lecture will be preceded by dinner at 5:30 PM at BJ's Steak and Rib House located at 17 North Market Street, Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. RSVP to Geneive Henry at [henry@susqu.edu](mailto:henry@susqu.edu) or 570-372-4222 by 4:00 P.M. on Monday, March 12, 2012. Dinner will be ordered from the menu. Directions to BJ's Steak and Rib House can be found at <http://www.bjsribs.com/locations.cfm>

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#### **DIRECTIONS TO SUSQUEHANNA UNIVERSITY:**

##### **From Route I-80 West:**

Take the Danville exit, 224. Take route 54 east to route 11 south towards Selinsgrove. Continue left on route 11/15 south (continue as directed below from route 11/15).

##### **From Route I-80 East:**

Take the Lewisburg exit, 210A. Take route 15 south towards Selinsgrove. Turn right onto route 11/15 south (continue as directed below from route 11/15).

Route 11/15 south becomes Market Street. Turn right onto W. Pine Street. West Pine Street becomes University Avenue. Follow the campus map to visitor parking.

A campus map can be found at: [Susquehanna University Campus Map](#). (the Natural Sciences Center/New Science Building is designated with the arrow on the map below):



**MARM 2012**

The 43rd Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM 2012) of the American Chemical Society will be held from Thursday, May 31 to Saturday, June 2, 2012. Hosted by the Maryland Local Section, the meeting will take place at the University of Maryland Baltimore County in Baltimore, MD. Many exciting and informative symposia and events are being planned. Registration and Abstract Submission are now both open at the website! The deadline for abstract submission is April 15. Visit the website at: <http://www.marmacs.org/2012>

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 Section Web Page: <http://departments.kings.edu/SusquehannaValleyACS>  
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