

NEWS RELEASE

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Saint Mary Science Students Present Research at Regional American Chemical Society Meeting

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—Three University of Saint Mary science students—along with their instructor and a handful of classmates—traveled to Wichita, Kan., late last month to present research at the Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (ACS).

The three USM students that presented research were seniors Alex Nowasell and Christine Weber and junior Nick Stevenson. Nowasell is from Tonganoxie, Kan., Stevenson is from Lansing, Kan., and Weber is from Douglass, Kan.

Attending the meetings—and presenting research—is a great opportunity for the students, said Jemima Ingle, Ph.D., director of USM's chemistry program. Being selected to present is a notable accomplishment, she added.

“Getting the opportunity to present research is an important step in a science student’s education,” Dr. Ingle said. “The students get to present their research in a real-world environment, and also get the chance to see what their peers are up to.”

The ACS meeting was held Oct. 27-30 in Wichita. The regional meetings covered a variety of topics from all levels of research presentations and symposiums on science education to career workshops and product demonstrations. The events are heavily attended by members of the academic community.

The USM contingent presented research on means of determining the pollutant concentration in wastewater using UV-visible spectral data. Since 2009, USM students have been doing research on the subject using new high-end equipment thanks to a prestigious \$100,000 grant awarded to USM by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The NSF grant has also paid for student research time.

“It was a great experience,” student Christine Weber said. “I gained a lot from listening to other groups talk about the research they’re performing, and I even picked up some ideas that I can apply to our activities at USM.”

The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

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