

**PREVIOUS  
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<i>Spring 1997</i>
<b>Professor Peter G. Schultz</b>
<i>Spring 1998</i>
<b>Professor Keith Woo</b>
<i>Fall 1998</i>
<b>Professor Peter Wipf</b>
<i>Spring 1999</i>
<b>Dr. Michael K. Bowman</b>
<i>Fall 1999</i>
<b>Professor Robert H. Grubbs</b>
<i>Fall 2000</i>
<b>Dr. Howard Katz</b>
<i>Spring 2001</i>
<b>Professor Joseph Francisco</b>
<i>Fall 2001</i>
<b>Dr. Phaedon Avouris</b>
<i>Spring 2002</i>
<b>Professor Alison Williams</b>
<i>Fall 2003</i>
<b>Professor Harry B. Gray</b>
<i>Spring 2005</i>
<b>Professor Tobin J. Marks</b>
<i>Fall 2006</i>
<b>Professor Carlos J. Bustamante</b>
<i>Fall 2007</i>
<b>Professor David B. Collum</b>

**The Alumni  
Distinguished Lectureship**

This Award has been created by Chemistry's friends and alumni to bring prominent scientists to visit the Department and tell us of their research. During their visit, these scientists will either present a series of lectures or participate in a regular instructional program in the Department and will interact with faculty and students in a collegial atmosphere.

**ALUMNI  
DISTINGUISHED  
LECTURESHIP**

Presents

**Professor  
David B. Collum**

**Professor of Chemistry  
and  
Chemical Biology  
Cornell University**

Sponsored by:

Friends and Alumni of the  
Department of Chemistry  
Michigan State University

**4:10 pm Thursday  
September 27, 2007  
Room 136 Chemistry**

### Lecture Topic

Thursday, September 27, 2007

### “LDA-Mediated Fries-Snieckus Rearrangement: The Frieckus Rearrangement”

4:10 pm, Room 136  
Chemistry Building – MSU



**D**avid B. Collum received his BS in biology in 1977 from Cornell University, where, in addition to a concentration in genetics, he carried out undergraduate research in organic chemistry with Professor Bruce Ganem. Concluding there was nothing left of any importance to be studied in genetics, he moved to Columbia University where he earned his PhD in chemistry under the guidance of W. Clark Still doing natural products synthesis. He received his PhD in 1980 and returned to Cornell as an assistant professor. In his early years he continued his studies in natural products synthesis, but after three years decided organometallic chemistry was

the place to be. While studying organotransition metal chemistry from a more mechanistic than synthetic organic perspective, he wandered into organolithium chemistry. For about twenty years he has studied the mechanistic basis of organolithium reactivity and selectivity, always with the synthetic organic community in mind. These studies cover the gamut of carbon-, nitrogen-, and, most recently, oxygen-lithiated compounds with a particular emphasis on understanding the role of solvation and aggregation.

Aside from some appreciated minor awards, Professor Collum received Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award and, more importantly, a National Institutes of Health MERIT Award. He has collaborated with and consulted for a number of pharmaceutical companies including Merck, Pfizer, Schering Plough, Sanofi-Aventis, DuPont Pharmaceuticals, Mettler Toledo (ASI Applied Systems), and Monsanto (G. D. Searle). He is the associate editor of the Journal of Organic Chemistry and has served as an assistant coach in two Division I collegiate sports.