7th Penn State Bioinorganic Workshop

May 28 - June 4, 2026

Thursday, May 28

4:00 – 6:00	Registration desk	Willaman Bridge (adjacent to 3rd floor of Benkovic Building
6:00 – …	*First social get-together*	*TBD*

Friday May 29

8:00 – 9:00	Registration desk	Lobby of Berg Auditorium
8:45 – 9:00	Introduction	100 Berg Auditorium
9:00 – 10:30	**Introduction to Coordination Chemistry** Dan Suess (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)	100 Berg Auditorium
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*	
11:00 – 12:30	**Introduction to EPR Spectroscopy** Alexey Silakov (Penn State University)	100 Berg Auditorium
12:30 – 2:00	*Lunch break*	
2:00 – 3:30	**Pulse EPR Spectroscopy** Stefan Stoll (University of Washington)	100 Berg Auditorium
3:30 – 4:00	*Coffee break*	
4:00 – 5:30	**X-ray Spectroscopy** Chris Pollock (CHESS, Cornell University)	100 Berg Auditorium

Saturday May 30

9:00 – 10:30	**Isothermal Titration Calorimetry** Dean Wilcox (Dartmouth College)	100 Berg Auditorium
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*	
11:00 – 12:30	**Resonance Raman Spectroscopy** Hannah Shafaat (University of California, Los Angeles)	100 Berg Auditorium
12:30 – 2:00	*Lunch break*	
2:00 – 3:00	**Reverse-polarity activity-based protein profiling to discover enzyme inhibitors and drugs** Megan Matthews (University of Pennsylvania)	100 Berg Auditorium
3:00 – 5:30	**Poster session 1**	Willaman Bridge
6:00 – 8:00	*Social get-together with BBQ*	*Patio of Chemistry Building*

Sunday May 31

9:00 – 10:30	**Cryo-EM** Oliver Einsle (Freiburg University)	100 Berg Auditorium
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*	
11:00 – 12:30	**Mössbauer Spectroscopy** Yisong (Alex) Guo (Carnegie Mellon University)	100 Berg Auditorium
12:30 – 2:00	*Lunch break*	
2:00 – 4:00	Experiments in small groups 1	(see personal schedule and map)
4:15 – 6:15	Experiments in small groups 2	(see personal schedule and map)

Monday June 1

9:00 – 10:30	**X-ray Crystallography** Amie Boal (Penn State University)	100 Berg Auditorium
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*	
11:00 – 12:30	**NMR of Paramagnetic Molecules** Anne-Frances Miller (University of Kentucky)	100 Berg Auditorium
12:45 – 2:00	*Lunch break*	
2:00 – 4:00	Experiments in small groups 3	(see personal schedule and map)
4:15 – 6:15	Experiments in small groups 4	(see personal schedule and map)

Tuesday – June 2

8:30 – 10:30	Experiments in small groups 5	(see personal schedule and map)
10:45 – 12:45	Experiments in small groups 6	(see personal schedule and map)
12:45 – 2:00	*Lunch break*	
12:45 – 1:00	**Tour of the Breazeale Nuclear Reactor** This is an optional tour for a limited number of participants	*gather in lobby Benkovic*
2:00 – 3:00	**Modeling Polynuclear Transition Metal Complexes: Challenges, Methods, and Future Directions** Elvira Sayfutyarova (Pennsylvania State University)	100 Berg Auditorium
3:00 – 5:30	**Poster session 2**	Willaman Bridge
5:30 – 8:00	*Social get-together and trivia*	*Axemann Brewery*

Buses leave from the roundabout near the Benkovic Building starting at 5:45

Trivia will start at 7:30

Wednesday June 3

8:30 – 10:30	Experiments in small groups 7	(see personal schedule and map)
10:45 – 12:45	Experiments in small groups 8	(see personal schedule and map)
12:45 – 2:00	*Lunch break*	
2:00 – 4:00	Experiments in small groups 9	(see personal schedule and map)
4:15 – 6:15	Experiments in small groups 10	(see personal schedule and map)

Thursday – June 4

8:00 – 10:00	**Student/Postdoc talks** (see next page) 6 talks (15 + 5 min)	100 Berg Auditorium
10:00 – 10:30	*Coffee break*	
10:30 – 12:30	**Student/Postdoc talks** (see next page) 6 talks (15 + 5 min)	100 Berg Auditorium
12:30 – 2:00	*Lunch break*	
2:00 – 4:00	Experiments in small groups 11	(see personal schedule and map)
4:15 – 6:15	Experiments in small groups 12	(see personal schedule and map)

Final social gathering *TBD*

Friday – June 5

Departure

Student/postdoc talks 100 Berg Auditorium
Thursday, June 4

8:00 – 8:20	**A new pathway of organosulfur metabolism in the rhizosphere dependent on a Mn/Fe monooxygenase** Sunnie Kong (University of California, Berkeley)
8:20 – 8:40	**Mechanistic Investigation of CloR-Catalyzed Oxidative Decarboxylation in Clorobiocin Biosynthesis** Angela Yao (North Carolina State University)
8:40 – 9:00	**Conformational protection of Mo nitrogenase by the FeSII (Shetna II) protein** Simon Freiberger (Albert-Ludwigs Universität Freiburg)
9:00 – 9:20	**Understanding Synthetic Mimics of the C-Cluster of CODH with X-ray Spectroscopy & Density Functional Theory** Zachary Mathe (Max Planck Institute for Chemical Energy Conversion)
9:20 – 9:40	**Mechanistic insight into arsenic-carbon bond formation by the canonical radical S-adenosylmethionine enzyme ArsL** Dante Serrano (University of Pennsylvania)
9:40 – 10:00	**Solvent-Dependent Direct NO Coupling in a Redox-Tuned Flavodiiron Nitric Oxide Reductase Model Complex** Aditya Basu (University of Michigan)
10:00 – 10:30	*Coffee break*
10:30 – 10:50	**High-throughput cellular assays to uncover the controls on ferredoxin electron transfer** Eugenio Alvarez (Rice University)
10:50 – 11:10	**Understanding O_2 Activation in the Mixed-Valent Diiron Oxygenase TmpB: Substrate-Driven Valence Swap and Superoxo Intermediate Formation** Savindya Dayawansha (Pennsylvania State University)
11:10 – 11:30	**Time-Resolved Structural Characterization of Tryptophan via Photochemical Initiation** Gabe DeLong (Emory University)
11:30 – 11:50	**Substrate-Induced Conformational Dynamics Drive Co(III)-C Bond Activation in Coenzyme B12–Dependent Glutamate Mutase** Xinyu Zhang (Purdue University)
11:50 – 12:10	**Computational Insights into the Role of Secondary Sphere Residues and Diiron Center Architecture in Controlling NO Reactivity in Hemerythrine-like Protein (HLP)** Agnieszka Stańczak (University of Vermont)
12:10 – 12:30	**Insight into the catalytic mechanism of a 4-His mononuclear non-heme Iron-containing carotenoid-cleaving oxygenase** Medha Gangopadhyay (Carnegie Mellon University)