

A M E R I C A N C H E M I C A L S O C I E T Y

Huron Valley Section



February 19, 2010

Dear Colleague:

As section coordinator for this event, I am pleased to announce that the Huron Valley Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) will be participating in the 2010 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad (USNCO). The primary goals of this program are to stimulate interest and achievement in chemistry among high school students throughout the United States and to provide recognition of outstanding young chemistry students, teachers, and schools.

Students competing in the USNCO are eligible to be selected as members of the United States team for the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO). For the past twenty years, the United States has sent a team of four students to compete with nations around the world at the IChO. The students participate in both theoretical and laboratory examinations over several days. Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded to the best performers, and the IChO provides students the opportunity to interact with their peers from other countries. The 2010 International Chemistry Olympiad Competition will be held during July 19-28, 2010 in Tokyo, Japan.

Our immediate task is to encourage you and your students to participate in this program. The identification of the four-member U.S. team begins at the local school system level. It is the responsibility of the Huron Valley section to nominate students from this area to take the USNCO national examination. In order to identify these students, we have decided to conduct a preliminary screening of students through a **local section exam**. The exam is a multiple-choice, 60-questions, UNSCO-prepared examination. It will be held on the campus of *Eastern Michigan University in room 201 Pray-Harrold* on **Friday, March 19 at 1:00 pm**. The exact location and directions are provided as an addendum to this letter. If any of your students would like to participate in the preliminary examination, please fill out the attached Participation Form and return it to the email or mailing address specified at the bottom of the form by Monday, March 10. Up to 25 students from each school may participate. *If a student or school wants to participate but is not able to come on March 19, please let me know and I will attempt to make alternative arrangements.*

We expect the exam to take approximately two hours. In addition, if there are any parents or teachers who would like to take this opportunity to tour the EMU campus, please indicate.

The American Chemical Society National Chemistry Olympiad website is at:

http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?nfpb=true&pageLabel=PP_TRANSITIONMAIN&node_id=528&use_sec=false&sec_url_var=region1

where previous local section exams are available. However, if the above link will not work, please use: **acs.org** and then do a search for **Chemistry Olympiad** or **National Chemistry Olympiad**.

The second phase of the competition is the **national exam**, to be held on the *Eastern Michigan University campus* on **Thursday, April 22**. Based on the results of the local section exam, only eleven students can be chosen to participate in this second phase of the competition. No more than two students from any school may qualify to take the national exam. Students who have been selected for the national exam will be notified by Tuesday, March 31. All students taking the national exam must be U.S. citizens, but there is no citizenship requirement for taking the local section exam.

The Huron Valley section of the ACS is providing the following monetary incentives for students, teachers, and schools participating in this event. Any school with at least one student participating in the local section exam will receive \$50. Each of the students selected for the National Exam will receive \$100 and their school will also receive \$100. The best scoring of the students taking the national exam will be given an additional \$100.

We encourage you to enter students from your school in this competition by indicating your participation by Wed. March 10. Student names may be mailed, emailed or faxed to (734) 487-1496, attention Larry Kolopajlo. Thank you for helping us promote chemical education in this country.

Larry

Larry Kolopajlo

Associate Professor of Chemistry
225 Mark Jefferson
Phone: (734) 487-0100
FAX: (734) 487-1496

lkolopajl@emich.edu

Local Section Examination Participation Form

2010 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad

(To expedite processing, you may just email the names of your students to me).

School Name _____

Teacher Name _____

Phone number or email address _____

Best times to call _____

Date of Exam: Friday March 19 at 1 :00 p.m. Location: Room 201 Pray- Harrold on EMU Campus.

Names of students participating (25 students maximum from each school):

Please return this form to

Larry Kolopajlo
225 Mark Jefferson
Department of Chemistry
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, MI 48221

by **Wednesday March 10.**

lkolopajl@emich.edu

FAX: 734-487-1496

Phone: 734-487-0100

2010 Chemistry Olympiad Schedule

Wednesday March 10	Teachers submit names of up to 25 students taking local section exam
Friday March 19	Local section exam at EMU, 1:00 p.m. Location is 201 Pray Harrold, on the EMU Campus
Monday March 25	Results of local section exam released Names of 11 nominees for national exam released
Thursday April 22 (7:30 a.m.)	National Chemistry Olympiad National Exam at EMU
June 9 – 24	Study Camp, Air Force Academy
July 19-28	International Chemistry Olympiad Competition, Tokyo Japan

2010 Chem Olympiad Local Section Exam

Friday March 19 from 1 – 3 p.m.

201 Pray-Harold Hall, EMU, Ypsilanti

The Chemistry Olympiad Local Section Exam will be held on Friday March 19 from 1 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. in room 201 Pray-Harold Hall.

Parking

Please park in either Lot G or Lot T2, both of which are paid parking. It will take 10 to 15 minutes to briskly walk from parking lot G to Pray-Harold Hall and so you need to arrive at EMU by 12:30. Parking Lot T2 is closer but you would need to walk back to the Chemistry Department to get a parking voucher and so I recommend that you skip the idea of a parking voucher and instead bring \$5.00 to cover parking expenses (it should be less than that).

Room 201 is on the main floor of Pray-Harold and it is one of the large lecture rooms with a seating capacity of over 400. Do not bring food or drinks or food into the exam room. Rest rooms are available. A picture of Pray-Harold Hall is shown below.

Exam

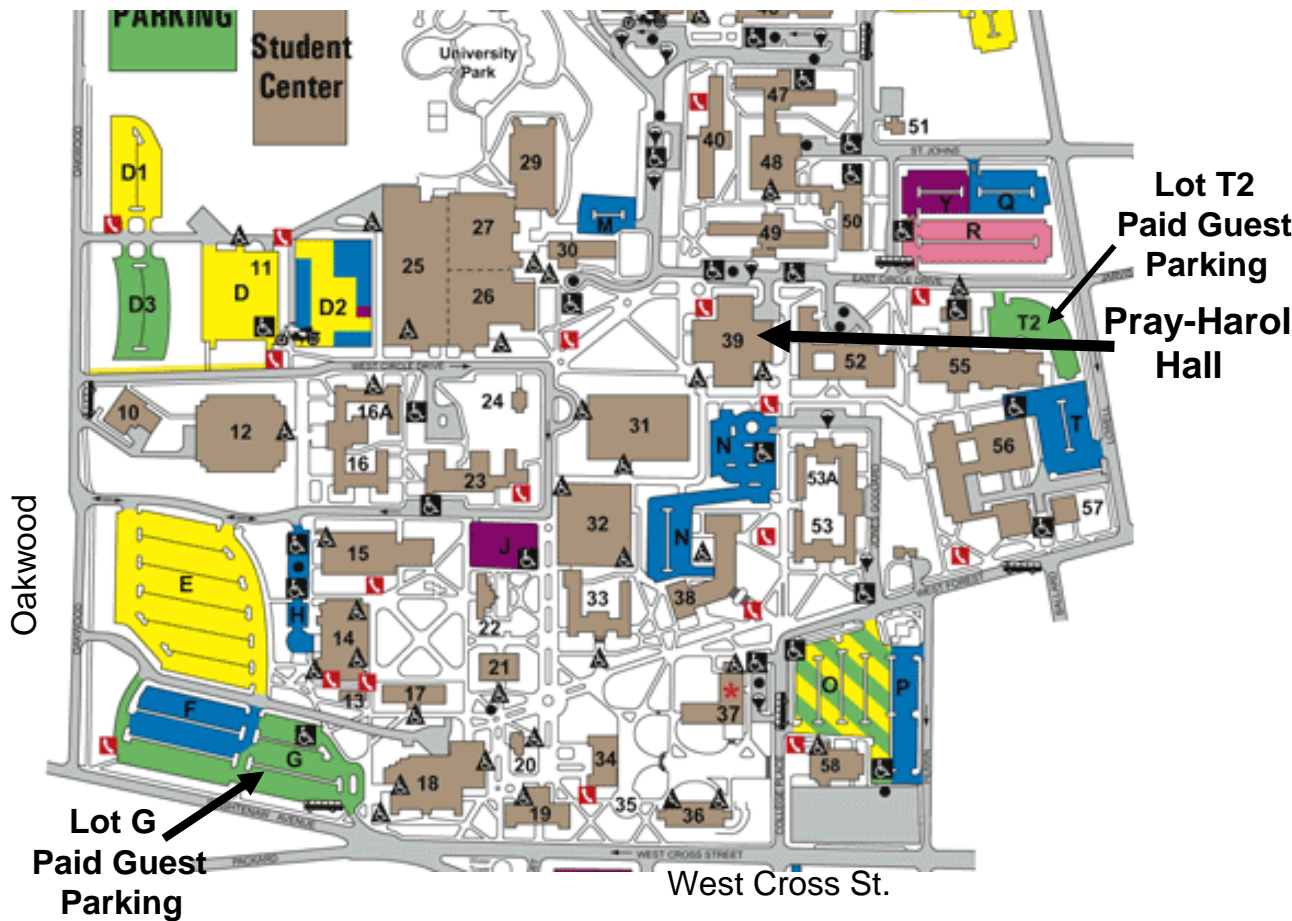
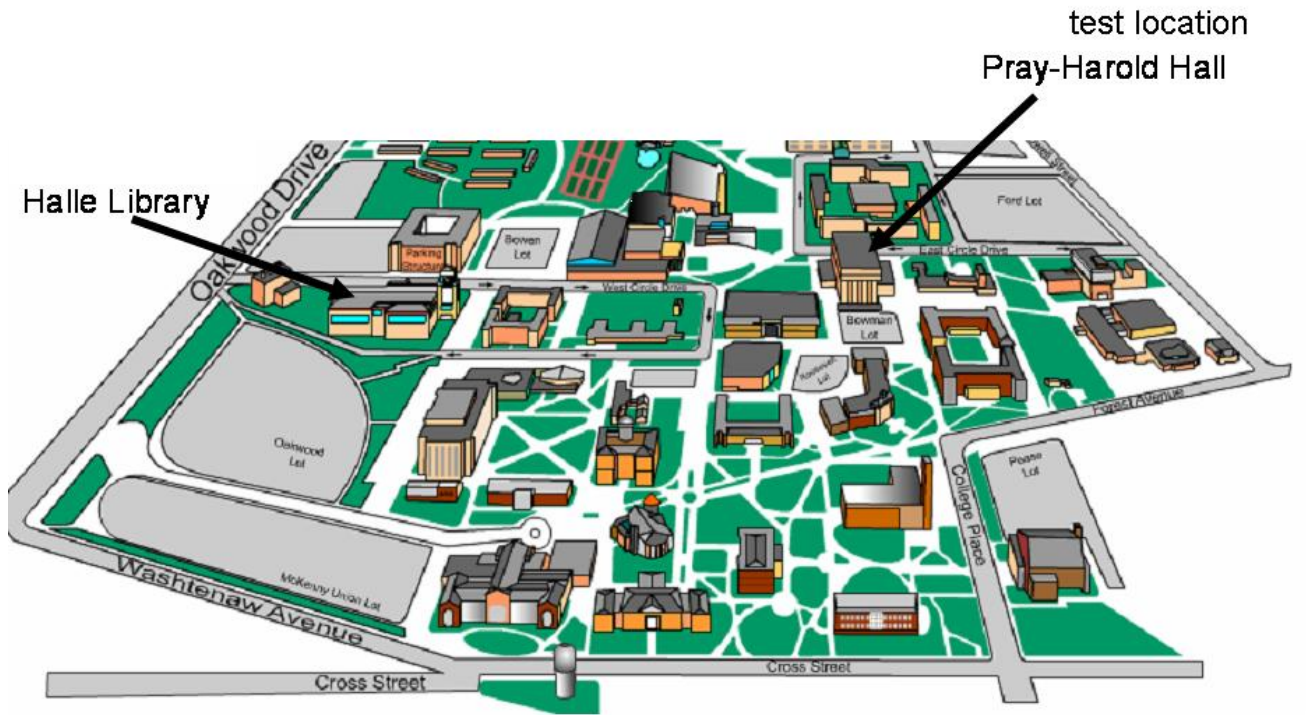
The exam is 110 minutes long and its all multiple choice. Bring a non-programmable calculator and two sharpened pencils.

Only non-graphing/non-programmable calculators allowed.

The American Chemical Society mandates that no programmable or graphing calculators be used, and so the TI programmable series is out of bounds; no TI83, TI83+, TI84, etc... Last year, a large number of students showed up with graphing/programmable calculators, and we had to enforce the ACS policy. We will have a limited number of calculators to loan out; less than ten. Students should bring scientific calculators like the TI36X, TI-30Xa, ... We certainly will have extra pencils on hand. Please seat yourself so that there is one empty seat between yourself and the next person.

Please provide the information in this letter to students.

MAPS of EMU CAMPUS



Pray-Harrold (Main Classroom Building)



Pray-Harrold is the main classroom building on campus. This seven-story building holds 75 classrooms and four lecture halls (which can accommodate 350 students). The College of Arts and Sciences administrative offices are located on the fourth floor.