

Sabbatical Leave Report
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I began my academic career in the Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Department at Michigan Tech Fall Quarter, 1975. I applied for and was granted my first Sabbatical Leave to spend Fall Quarter, 1994 as an academic guest of the Organic Chemistry Institute of the University of Zurich. I applied for and was granted my second Sabbatical Leave for Fall Semester, 2006. This is my report of activities for that Leave.

First, however, I would like to thank the University for granting the Sabbatical Leave. Although even the simplest Sabbatical Leave activities requiring travel and maintenance of a second residence are complicated and expensive, the interactions with new colleagues and the pursuit of professional activities at another institution are invigorating. I regret not taking full advantage of this benefit during my tenure at Michigan Tech and I truly believe it is in the University's interest to facilitate, encourage, and promote Sabbatical Leave activities.

I had two specific objectives for my Sabbatical Leave. The first was to research background material and to write drafts for two articles that have given me trouble for some time. The second was to visit faculty in Medicinal Chemistry programs to learn what topics and at what level they taught introductory medicinal chemistry courses. MTU just introduced a new degree program in Pharmaceutical Science; understanding where our Pharmaceutical Science capstone courses fit into the existing educational framework is important to me.

As a relatively inexpensive base of operations, for a portion of the Sabbatical Leave I resided in Ypsilanti, Michigan. This was a centralized location to visit faculty at other universities and scientists at the Pfizer Global Research Center in Ann Arbor. It also was conveniently close to the Library facilities of the University of Michigan where I conducted the background literature searches and wrote draft manuscripts. One of these manuscripts has been submitted to the journal *Tetrahedron* and the other needs some work on the graphics before submission to *Organic Letters*.

To achieve the second goal, I met with Professor R. W. Woodard (Chairman, Dept of Med. Chem., University of Michigan), Professor C. R. Wagner (Dept. of Med. Chem., University of Minnesota), and Professor P. M. Woster (Dept of Pharm Sciences, Wayne State University). I found there was a lot of interest in our program as a potential source of graduate students for Chemical Biology and Medicinal Chemistry programs at the institutions I visited.

I also met with several former students employed at the Pfizer Global Research Center in Ann Arbor to discuss what they considered to be important topics for students entering a career in the pharmaceutical industry. They arranged meetings with scientists at Pfizer who are interested in medicinal chemistry education. During these discussions, I developed a plan to strengthen Michigan Tech's ties to the Pfizer facility through an annual seminar series of Pfizer and other scientists and a formalized internship program with the Ann Arbor facility. Unfortunately, all this has come to naught: a few weeks after these meetings, Pfizer announced the closing of the research center in Ann Arbor. However, the discussions gave me a clearer picture of what practitioners consider important topics that will be reflected in my course syllabus in the Fall.