



GERALD O. WILSON

Bio: Dr. Gerald Wilson currently leads technology development for Autonomic Materials, Inc. (AMI), a startup based in the in the Research Park at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Over the past 8 years, Dr. Wilson has developed new chemistries for application in self-healing materials for composite, coatings and biomedical applications. He has authored or co-authored over 25 peer-reviewed journal articles, conference proceedings and invited lectures. Dr. Wilson received a B.A. in Chemistry from Macalester College, a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and is currently an M.B.A. candidate in the School of Business also at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL SEMINAR

Introduction to self-healing polymers: concepts, chemistries and application in the development of corrosion-resistant coatings

Abstract: Truly self-healing materials have the capability to repair themselves when they are damaged without the need for any external intervention. Self-healing systems based on microencapsulated healing agents developed by researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign were initially developed with polymerized resins and reinforced polymer composites as the intended applications.(1) In this presentation, I will discuss the development of these original examples of self-healing technology, new concepts and chemistries that have emerged and our work in the development of novel economically viable self-healing coatings.

(1) S. R. White, N. R. Sottos, P. H. Geubelle, J. S. Moore, M. R. Kessler, S. R. Sriram, E. N. Brown, S. Viswanathan, *Nature* 2001, 409, 794 – 797.

MENTORING MINORITIES IN MATH AND SCIENCE TALK

“Like” your career: A perspective on thinking about your career in today’s dynamic global economy

Abstract: The word “like” in the title refers to a social interaction tool made popular by the social networking platform Facebook. The tool allows individuals and organizations to invite a targeted audience to interact with web-based content that they have created. According to their website, people spend over 700 billion minutes per month on Facebook. I believe in an increasingly competitive global economy, everyone will need to interact with the dynamics of this new environment with the same intensity in an effort to understand how their career goals fit into the context of these rapidly changing trends. As more and more people around the world develop skills that are similar to those that we possess we are going to have to work harder to differentiate ourselves. With the benefit of hindsight, I will use my career development to date to discuss how my interests have shaped the career decisions I’ve made and provide some frameworks to help others to do the same.