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Pappenfus, associate professor of chemistry, and students to present at Midwest's premier energy, economic, and environmental conference

Summary: Two presentations will provide updates on grant-supported projects.

(November 23, 2010)-What role will renewable energy play in recharging the United States economy? Can improvements in energy efficiency help businesses reduce their carbon footprint while boosting their bottom line? What does the future hold for wind energy? These are among the urgent questions on the agenda during E3 2010: The Midwest's Premier Energy, Economic and Environmental Conference, taking place November 30 through December 1 in St. Paul. Hosted annually by the University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE), a signature program of the Institute on the Environment, the E3 conference explores the latest technical innovations, scientific breakthroughs, and policy incentives in the renewable energy sector.

Ted Pappenfus, University of Minnesota, Morris associate professor of chemistry, and students Jennifer Schmidt, Ryan Koehn, Matt Lovander, and Caleb Power will present two posters. The first will provide a progress report on Morris's National Science Foundation Curriculum Grant, "Renewable Energy and Sustainable Chemistry Across the Undergraduate Chemistry Curriculum." The second will provide an update on progress made on Morris's IREE Solar Cell Grant, "PBC-DFT: An Efficient Method to Calculate Energy Band Gaps for Conducting Polymers used in Solar Cells."

Featured E3 speakers are Daniel Kammen, professor of energy at the University of California, Berkeley, and newly named chief technical specialist for renewable energy and energy efficiency at the World Bank Nicole Y. Lamb-Hale, assistant secretary of commerce for manufacturing and services in the U.S. Commerce Department and Megan McCluer, senior adviser for the U.S. Department of Energy's Wind Power Program. Along with research posters and exhibitor displays, the conference will feature 15 breakout sessions in bioenergy solar energy conservation and energy efficiency policy, economics and the environment and special topics.

Visit the [E3 web page](#) for the full conference agenda.

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