

## Special Seminar Presentation

### Advancing Graduate Education in the Chemical Sciences

## **Report of the ACS Presidential Commission on Graduate Education in the Chemical Sciences**

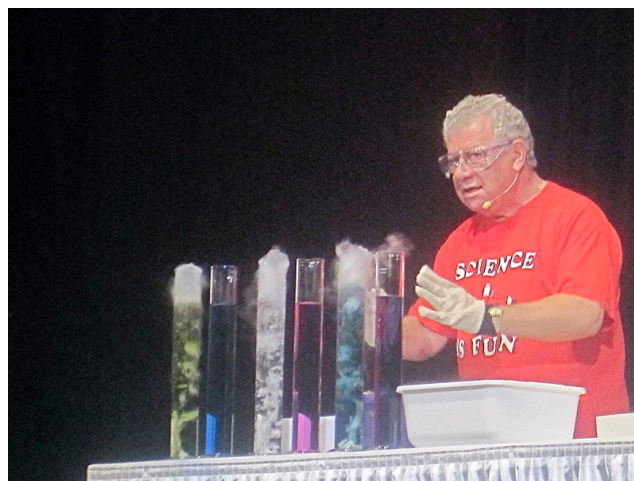
**Bassam Z. Shakhashiri**

Professor of Chemistry (UWis - Madison),  
Immediate Past President of the American  
Chemical Society, Graduate of the University  
of Maryland, Member of the department's  
Committee of Distinguished Advisors

**Monday, February 25, 2013**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Chemistry Lecture Hall 1402**



*The Commission Report concludes:*

1. Current educational opportunities for graduate students, viewed on balance as a system, do not provide sufficient preparation for their careers after graduate school.
2. The system for the financial support of graduate students, as currently operated by private, institutional, state, and federal funds, is no longer optimal for national needs.
3. Academic chemical laboratories must adopt best safety practices. Such practices have led to a remarkably good record of safety in the chemical industry and should be leveraged.
4. Departments should give thoughtful attention to maintaining a sustainable relationship between the availability of new graduates at all degree levels and genuine opportunities for them. Replication in excess is wasteful of resources and does injustice to the investment made by students and society.
5. Postdoctoral training and education is an extension of graduate education that is important for success in a variety of career paths, particularly for faculty appointments. Postdoctoral associates should be treated as the professional scientists and engineers they are. A postdoctoral appointment should be a period of accelerated professional growth that, by design, enhances scientific independence and future career opportunities.

*Professor Shakhashiri will present the Commission Report and discuss its conclusions with opportunities for questions and comments. For complete information see:*

**[www.acs.org/graduatecommission](http://www.acs.org/graduatecommission)**

**<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/sciencecareers/2012/12/american-chemic-1.html>**

**Reception in the Atrium will follow the presentation and discussion**