



Madison's Nano Cafés

News Release - 5 March 2007

www.nanocafes.org

Nanotechnology & Public Health

- What:** Nano Café 'Grande' - "Is the widespread use of nano-antimicrobials beneficial for public health?"
- When:** Thursday, March 22th, 6:30 PM
- Where:** **Memorial Union**, on UW-Madison campus, **800 Langdon St.**
Check 'Today in the Union' on March 22, to see the exact location.
The event is free and open to the public

Nano Café 'Grande'

NANOTECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Is the widespread use of nano-antimicrobials beneficial for public health?

Information:
www.nanocafes.org
Madison, WI 608-238-1438

Thursday, March 22, 6:30 PM, Memorial Union, 800 Langdon St.

Check 'Today in the Union'

Featuring:

- Sean Palecek, UW Madison - Nanoscale Science & Engineering Center
- Simon Silver & Le T Phung, UIC - Department of Microbiology & Immunology
- Other NSEC and UW Madison scientists

Sponsored by the Citizen's Coalition on Nanotechnology (CCoN) and the **NSEC**

The 4th Nano Café 'Grande' will be a special Nano Café event.

The first three Cafés gave overviews of benefits and risks of nanotechnology. The 4th Nano Café will focus on **Nanotechnology and Public Health**, and will deal with the question "Is the widespread use of nano-antimicrobials beneficial for public health?".

This concern was raised by citizens at the third Café and discussion of the topic brought on additional questions.

- What kinds of products include nano-antimicrobials?
- How do nano-antimicrobials work? What are their effects and benefits?
- Are nano-antimicrobials toxic for health? for the environment?

- Does a potential for microbial resistance to these nanomaterials exist?
- What are the pros and cons of a regulation in this field?

The March 22 event has been named "Nano Café Grande" because for the first time, we will host several guest speakers who will share ideas and views:

- [Sean Palecek](#), UW Madison - Nanoscale Science & Engineering Center
- [Simon Silver](#) & Le T Phung, UIC - Department of Microbiology & Immunology
- Other NSEC and UW Madison scientists

Nano Cafés include a short talk on nanotechnology*, followed by an informal and interesting discussion over dessert & coffee. These discussions are a unique way to bring scientists and citizens together to hear the latest news and share their thinking on the issues involved. Your input is most heartily encouraged. By sharing critical thinking, we can have a beneficial and positive impact on the history of this fascinating technology.

You can find more information about nanotechnology and antibacterials on our website: http://www.nanocafes.org/nanoproducts_antibacterial

The event is sponsored by members of the Citizens' Coalition on Nanotechnology, in cooperation with faculty in the [UW-Madison Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center](#).



For additional information go to www.nanocafes.org, send an email to nano.cafes@gmail.com or contact Mathilde Colin (608-238-1438).

* **Nanotechnology** is an emerging field, which involves the understanding, manufacture, and manipulation of extremely small matter. The prefix 'nano' is derived from the Greek word 'nanos' meaning 'dwarf'. Nanotechnologies enable scientists and industries to make new shapes, devices, and products from cosmetics to drugs and aircraft materials. Although still largely unfamiliar to most of us, nanotechnology will soon affect everybody's life and is considered the next industrial revolution.

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