

\*\*\*SAMPLE\*\*\*

**Proposal for the ADVANCE Distinguished Lecture Series**

*Applicant's Name, Title, and Department  
Address, Telephone Number, Email Address*

Proposed Speaker (include the title): Ralph T. Yang, Professor

Affiliation of Speaker: Department of Chemical Engineering  
University of Michigan

Link to personal website/CV: <http://www.engin.umich.edu/dept/cheme/people/yang.html>

Target date for seminar: March or April 2007 (to be confirmed by speaker)

Brief bio of the Speaker (to emphasize the prominence of the speaker in the research community): Professor Yang is one of the world's leading experts in gas separation by adsorption, adsorption dynamics, and new adsorbent materials. He has published two books (Gas Separation by Adsorption Processes, 1987; Adsorbents: Fundamentals and Applications, 2003), has authored over 350 refereed journal articles, and holds 23 U.S. patents. Professor Yang was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2005 "for the development of the theory, methods, and materials for the removal of environmentally hazardous compounds from transportation fuels and other difficult separations".

Specific goals and anticipated benefits of my interaction with the Speaker: My research in the design of novel porous materials for adsorption applications is closely aligned with the research area of Prof. Yang. As I am in the early stages of developing my own research program, the opportunity to interact with a world expert in this field will prove invaluable in helping focus my research efforts on timely topics and in gaining insight into the future direction of the field.

- In particular, I look forward to fruitful discussions regarding the design and synthesis of novel materials such as metal-organic frameworks and carbon nanotubes for energy applications and gas separations
- I also plan to discuss my own research plans and proposal ideas with Prof. Yang to seek his expert advice and suggestions for improvements

In short, inviting Prof. Yang to K-State as a Distinguished Lecturer will have an important impact on the development of my research program and will help me foster a professional connection with a leading expert in my field early in my career. Prof. Yang will likely serve as referee for future manuscripts and grant proposals. Thus, I expect that this interaction will have a positive, long-term influence on my career.