

Dow Vs. Bromkonvention

Agenda:

Guest Speaker: Angela Farrehi

Officer Updates

5-Minute Talk: Ethan Pacheck

Electee Game

Upcoming Events:

MindSET III (11/4)

North Campus Sustainability Hour III (11/6)

Blood Drive Volunteering (11/6)

Blood Drive (11/7)

Sequoia Place IV (11/7)

TBP Grad Student Speaker Series (11/10)

Hello Tau Bates,

This week I would like to share some history with you. Specifically, I would like to delve into the history of the man this building is named after.

The namesake of the Dow building, Herbert Henry Dow, was a chemist who graduated from Case Western University in 1888. The reason that Dow is well known today is for his invention of an electrolysis method through which he removed useful chemicals such as bromine from brine water. This method ultimately led to the formation of a chemical company in Midland, Michigan known as the Dow Chemical Company. This company is now one of the largest chemical companies in the world.

The most interesting story about Dow is his battle with a large German chemical cartel known as Bromkonvention. Dow's method allowed him to establish himself as the main producer of bromine in America. Bromkonvention had a monopoly from the German government, however, and intended to keep Dow out of international markets by undercutting him if he tried to expand.

Undeterred, Dow began to sell his bromine in England and Japan. The Germans, frightened by his cheaper refining method, began to dump cheap bromine in American markets to force him out of business. Instead of backing down, Dow began to send agents to buy the cheap bromine, repackaged it, and then sold it for a profit. Confused and startled at the resilience of Dow Chemical and taking losses due to selling at such a low price, the Germans were forced to raise their prices and allow Dow to sell in foreign markets.

Electees of the Week

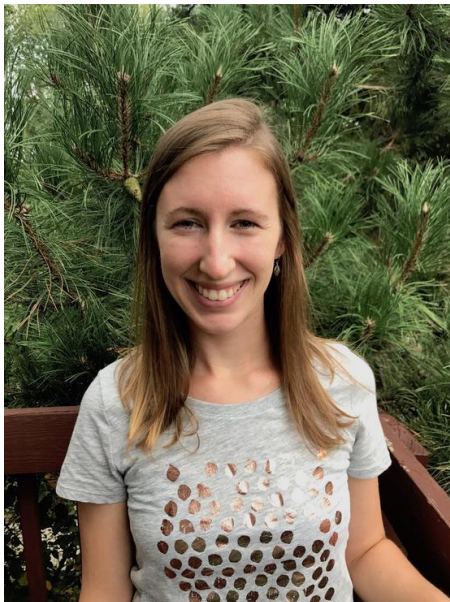


Kristina Nunez

Major: Mechanical Engineering

About Kristina: “I’m Kristina Nunez and I’m studying Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Computer Science. I love watching sports especially the Red Wings and the Tigers. I am also on the women’s ultimate frisbee team.”

Why She’s Awesome: 12.5 hours of service, 2 social hours, and 2 PD sessions



Ellen Thompson

Major: Environmental Engineering

About Ellen: “I’m a second-year MSE student in Environmental Engineering and planning to stay at the University of Michigan for a PhD. My research is in subsurface fluid-rock interactions for energy applications. My undergraduate degree is in Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences from Dartmouth College. After undergrad, I worked in industry for a few years before coming back to school. Outside of the lab, I enjoy all things outdoors: hiking, skiing, rock climbing, kayaking, etc.!”

Why She’s Awesome: Signed-up for over 21 hours between all events.