Department Information:
- Finals week is Friday, December 9th – 16th
  [http://www.udel.edu/registrar/onlinereg/2118%20Final%20Exam%20Schedule.pdf]

- The Department’s administrative offices will be closed for the annual Staff Holiday Lunch on Friday, December 16th starting at 11:30am and will reopen on Monday, December 19th.

- For information on the University's holiday closings: [http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2011/dec/holidayclosing122210.html]

Department Seminars:
- CMET Seminar
  LaShanda Korley, Nord Distinguished Assistant Professor
  Case Western Reserve University
  Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 1:30 PM in 366 Colburn Lab
  “Mechanically-Tunable Materials Inspired From Nature”

Dates to Hold:
- Colburn Club Ski Trip to Blue Mountain
  Friday, January 27, 2012
  Details after winter break!

Publications:
- Nobel Video: Video of lectures by UD experts on Nobel-winning work now available [http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2012/dec/nobel-lectures-video-120511.html]
- UD’s new Mills computing cluster: New research computing cluster named for UD professor emeritus [http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2012/dec/mills-research-computer-120711.html]
- Board of Trustees: Diversity, state support discussed at UD Board of Trustees meeting [http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2012/dec/board-trustees-120811.html]

Facilities Notifications:
- U/D Facilities Maintenance is conducting their annual Colburn Lab fire alarm system test on Tuesday, December 20th, between 6 - 8 PM. Our alarm technician will make a public address announcement before and after the test.
  You may ignore the evacuation alarm, strobes, and digital sirens during the test.
- EHS is pleased and excited about renewing the efforts to publish the “Safety Beacon” newsletter now in a PDF format!

Thesis Defense:
- You are cordially invited to Carissa Young’s Ph.D. defense entitled "Interrogation of Quality Control Mechanisms and Protein Trafficking in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*". The defense will be held on
Wednesday, December 14th at 1:30 PM. Please note that the location is Delaware Biotechnology Institute, Room 102. Refreshments will be available at 1:15 PM. An abstract for the presentation is included below. “Interrogation of Quality Control Mechanisms and Protein Trafficking in Saccharomyces cerevisiae”

- You are cordially invited to Zachary Britton’s Ph.D. defense entitled “Novel Approaches to the Expression and Purification of G Protein-Coupled Receptors” on Tuesday, December 20th at 11:00am in 366CLB.

Jobs/Recruiting:

- The Soft Matter group at the Institute of Complex Systems (ICS-3), Research Centre Jülich, is offering a 3 year position for a motivated PhD student.
- The Soft Matter group at the Institute of Complex Systems (ICS-3), Research Centre Jülich, is offering a position for a highly motivated postdoctoral fellow.
- These and other available positions can be found on the Chemical Engineering opportunity website (http://www.che.udel.edu/opps.html), so be sure to check it regularly.

From other Departments:

- **MSEG Guest Speaker**
  Laura Poole-Warren, Ph.D.
  Wednesday, December 14th @ 11:00am in 366 Colburn Lab
  Title: “Putting the “BIO” into Materials”

- **Probability Seminar**
  Jia-an Yan, Academy of Science of China
  Tuesday, December 20th at 3:30pm in 336 Ewing Hall
  Title: “New formulations of Markowitz’s mean-variance portfolio selection”