

Memorial University News Release

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Subject: **Production of green diesel and alcohols focus of presentation at Memorial University**

Memorial University's Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science will host Dr. Ajay K. Dalai for a special presentation on **Friday, May 18**.

Dr. Dalai will give a seminar on the development of carbon-nanotubes-supported catalysts for the conversion of synthesis gas to liquid fuels. The focus of this research is the production of green diesel and alcohols, which could lead to producing fuels that are nitrogen and sulfur free.

This presentation takes place at **10 a.m. in EN-4002** in the Engineering building on the St. John's campus.

"We are thrilled to host Dr. Dalai and look forward to his presentation on Friday morning. His expertise and experience alone will make this seminar very beneficial to the faculty, staff and students who attend," said Dr. Faisal Khan, discipline chair, process engineering, Memorial University.

Dr. Dalai is this year's Canadian Catalysis Lectureship Award recipient and as part of this award, he is visiting a number of universities on a lectureship tour. His presentation is part of the Canadian Symposium of Catalysis lecture series and his visit to Memorial University is funded by the Canadian Catalysis Foundation.

"He has a research focus in novel catalyst development for gas to liquid technologies, biodiesel production and applications, hydrogen/syngas production from waste materials, hydro-processing of heavy gas oil, and value-added products from biomass," said Dr. Khan. "These are topics that are relevant and significant to many of us in the province given the growth of the local offshore oil and gas industry."

Dr. Dalai is the associate dean, research and partnerships, with the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan. He has published more than 250 research papers in heterogeneous catalysis and catalytic processes, while his expertise and strategic initiatives in catalysts for bio-economy have earned him several national and international awards.

The list of awards with which he has been presented includes the McMaster University's Brockhouse Institute for Materials Research Distinguished Speaker Award, the Professor Mann Lecture Series Endowment Lectureship Award from the University of Ottawa's Department of Chemical Engineering and the Indian Chemical Engineering Congress NEERI Distinguished Speaker Award.

Dr. Dalai is an active board member, reviewer and guest editor for several international journals. He is also a member of the Chemical Institute of Canada (CIC), the Catalysis Division of the CIC and the American Chemical Society. In addition to these accolades, he is a life member of the Indian Institute of Engineers, the Indian Catalysis Society and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

His presentation on May 18 is open to the media and general public, as well as all students, faculty and staff of Memorial University.

For more information, please contact Darcy MacRae, communications co-ordinator, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, at (709) 864-8287 and dmacrae@mun.ca.