

## Sandia Fellow Jeff Brinker lauded by group that tracks science pubs

No one has been hotter in the world of chemistry over a 10-year period than Sandia Fellow and UNM professor Jeff Brinker, according to the Philadelphia-based organization known as ISI (Institute for Scientific Information). The organization uses computer searches of more than 10,000 journals to chart the number of times a paper has been referenced in other scientific papers.

From February to April 2005, Jeff led all researchers in the world of chemistry in the increase in the number of times his papers were cited over a 10-year period. He was also in the top one percent of increase in materials citations, the *Lab News* learned from Jennifer Minnick, ISI's coordinator of "Essential Science Indicators."

But when is a reference "chemistry" and when is it "materials"?

According to Minnick, ISI reassigns all papers to the highest category a researcher has been cited in. Thus, because Jeff was cited in more chemistry papers than materials papers over the last 10 years, his materials citations

were moved over into the chemistry column for totaling. "It's not a firm line," she said, but totaling the two similar sciences together is appropriate. The materials citations by themselves were impressive in number, she said.

One school of thought holds that the test of a paper's worth is the number of times it is referenced by other scientists in their footnotes. A high number of citations by others is one possible measure of distinguishing contributors to the advancement of science from those who may publish for the sake of publishing.

By this measure, Jeff is among science leaders in more ways than the current measurement. ISI considers papers that have received at least 45 citations as being in the top one percent of their field. In all fields over the past 10 years, ISI has listed 14 Brinker papers with more than 50 citations, and in his career more than 30 such highly cited papers, totaling more than 4,000 citations.

In the current case lauded by ISI, over a 10-year period ending in February, Jeff's chemistry citations stood at 35 papers cited 754 times. By April, 39 papers were cited 1,214 times — "a higher increase than any other scientist in chemistry in our database for this period," says Minnick.

Jeff's latest greatest hits have concerned evaporation-induced self-assembly at the nanoscale. Two that stimulated the greatest scientific interest appeared in *Nature* in 1997 and *Advanced Materials* in 1999.



SANDIA FELLOW Jeff Brinker in his lab.