Final Oral Presentation

**Assignment.** The final assignment is to make a 15-20 minute presentation on a recent chemistry paper. Students will also be expected to be in the audience for the other 4 presentations.

Given the time that is available to you, it should be possible to:
- Describe the scientific background that made this project interesting/worth doing
- Describe the experimental methods and findings
  - total coverage is not required; keep track of your time and make sure you provide a detailed description of the most important findings
- Describe the authors’ interpretation of these results.
  - All of the papers include pericyclic reactions. Make sure that you include pertinent details as appropriate: concerted or stepwise, allowed or forbidden, stereochemistry

**Possible Schedule.** I have emailed you possible times for these presentations, but I have repeated the options below (A-D). We need to know right away when the presentations will be given, so please respond to my email as soon as possible (note: don’t just pick your favorite time, tell me whether you are available or not for every option).

Get it all done in a single 2-hour session. Options:
- A. Thursday, May 4, 2-4 pm
- B. Friday, May 5, 9-11 am
- C. Saturday, May 6, 9-11 am

Split the presentations over two days.
- D. Thursday, May 2-3 pm + Friday, May 9-10 am
  (Jordan would present on Friday, Conrad can choose when he wants to present, and I will assign others to the remaining times.)

**Instructions.** Read your assigned paper and prepare a presentation. If possible, prepare a PowerPoint presentation. Otherwise, be prepared to draw (quickly! artistically!) everything on the board. All of you have prepared PowerPoint presentations before, but this will be a chance to discuss what works and what doesn’t.

Some tips:
- PowerPoint is available everywhere on campus including the computational chemistry lab. You might want to construct your presentation in the chemistry lab because PowerPoint presentations sometimes mutate when they are moved from Macintoshes to PCs.¹
- E-mail your presentation to me before the scheduled presentation time. Everyone will use my laptop for their presentation
- Naturally, you can make drawings in other programs and paste them in to PowerPoint. This will be time-consuming, so I suggest you try to get all (or a high

¹ If you put your presentation together on a Mac, check it on a PC before you give it in class.
percentage) of your figures and diagrams from your original article if you can. There are two quick ways to do this:

- In **Acrobat Reader**: click on the **Select Text** button and change it to **Select Image**. Move the cursor over the desired figure in your paper (the cursor must change to a cross-hair for this to work) and drag the cursor to outline the figure. Select **Edit: Copy**, then shift to PowerPoint and select **Edit: Paste**.
- Using **PrintScreen**: Acrobat Reader may not always recognize figures as images. In this case, in Acrobat Reader, zoom in so that your figure has a desirable size and make a screen snapshot (press **Shift + PrintScreen**). Shift to PowerPoint and select **Edit: Paste**. You will need to crop and resize your figure to get rid of unwanted parts of the screen image.

- Some **PPT tools** worth knowing about:
  - **Slide layout** (use this to show PPT how you want to divide each slide into title, text, figure zones)
  - **View: Toolbars: Picture** (use buttons on this toolbar to crop and resize/format images quickly)
  - **View: Toolbars: Drawing** (use buttons on this toolbar to add, (and also recolor and format) drawings and text to your slide)

**Papers.** Each of you has been assigned a different paper. You can download your paper from the 324 web site (go to the Assignments page) or you can download it from the journal’s web page (access on-campus from Reed College library web site).