Syracuse Section of the ACS

The Syracuse Section presents

# Coral reefs: Can they survive in these times of global climate change?


## Dr. Mark Teece

Associate Professor of Chemistry, SUNY ESF


**What:** Dinner meeting with lecture by Dr. Mark Teece

**When:** Monday, July 15, 2013
5:30pm dinner, 6:15pm lecture

**Where:** 1-019 SciTech Building, Syracuse University

eventbrite site

**RSVP:** The lecture is free to attend. Dinner catered by **Dinosaur BBQ** with the lecture immediately following.
**$10 for Section members, $7 for students for dinner**
The lecture is free and open to the public.

Go to **coralreefs-acs.eventbrite.com** to RSVP and to pay online.


**Abstract**

Coral reefs are beautiful and important natural resources. They support a habitat for a staggering amount of fish and invertebrate species, and are an economic driver for many coastal communities. The highest populations of healthy corals are typically found in clear oceanic waters containing low nutrients, low suspended particles, and high light levels. Unfortunately, acid levels are increasing in the world's oceans due to higher levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere now dissolving into the waters, which could be potentially disastrous for reef-building marine organisms and for their capacity to produce Earth's breathable oxygen as acidification affects their ability to form skeletons. Along with warming ocean temperatures, and human impacts like over fishing and pollution coral reefs are under increasing stress. The foundation of coral reefs is the delicate symbiosis between a coral animal host and a photosynthetic algal symbiont (zooxanthellae). This talk will explore the importance of this symbiosis and research using biological, chemical, and geological studies to understand the impact of current and future changes in the ocean and the discuss the future of these important ecosystems.