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Profile of David J. Butcher

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Profile of David J. Butcher

David J. Butcher is currently Professor of Chemistry and Department Head of Chemistry and Physics at Western Carolina University (WCU) in Cullowhee, NC. He is married to Dr. Karen Butcher and has two children, Emily 12 and Neil 10, with whom he enjoys leisure time. He received his bachelor's degree in 1982 from the University of Vermont. After three years of employment at Pfizer and Bowdoin College, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut in 1990. His graduate work, conducted under the direction of Robert G. Michel, involved the development of instrumentation for laser excited atomic fluorescence and ionization spectroscopies. He joined the faculty at WCU in 1990 as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry, was promoted to Associate Professor in 1997, was promoted to Professor in 2001, and became Department Head in 2002. Prof. Butcher has more than 40 publications in a variety of areas of analytical chemistry, including graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometry, diode laser atomic absorption spectrometry, and ion trap mass spectrometry. Along with Prof. Joseph Sneddon, he is co-author of the volume *A Practical Guide to Graphite Furnace Atomic Absorption Analysis*. His current research interests include environmental analytical chemistry; currently he is involved in a phytoremediation project to remove lead and arsenic from the soil at a housing development in western North Carolina. He has also been involved in a number of novel teaching innovations in general and analytical chemistry. He serves as Associate Editor for Book Reviews of the *Microchemical Journal*, and Associate Editor for *Education for Spectroscopy Letters*. He received the 1998 WCU University Scholar Award as the outstanding researcher. He serves on the Editorial Boards of *Microchemical Journal*, *Spectroscopy Letters*, and *Applied*



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Spectroscopy Reviews. He served as Chair of the American Microchemical Society Undergraduate Award Committee and is currently Chair of the A.A. Benedetti-Pichler Award Committee. In 2001, he served as Program Chair for 28th FACSS meeting held in Detroit, MI.



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