

Scott Cairns is an officer with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). His work with the OPCW to dismantle stockpiles of chemical weapons in Syria led to the organization receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 2013. This lecture will detail Dr. Cairns' experiences as a Canadian WMD expert, his investigations into the use of chemical weapons and his efforts to destroy them. Using his direct experience working in an international setting and applying fact/science-based inspection & investigation practices, this lecture will detail the real-world challenges and heart-breaking examples of how science plays a role in uncovering and documenting the use of chemical weapons on the modern battlefield with a focus on the Syrian war.