

DULUTH--A UMD chemist takes his first "strictly amateur" one-man art show to Excelsior this Wednesday (Oct.17) for a one month's run.

Until now Dr. Glenn Christensen's recognition has come in chemical research. He admittedly is a bit un-nerved over the prospect of exhibiting his own paintings.

Christensen plans to hang 35 works in the Art Works Gallery in the Tonka Terrace Shopping Center. There will be 15 India ink sketches, 15 oils and five watercolors.

"I've been interested in painting all my life," says Christensen. "But I've only been active in art the last 10 years. I've given paintings away but I've never tried to formally show or sell any before." His only previous experience came six years ago when he had one painting in the Rural Art Show on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus.

"I've had courses in art but no studio work," explains Christensen. "Of course I've been tempted to take night courses but I've never gotten around to it."

A spare attic bedroom in his home at 2167 Springdale Road serves as Christensen's studio and den. He occasionally paints outdoors, usually on camping and canoe trips.

"Most of my paintings in the exhibit will be of the North Shore and the Superior-Quetico Forest country. There's one of Split Rock Lighthouse, another of fishing boats in Grand Marais' harbor and a number of portage trails," said Christensen.

Christensen does not adhere to any particular school of art. "I make an effort to portray things realistically or work with black and white on ideas of design."

A native Proctorite, Dr. Christensen holds the position of an assistant professor at UMD. He has conducted extensive research on an unknown substance in royal jelly that affects the bee.

In January, Dr. Christensen begins an eight-month research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health at Bethesda, Maryland. He will study at the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology.

Christensen joined the UMD faculty in 1955. He obtained his B.A. degree from the Duluth campus in 1952 and completed M.A. and Ph.D. requirements on the Minneapolis campus.