



THE OCTAGON

843rd LVACS Meeting:

Thursday, September 19

Albright College

Time: 5:30-social hour (Science Center Lobby)
6:30-dinner/business meeting Center for
the Fine Arts Mezzanine)
8:15-speaker (Klein Lecture Hall)

Directions: <http://www.albright.edu/about/directions.html>

Campus map: <http://www.albright.edu/about/Printable-Map.pdf>

Contact: Reservations by 4:00 P.M. Thursday,
September 12, 2013 through
Nancy Kerper: (610) 921-7720;
nkerper@alb.edu
(E-mail is preferred with LVACS as the
subject). Please specify a choice of entrée.

Price: \$25.00 (includes social hour) half price for
retirees, students and unemployed
members.

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Menu:

Assorted Dinner Rolls w/ Butter
Mixed Greens Garden Salad
Chicken Marsala*
OR
Baked Tilapia Picatta*
Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes
Garlic Green Beans
Baked Apple Strudel w/ Bourbon
Sauce

*Please specify a choice of entrée,
vegetarian entrée by request

Program:

**Formulation & Solid State Chemistry Tools at the Drug Discovery-
Development Interface**

John D. Higgins, Ph.D., Director, Merck Pharmaceutical Research & Development



Abstract:

Over the past decade, scientific and business needs have pushed the pharmaceutical industry to more closely align drug discovery and drug development efforts in order to bring better preclinical drug candidates to human clinical trials. One strategy is to embed a Pharmaceutical Development group within the Drug Discovery organization. As such, development chemists now routinely provide rationally designed enabled formulations for key in vivo studies. They also work closely with medicinal chemists to optimize preclinical candidates' (PCCs) physicochemical properties and identify a solid state phase that has appropriate characteristics that will allow for good performance in pre-clinical toxicology studies and clinical formulations. Early investment in these areas can significantly shorten the time to human trials.

This presentation gives an overview of key tools a pharm development group can bring to bear in discovery space and shows some examples where partner groups from Discovery and Development worked together to increase the speed of drug lead identification, optimization and the PCC approval process. At the talk's center is the message that chemists perform key roles throughout drug discovery and development.

Biography:



Dr. Higgins received a BS in biochemistry from Albright College and his Ph.D. in synthetic organic chemistry from Brown University. After completing a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Medicinal Chemistry and Neurology at the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Institute, John has worked for 24 years in the Pharma industry pursuing a broad range of research spanning both drug discovery and development. He is currently Research Director of the Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences Department at Merck Research Labs in West Point, PA. He is co-inventor on 12 US patents and author of over 40 publications and book chapters in the fields of organic, solid state, & medicinal chemistry and drug delivery. When he's not thinking about new drugs, John spends his time mountaineering and playing guitar (not at the same time).



Fall 2013 LVACS Meetings

October 31, Halloween at Cedar Crest College



November 21 - Lehigh University - LVACS and Lehigh Valley Nanotechnology Network - Wood Dining Room on the Lehigh University Mountaintop Campus. The lecture, "Design and Characterization of Novel Biosurfactants to Enhance Drug Bioavailability," will be presented by Bryan Berger, Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering, Lehigh University.

Message from the Chair

Greetings LVACS Colleagues,

I hope this finds everyone well. How was summer? Fast? Busy? Our clinical team accomplished another protocol amendment, several posters, abstracts, and two publications, plus the day-to-day patient data review and research. Amazing how quickly time flies when having fun and being productive! The fall is expected to be even busier. Once you see this Octagon issue, you know the summer is ending and we will see the beauty of fall very soon.

The Executive Committee hopes to see you at the September meeting at Albright College (September 19th). It will be an enjoyable time, and a great way to kick-off the fall season of LVACS. Enjoy Halloween with us at Cedar Crest College; maybe with a costume and a scare or two. November will be a wonderful gathering at Lehigh (November 21st) in conjunction with the Lehigh Nanotech Network. A truly excellent slate of meetings, thanks to our Chair-Elect, Jeanne Berk. Much appreciated Jeanne!!



This fall we will honor our high school scholarship winner, 50- and 60-year members, noted speakers and panelists, and of course our membership. Please contribute. Look for notes from various members of the Executive Committee and Committee Chairs for volunteer and participation opportunities.

Upcoming Executive Committee meetings will be held, and as previously, we will continue to be open and welcome ideas. Thank you.

I look forward to meeting and interacting with you. Blessings and Be Well.

Cheers,

Tara S. Baney, PhD, Chair

Email: tsbaney@gmail.com

Phone: 862-210-5813



2013 Foundation in Chemistry Award Announced

Congratulations to Brandy West, the winner of this year's Foundation in Chemistry Award. Brandy, the 2013 valedictorian at Belvidere High School, will be attending Lafayette College, majoring in chemical engineering. In addition to her academic achievements at Belvidere HS, she also was very active in the student government and the student Lion's club. In her essay, Brandy said that i really enjoy hands on learning and experiments in the chemistry lab, a sentiment many of us can identify with. We had many outstanding applications this year from across the Valley. The Section wishes the best to all of the students who are pursuing majors in the chemically-related disciplines.



Iron Pigs - A Success Again

Our annual outing was held on Wednesday July 10, 2013. We sold out again with 100 tickets for the PPL Picnic Patio. The weather was beautiful and we cheered the team on for another win. The first pitch was thrown out by Angela Smith, a graduate student from Lehigh University. Thanks to Chester Crane, Lindsey Welch, Celia Williams and Bill Miles for selling the tickets again this year.





THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
Presents
“Working In Industry”
An ACS Career Pathways Workshop
With Joe Martino
ACS Career Consultant and Presenter
SPONSORED BY THE ACS PHILADELPHIA SECTION
Saturday, October 19, 2013
2:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Room 200 A-B
Howard Gittis Student Center
Temple University
1755 North 13th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Join Joe as he takes you on a guided tour of working in the chemical industry in this intense, interactive workshop. You'll see the various industrial career opportunities available to graduating chemists at all degree levels and how these opportunities all support a company's goals. Throughout this discussion, you'll be getting a sense as to what opportunities are of interest to you. From here, we'll discuss in detail how to market yourself for these opportunities through a resume specifically tailored to your career goals as well as ways to effectively network to gain access to opportunities that interest you.

This workshop will be geared specifically to graduating chemists at all levels - undergraduate to those finishing post-doctoral assignments. Those who are experienced chemists - employed or “in-transition” -- may also find this workshop to be of benefit as well.

Materials will be given at the workshop for your reference, and a break with light refreshments will be provided.

The Howard Gittis Student Center is located on the campus of Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Temple's campus is conveniently located to SEPTA's Broad Street Subway and Temple University Station, where all lines on SEPTA's Regional Rail system stop. For those driving to the workshop, campus maps and directions to the campus may be found at <http://www.temple.edu/maps-and-directions>, and visitor parking information can be found at <http://www.temple.edu/parking/main.html>.

PLEASE NOTE WELL! To ensure that you will have workshop materials, please register no later than Midnight, October 10! To register for this free workshop, please visit <http://acsphilly-workinginindustry.eventbrite.com/>



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Get the Word Out!

Are you volunteering in your community? Do you have any upcoming chemistry or science events planned?

Help is available to help get yourself, your volunteers and your event spotlighted at your college and/or in the local and regional news. Contact the LVACS Public Relations Chair, Greglynn Gibbs, gdw104@psu.edu.

Nothing says "Thank You" like well deserved recognition!

