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THE INDICATOR-FEBRUARY 2007

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February Calendar

NEW YORK SECTION
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Chemical Marketing & Economics Group
See page 7.

Thursday, February 1, 2007
Long Island Subsection
See page 7.

Friday, February 9, 2007
High School Teachers Topical Group
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Tuesday, February 27, 2007
NY Biochemical Topical Group
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Friday, March 16, 2007
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NORTH JERSEY SECTION
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Careers in Transition
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Monday, February 12, 2007
Teacher Affiliates Executive Committee
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ChemTAG
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Wednesday, February 21, 2007
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See page 13.

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See page 12.

Deadline for items to be included in the April 2007 issue of The Indicator is February 14, 2007.

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THIS MONTH IN CHEMICAL HISTORY
Harold Goldwhite, California State University, Los Angeles
goldwh@calstatela.edu
Prepared for SCALACS, the Journal of the Southern California, Orange County, and San Gorgonio Sections of the American Chemical Society

The name of Jean Baptiste Perrin may not resonate strongly with most chemists, which is a pity. Perrin made contributions to science late in the 19th century and in the early decades of the 20th that were essential to understanding the fine structure of matter. The ideas that flowed from Perrin’s contributions are discussed in every general chemistry course. The following biographical sketch is drawn in part from material on the Nobel Foundation’s website; Perrin won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1926.

Jean Perrin was born in Lille, France, in September 1870. He studied at the Ecole Normale Superieure in that city, was appointed to an assistantship in physics, and began studying the novel and exciting fields of cathode and X-rays. He earned his doctorate in 1897 and received a post in physical chemistry at the Sorbonne in Paris in the same year. Most of his professional career was spent at the Sorbonne where he was appointed Professor in 1910. He held that post for the next 30 years.

In 1895 in a paper in Comptes Rendus, based on the research he later presented for his doctorate, Perrin provided evidence supporting the idea that cathode rays were particulate rather than wave-like. This was a topic of intense interest and debate at this time. Evidence for wave-like behavior had included observations that cathode rays, like X-rays, could penetrate thin sheets of aluminum. In an elegant set of experiments Perrin collected the cathode rays in a hollow cylinder and showed that negative charge steadily accumulated on the collector. The cathode rays were also retarded by negative electric charge. In 1897 J.J.Thomson, building on these experiments of Perrin, carried out his definitive studies of cathode rays which indicated the existence of electrons in atoms.

Chemists unfamiliar with the history of their subject are usually unaware of the intense debate within the scientific community about the reality of the existence of atoms at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Among the most skeptical of the necessity of physical atoms was the father of physical chemistry, Wilhelm Ostwald. Perrin’s work on Brownian Motion finally convinced the sceptics. Observations on colloidal suspensions, in which the colloid particles moved constantly and in apparently random directions, were interpreted by Perrin in 1909 as due to the uneven bombardment of the particles by the molecules of the liquid medium in which they were suspended. Perrin developed the theory of this motion. By observations on the rates of movement of the particles and their distribution by depth at equilibrium he was able to deduce values of Avogadro’s Number that agreed with those derived from totally different lines of experiment. In effect Perrin had “observed” the discontinuous nature of matter, and this was the subject of the citation for his Nobel Prize.

Perrin wrote many articles and several influential books. The most widely read was his book on “Atoms”, first published in 1913 and translated into several languages, which sold over 30,000 copies. He was awarded many honors in addition to his Nobel Prize; honorary memberships in half-a-dozen national societies; honorary doctorates from 8 universities; major scientific prizes in England, Italy, and France. He was also influential in scientific politics, creating the organization that is still at the center of French science, the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS); and helping to found a major science museum in Paris, the Institute of Astrophysics, and the Institute of Physico-Chemical Biology.

Perrin served his country as an officer in the Corps of Engineers in World War I and when France fell in World War II in 1940 he escaped to the United States in and died in New York in April 1942. His body was repatriated to France on the battleship Jeanne d’Arc in 1948 and was reburied in the Pantheon in Paris which is dedicated to the memory of the most outstanding citizens of France.

(continued on page 6)
Previously, I discussed the career of Jean Perrin, Nobel Laureate in physics in 1926. Perrin’s major contributions, which had a considerable impact on chemistry, were his demonstration that cathode rays were particulate, a precursor to J.J. Thomson’s discovery of the electron; and his studies of Brownian motion which led not only to a value of Avogadro’s number but also to an acceptance of the existence of physical atoms.

Perrin’s best-known book “Les Atomes” went through many editions and was translated into several languages. My copy of the second English edition revised was translated by D.J. Hammick of Oriel College Oxford and was published By Constable and Company in London in 1923. It is entitled, simply, “Atoms”. I mean to compliment the author when I say that the text is argued in a particularly logical and – dare I add — French manner in the spirit of Descartes, Pascal, and Poincare. A quotation from the Preface will give the flavor: “To divide … the existence and properties of objects that still lie outside our ken, to explain the complications of the visible in terms of invisible simplicity, [italics are in the original] is the function of the intuitive intelligence which, thanks to men such as Dalton and Boltzmann, has given us the doctrine of atoms.” Induction and intuition have both up to the present made use of two ideas that were familiar to the Greek philosophers; these are the concepts of fullness (or continuity) and of emptiness (or discontinuity).”

Through discussions of such familiar observations as the thickness of gold leaf and his own observations on the uniform fluorescence of very dilute solutions of fluorescein Perrin is able to conclude that the mass of a hydrogen atom must be less than 10⁻²¹g. This estimate can be refined by studies of very thin (“black”) soap films and thin oil layers on water to give an order of magnitude of the mass of one hydrogen atom as about one-thousandth of this. Perrin’s discussion of internal energies of molecules and specific heats is both lucid and up-to-date (recalling that this is a 1923 text). He integrates quantum theory (first enunciated by Planck to little acclaim in 1900, but given a substantial impetus by Einstein’s work on the photoelectric effect in 1905) with its applications by Einstein and Nernst to both vibrational energies of molecules and the quantization of rotational energy.

Not surprisingly, the discussion of the Brownian Motion in this book is magisterial. After tracing the history from the time of the British botanist Robert Brown in 1827 who had the advantage of working with some of the first achromatic microscope objectives Perrin summarizes the work of other contributors to the area including Wiener, Gouy, and Ramsay. He then outlines the ideas which led him to his theory of the Brownian Motion. His own elegant experiments are then detailed, including the equipment needed to obtain photographs of the distribution of particles as a function of depth in a colloidal suspension. These results then lead to a value of Avogadro’s number very close to the currently accepted value.

Current events (2006) may be reflected in a couple of remarkable statements in “Atoms”. In a discussion of isotopes early in the book Perrin suggests (following Soddy and Fajans) that although ordinary chemical methods of isotope separation will fail completely the forces of inertia should make the separation possible. “A sufficiently energetic centrifugal fractionation should be capable of bringing it about.” I am not sure if this prediction was tested during the Manhattan Project. Perrin used centrifuges rotating at around 2500 r.p.m. to produce a centrifugal force of around 1000g to separate dye particles for his work on the Brownian Motion. Perrin used centrifuges rotating at around 2500 r.p.m. to produce a centrifugal force of around 1000g to separate dye particles for his work on the Brownian Motion. His own elegant experiments are then detailed, including the equipment needed to obtain photographs of the distribution of particles as a function of depth in a colloidal suspension. These results then lead to a value of Avogadro’s number very close to the currently accepted value.

Perrin concludes his discussion of the atom with the observation that many widely divergent phenomena, apparently unconnected, can in fact be linked by atomic and quantum theories of the early 1920’s. I can close with nothing better than the following remarkable quotation: “... the equations for black body radiation and the Brownian motion ... enable us to predict the rate of diffusion of spheres 1 micron in diameter in water at ordinary temperatures if the intensity of the yellow light in the radiation issuing from the mouth of a furnace containing molten iron has been measured.”

www.newyorkacs.org

CHEMICAL MARKETING & ECONOMICS GROUP

Licensing and Patenting Issues in the Pharmaceutical Industry

Speaker: Arnold I. Rady
Partner, Morgan & Finnegan, LLP
New York, NY

Date: Thursday, February 1, 2007
Time: Cocktails 11:30 AM
Luncheon 12 noon
Presentation: 1:15 PM
Place: The Chemists’ Club
40 West 45th Street
New York City.
Fees: $40 discount price for Members who reserve by the Tuesday before the meeting (12 noon). $55 for Guests and Members (all the door without reservations).

To reserve: Please reserve early to be eligible for discount price. Call Vista Marketing at (917) 684-1659 or via e-mail to: cme@cmegroup@yahoo.com. You can also pay online (via credit card): go to our Website: http://www.nycacs-cme.org.

LONG ISLAND SUBSECTION

Morphological Studies of Conducting Polymer Nanomaterials

Speaker: Dr. David Sarno
Partner, Morgan & Finnegan, LLP
New York City

Presentation: 1:15 PM
Dinner 7:00 PM
Place: Hofstra University
Chemistry Building
Linder Lecture Hall
Hempstead NY

Cost: Dinner $20.00
For information contact Professor Eugene Brown 516-572-7579

New York Meetings

POLYMER PROBLEMS?

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The Phantastic Photon, a hands-on presentation

Speaker: Dr. Monica Plisch
Senior Research Associate
Center for Nanoscale Systems
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY

According to Einstein’s theory, light is composed of particles called photons and the color of light determines the wavelength and energy of the photons. Students investigate these relationships by shining colored light from super-bright LEDs onto phosphorescent and fluorescent materials. They determine which LEDs activate glow-in-the-dark tape, measure their wavelengths and calculate the photon energies. Students are then asked to apply their knowledge of photons to explain the behavior of fluorescent paints.

Date: Friday, February 9, 2007
Time: Social and Dinner 5:45 PM
Place: No reservations required
Caffe Pane e Cioccolato
10 Waverly Place at Mercer Street
New York, NY
(You eat, you pay cash only, no credit cards.)

**BIOCHEMICAL TOPICAL GROUP — JOINT MEETING WITH THE NY AS BIOCHEMICAL PHARMACOLOGY DISCUSSION GROUP**

Active Resolution of Inflammation: A Promising and Innovative Therapeutic Approach

Organizers: Charlie Serhan
Harvard Medical School
Boston
George B. Zavoico
Cantor Fitzgerald
New York

Inflammation is part of our body’s response to injury. In a well-coordinated response, coagulation limits blood loss, inflammatory cells are recruited to debride the wound, migration and proliferation of various cell types leads to tissue regeneration, and, finally, remodeling builds tensile strength and ensures integrity of the regenerated tissue. In chronic inflammation, the process stalls at the second step.

Understanding mechanisms that stimulate the resolution of inflammation may underpin the development of drugs that attenuate chronic inflammation and accelerate healing in directed and controlled ways.

Charlie Serhan
Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

Revovins and Protectins: Novel Lipid Mediators in Resolution
Derek Gilroy
University College London
London, UK

Aspirin-inhibited COX-2 Generates Resolvins that Promote the Resolution of Inflammation
John Parkinson
Berlex Laboratories
Richmond, CA

Title to be announced
Chris Karp
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Cincinnati, OH

Lipoxin-Mediated Anti-Inflammatory Pathways in Cystic Fibrosis
Julio Albarran (invited)
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2007
Time: 1:00 – 5:00 PM
Place: The New York Academy of Sciences
7 World Trade Center – 40th Floor
250 Greenwich Street
New York, NY 10007

Directions: [http://www.nyas.org/about/directions.asp](http://www.nyas.org/about/directions.asp)

To reserve a seat, go to the NYAS calendar at [www.nyas.org/bpdg](http://www.nyas.org/bpdg) and fill out the online reservation form, e-mail BPDG@nyas.org, or call (212) 298.8616.

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On December 1, 2006, Dr. Ariel Fenster from McGill University OSS (Office of Science and Society), delivered a talk for the Hudson-Bergen Chemical Society at Ramapo College entitled “Miracle Materials: The World of Plastics.”

A photograph taken at that meeting is shown below.
ChemTAG MEETING
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2007
Time: 4:00–6:00 PM
Place: East Brunswick High School
380 Cranbury Road
East Brunswick, NJ
Contact: Karen Poslusny at KPOSLSZNY@ebsnet.org.

NORTH JERSEY CHROMATOGRAPHY GROUP
Seminar is sponsored by Thermo Electron
Fast and Efficient Separations Using Sub-2 µm Particles and Ultra-high Pressures in Liquid Chromatography
Speaker: Dr. Naijun Wu
Research Fellow
Merck & Co., Inc.
High Speed Chromatographic Separations using the new Thermo Accela LC System
Speaker: Diab Elmashni, M.B.A
Thermo Electron

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2007
Times: Social 5:30 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
Seminar 7:30 PM
Place: Somerset Marriott Hotel
110 Davidson Avenue
Somerset, NJ
Cost: $10 for Dinner (free of charge for Students) Open seating for those not attending the dinner
Reservations: Please reserve by Friday, February 9, 2007. Pre-registration is required.
To register online, go to www.njacs.org, click on chromatography. Or phone: David Kohler, ES Industries, 856-753-8400.
Dr. Paul Feldman spoke about PPAR Pan Agonists. This class of compounds are involved in metabolic syndrome which involves obesity, hypertension, cardiovascular disease and diabetes. About 25% of the public has metabolic syndrome. Obesity is a growing problem as even teenagers are becoming obese at an early age. Currently the FDA does not recognize it as a disease. The scientist identified the PPAR ligand and then tested 5,000 molecules to find the one which would interact with the receptor. The GSK chemists enhanced the target molecule through medicinal chemistry techniques. It was remarked that efforts like this one needs to be done because patients are waiting for new compounds to counteract obesity and other areas of metabolic syndrome.

Dr. Bruce Roth is the single patent holder for Lipitor. He entertained the audience with the story of the discovery and development of Lipitor by the research and development teams at Pfizer. The discovery of Lipitor is an amazing story of innovation and perseverance, as well as risk on the part of the pharmaceutical industry to advance a compound in a medical landscape congested with a large amount of competition.

After dinner Dr. R. Roy Vagelos gave the keynote address. He was introduced by Dr. Malcolm MacCoss, VP of Basic Chemistry and Drug Discovery Sciences of Merck, Rahway, NJ.

Dr. Vagelos gave an overview of his time at Merck and the Pharmaceutical Industry in general. Dr. Vagelos was a researcher who brought his interest in research to Merck. He said that he had fun at Merck because of the “drug discovery process.” When he was CEO of the company, the organization was at its heyday and the industry was held in high respect. In 2004 there was a Harris Poll about the Pharmaceutical Industry. People had lost confidence in the industry because of the high prices and because they did not respond to the needs of people in the developing countries.

The problem of pricing has to do with the long time that the discovery and development process takes. For example the pre-cursors to the drug Mavectro was discovered in 1978 but was not launched until 1987. The second generation drug Zocor took 5.5 years from discovery to launch. This is one of the reasons for the high prices of drugs, it accounts for the enormous cost poured into R&D each year to address unmet medical needs of the public’s interest.

With respect for improving the health of people in the third world, Dr. Vagelos was responsible for the donation of Metizin for the prevention of River blindness to the developing countries. When scientist William Campbell discovered a compound that was active to prevent the disease, it was decided that it should be donated to the people who would need it. A new drug application was filed in France and approved in two months. After determining that the US government would not help with this donation, Merck decided to do it alone.

He then talked about the three drug cocktail for AIDS. It costs about $25,000 a year for the treatment of people with AIDS which transform the disease from a lethal disease to a chronic disease. It was known that this disease was endemic in Africa but the industry decided not to donate it to the people who need it. An Indian company began making the drugs at a lower cost and selling it to the people who need it. It was then the Pharmaceutical Industry changed their minds about the donation and the price, but as Dr. Vagelos said it was too late. They had already lost their credibility with the public. He suggested that each company should pick one country or area of the world to contribute to the welfare of the people through donation of such life saving drugs.

He spoke briefly about VIOXX by saying all drugs (including aspirin) have side effects. They are tested in limited populations for a limited time. When a side effect is discovered during use within a patient pool, the company should tell the FDA and then change the label describing the side effect, but not take it off the market.

He said that big pharma is no longer a growth industry because many drugs are going off patent. The new growth will come from small companies which start with zero sales. These companies are started by professors who recruit their best students to work for them. Many of these companies fail but the chemists are able to go from company to company for new employment.

He said currently, big pharma can be considered mature companies. They are:

- Outsourcing the discovery process
- Focusing on smart drugs
- Emphasis on metabolism, not just cancer
• The development process is done in-house
• Early in the clinical research process they are genotyping people to discover the eventual side effects.
• Outsourcing manufacturing
• Sales and marketing should be changed. Sales representatives waste a lot of time trying to see doctors. Three academic medical schools have banned sales reps.

Companies need to find new ways to get the information to doctors.
• Direct advertising to the consumer puts a great demand for the drugs to the doctors. He feels they should limit the direct advertising until there has been a lot of human exposure to the new drugs.
He summed it up by saying that the pharmaceutical industry affects the lives of all people in a positive way. It is through the efforts of the thousands of scientists that tirelessly work to find cures of disease that life saving new drugs are found and dispensed to society.

Dr. Robin Hochstrasser, 2006 Cecil Brown Lecturer.

Jiwen Chen, NJACS Awards Chair, David Talaga, Rutgers Univ. Professor, Robin Hochstrasser, Cecil Brown Lecturer and Bill Suits NJACS Meetings Chair.

(Left) Valerie Kuck at the podium.

(Below) The rapt audience.

Pictured, left to right, are Professor Elena Colicellis (College of St. Elizabeth), Sr. Marian José Smith (CSE), Maureen Chan, Gloria Anderle (Fairleigh Dickinson University), Amber Charlebois (FDU), Michelle Silva (president of the CSE Student Affiliates), Anita Brandolini (FDU), Amanda Bien (GSK) and Jackie Erickson (GSK).
the nominee’s specific accomplishments should be submitted along with a biographical sketch by March 15th, 2007. Please send all materials to Richard Castino, Analytical and Characterization Group, c/o Sun Chemical Corp., 631 Central Avenue, Carlstadt, New Jersey 07072. If you have any questions or require more information, you may contact me at 201-933-4500, ext. 1238, or email me at rich.castino@na.sunchem.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Richard Castino

Call For Papers

55TH ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
Sponsored by: The New York Chemistry Students’ Association of the American Chemical Society’s New York Section.

The symposium provides an excellent opportunity for undergraduate chemistry students in the NY metropolitan area to present the results of their research. The program includes a keynote address by Dr. Spiro Alexandratos, Professor of Chemistry at Hunter College CUNY, presentation of student papers (15 minute talks to small groups), followed by a luncheon.

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Go To: http://newyorkacs.org/grp_students.html

Date: Saturday, May 5, 2007
Place: Manhattan College
Riverdale

If you have any questions please contact:
Alison Hyslop, Co-chair
hyslopa@stjohns.edu
Sharon Lall-Ramnarine, Co-chair
slallramnarine@qcc.cuny.edu
JamieLee Rizzo
jirizzo@pace.edu

Call For Nominations

2007 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD OF THE NORTH JERSEY SECTION

The biennial award, funded by Novartis, consists of $1,000 prize and a plaque. It recognizes a North Jersey chemist or chemical engineer over fifty years of age, for conspicuous achievements in chemistry, not herefore recognized by any major scientific awards.

Please submit nominations and supporting letters to Jiwen Chen, Awards Committee Chair, c/o NJ ACS, 4 Cameron Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854. Tel: 609-818-6319, email: jiwen.chen@yahoo.com. (Electronic submission of the nomination package welcomed) Nominations must be received by Feb 15, 2007. Visit http://www.njacs.org/awards.html for more information and a list of past recipients.

GOLD MEDAL AWARD — SOCIETY FOR APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY, NEW YORK SECTION

Nominations are being sought for the 2007 Gold Medal Award of the New York Section of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. This coveted award was established in 1952 to recognize outstanding contributions to the field of Applied Spectroscopy. The Gold Medal will be presented at a special award symposium, arranged in honor of the awardee, at the 2007 Eastern Analytical Symposium. A nominating letter describing the nominee’s specific accomplishments should be submitted along with a biographical sketch by March 15th, 2007. Please send all materials to Richard Castino, Analytical and Characterization Group, c/o Sun Chemical Corp., 631 Central Avenue, Carlstadt, New Jersey 07072.

If you have any questions or require more information, you may contact me at 201-933-4500, ext. 1238, or email me at rich.castino@na.sunchem.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Richard Castino

2007 ACS ProSpectives CONFERENCES

What Is ACS ProSpectives?
The American Chemical Society created ACS ProSpectives to provide industry medicinal chemists and life scientists with focused conferences that explore the discovery, development and production of pharmaceuticals and therapeutics.

ACS ProSpectives Conferences feature:
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TRAVEL AWARDS AVAILABLE

The Eli Lilly & Company is once again sponsoring a program to provide funding for undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral women chemists to travel to scientific meetings in 2007 to present the results of their research. Grants may be applied only for registration, travel, and accommodations, and are restricted to travel to meetings within the United States. Grant funds are limited, but there are some funds set aside for undergraduates. Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible. Applications should be limited to one per research group. Awards will be given with preference to the following order: (1) any applicant who will be making her first presentation (regardless of format) at a national or major meeting, (2) graduate or postdoctoral applicants who have not presented at a national or major meeting since leaving undergraduate school. Women who have received a prior award under this program are ineligible. The deadline is February 15, 2007, for receipt of applications for meetings between July 1 and December 31, 2007. For application and more information visit the WCC Web site http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/ or write wcc@acs.org.

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Crystallization Process Development: Case Studies & Research
Chairs: Robin Rogers of the University of Alabama and Allan Myerson of Illinois Institute of Technology
Feb. 25-27, 2007 in Cambridge at the Royal Sonesta Boston

Discovery and Selection of Successful Drug Candidates
Chairs: Andrew Combs of Incyte and Greg Roth
April 29 - May 2, 2007 in Boston at the Hotel Intercontinental

Advances in Structure-Based Drug Discovery
Chair: Charles Reynolds of Johnson & Johnson, Kenneth Merz of the University of (continued on page 23)
2007 ACS ProSpectives CONFERENCES
(continued from page 19)
Florida, and Dagmar Ringe of Brandeis
Sept. 9-11, 2007 in San Francisco at the
Hyatt Regency Airport

Process Chemistry in the
Pharmaceutical Industry
Chairs: Joe Armstrong of Merck and Chris
Senanayake of Boehringer-Ingelheim
Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, 2007 in Cambridge at
the Royal Sonesta Boston

PK/PD for Medicinal Chemists
Chair: David Rodriguez of BMS
Oct. 28-30, 2007 in Philadelphia at the
Westin Philadelphia

Successful Biologies: Formulation to
Manufacturing
Chairs: Wenchang Ji of Amgen and
LaToya Jones Braun of University of
Colorado
November 4-6, 2007 in Philadelphia at the
Westin Philadelphia

On the Move

Dr. Ratna Shekhar (2003 Section Chair)
moved last November to Wyeth Pharma-
aceuticals’ headquarters in Collegeville, PA,
as PPU Director for external supplies within
the Technical Operations & Product Supply
organization. After completing his post-doc
at MIT, he joined Novartis in East Hanover,
NJ, where he has spent nine years within
the chemical and analytical development
area. Recently, he completed an internation-
al assignment at Novartis Pharma AG in
Basel, Switzerland where he led several
drug substance development project teams
and served on global technical R&D teams.
Ratna led a project team for fast-track API
development of a Bcr-Abi inhibitor
(Tasigna®) where scale up, technology
transfer for production launch and dossiers
for CMC regulatory submissions were suc-
cessfully accomplished in the near-record
time. While in Basel, Ratna received training
in Six Sigma/Lean methodologies and was
also the Team Leader of the first productivi-
ty improvement project within Pharma
Development.
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