



華美化學學會

Chinese American Chemical Society

## Tri-State CACS Successfully Held its 2009 Annual Symposium at Rutgers University

The year 2009 has seen many changes already in the pharmaceutical and chemical industry; prominent among them are several mergers: Wyeth into Pfizer, Schering Plough with Merck, Rohm & Haas into Dow Chemicals. These mergers can be seen as changes brought on by the recent economic downturn or as the response of the pharmaceutical and the chemical industry to new challenges facing the industry. These are just some of the topics reflected in the theme and various talks of this year's CACS Annual Symposium held at the Busch Campus Center of Rutgers University on June 13. Around 200 chemical professionals and students from New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Delaware attended the all-day event.

The theme of this year's Annual Symposium was "Innovation and Entrepreneurships in Pharmaceutical and Chemical R&D". Keynote and invited speakers included R&D leaders from such international chemical and pharmaceutical corporations as Schering-Plough, sanofi-aventis, Johnson & Johnson, and Rohm & Haas. Dr. Gregory J. Szpunar, Senior Vice President of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Drug Metabolism of Schering-Plough Research Institute, discussed the challenges facing the big pharmas in a speech entitled "Big Pharma - Where is It All Going?"; Dr. Arthur A. Andrews, Vice President of Global Drug Product Development of Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical R&D, discussed the pharmaceutical development process and helped the audience understand the major industry changes in how to design, develop, and deliver new drugs; Dr. Paul Juniewicz, Senior Vice President & Head for Global External Innovation Access, sanofi-aventis, talked about the changing paradigms in pharmaceutical R&D; and Dr. Nilesh Shah, Research & Development Director, Household & Personal Care, Dow Advanced Materials, discussed the changes facing the chemical industry and how to provide solutions in a hyper-competitive marketplace. All of these talks were very interesting, informative, and thought-provoking; they greatly benefited all those present.

In one of the afternoon sessions, Dr. Guang Cao of Exxon Mobil, who currently serves as the ACS Diversity Program Asian Partner and as a past president of Tri-State CACS, gave a brief introduction to the ACS Diversity Partner Program with a focus on Asian chemical professionals. He presented data showing that even though many of our Chinese immigrants are relatively more focused on scientific research and hold important technical positions; but, very few of us could enter managerial positions, indicative of the effect of "glass ceiling". He encouraged the audience to help Tri-State CACS and ACS to further study the phenomenon by participating in the survey distributed at the symposium and the coming online survey form ACS Diversity Program.

As in our previous annual symposiums, several entrepreneurs in smaller research and service business shared their experience and stories of success and business growth. Topics discussed in the afternoon sessions included how to utilize one's experience and skills learned in the west, how to take advantage of the opportunities in the current economic growth in China, how to find one's own place and to succeed in small to mid size companies during the new economic migration from the west to the east. The presenters included Dr. Yuguang Wang from ChemPartner, Dr. Zhe-ming

Gu from Xenobiotic Laboratories, Dr. Hong Xu from Medicilon, John Chan from AstaTech Inc, Dr. Chen Peng from Mestrelab Research, and Charles Ye from Acesys PharmaTech.

Every participant agrees that this year's CACS Annual Symposium is another successful event organized by the Tri-State CACS. Despite the economic downturn, there are still over 20 companies sponsored this year's Symposium and 10 companies participated in the Vendor shown.

Founded in 1981, Chinese-American Chemical Society (CACS) is a nonprofit, professional organization and does not have political affiliation of regional or national bias. Membership is open to professionals and students in chemistry, chemical engineering, and related fields, and to individuals and corporations supporting the objectives of the society. Tri-State CACS is the most active local chapter of CACS. The Annual Symposium in June every year attracts hundreds of its members and friends in the greater tri-state area. Tri-State CACS also serves as a bridge between China and US and has in recent years successfully organized three international conferences in Beijing. This summer, Tri-State CACS together with the China Intellectual Property Society (CIPS) will organize the Second Beijing International Pharmaceutical & Chemical Intellectual Property Forum on August 5-8, 2009, in Beijing, China. The IP Forum has invited Chinese government officials like Commissioner TIAN Lipu of the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO) and many world famous IP experts to discuss Chinese and international practices in IP law, particularly patent laws as applied in the pharmaceutical and chemical industries.