Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market Series

Organized by Younger Chemists Committee–St Louis ACS

The Younger Chemist Committee (YCC) of St Louis saw first-hand the effects of the poor economy in the St. Louis area, and wanted to address the greater needs of the community of chemists. The YCC organized two career management events in 2009 to help chemists learn to better manage their careers throughout all its stages, especially in transition. The series has continued on into 2011 to provide resources to chemists in this uncertain job market. Washington University graciously provided lecture halls for these meetings.

Specific topics included networking, addressing what employers are looking for in their employees, preparing for the interview process, and self-marketing. Attendees also heard from speakers about alternative careers for chemists. While these events help younger chemists, they have also been useful for chemists who are just young at heart.

Each event has a similar format: a big opening with pizza and soda, and time for networking. Presentations by a diverse group of career professionals followed. There was always time for attendees to ask the panel questions. Then there was more time for networking among attendees and presenters.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker 1</th>
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<th>Topic</th>
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<td>April 7th</td>
<td>Arlene Taich, Graduate Career Strategist, Washington University “Career Resilience” Lisa Balbes, Career Consultant, American Chemical Society “Networking 101”</td>
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<td>Starting &amp; Keeping a Career</td>
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Figure 1: Lisa Balbes
Figure 2: Arlene Taich
Figure 3: Speakers Matthew MacEwan and Russell D. Odegard talking after the seminar
Figure 4: David Feldman
Biographies

**Arlene Taich**

Is currently Graduate Career Strategist for Washington University in St. Louis. Where she make use of her background in both academia and industry. She previously worked at Lindenwood University as Professor and Provost (COO), then Director of Leadership Development and Succession Planning for Mallinckrodt/TycoHealthcare, as well as Regional Human Capital Partner for UnitedHealthcare. Her specialties include Talent identification, development and retention. Organization development

([http://careercenter.wustl.edu/people/Pages/ataich.aspx](http://careercenter.wustl.edu/people/Pages/ataich.aspx))

**Lisa Balbes, PhD, Balbes Consultants LLC**
has been a freelance scientific communication consultant since 1992, providing writing and editing services to companies such as Bausch and Lomb Surgical, Divergence, Sigma-Aldrich, Stereotaxis, and the FDA. Dr Balbes is the author of *Nontraditional Careers for Chemists: New Formulas in Chemistry*, published by Oxford University Press in 2006. She has been an ACS volunteer career consultant since 1993, a national career presenter since 2001, and is currently chair of the national ACS subcommittee responsible for developing new career programs. She earned her PhD in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her undergraduate degrees in chemistry and psychology from Washington University in St Louis.

**Russell D. Odegard**, Cofounder of DYNALABS, LLC

His 27 years of experience spans basic research, product development, operations and quality management, in the medical diagnostic, life sciences, and pharmacy industry segments. Russell has used his experience and knowledge, as well as his skills in communication and influence to establish a successful track record of mobilizing global cross functional teams around the definition and attainment of common goals and objectives. These strengths combined with his expertise in project and program management, has translated into the successful world-wide launch of more than 700 products over his career.

Russell cofounded DYNALABS in 2003, an analytical laboratory that specialized in servicing the compounding, hospital and industrial pharmacy markets. His current responsibilities include working with the DYNALABS executive team on setting strategic direction for the company, and on managing the daily operations of the laboratory. He also plays a key role in facilitating the design, construction and continual improvement of the DYNALABS website, and on the design and development of a new "point-of-use" testing instrument targeted at assuring patient medication safety in hospitals and pharmacies world-wide.

Previous positions held include Director of Projects with Sigma Aldrich Life Sciences Division, Director of Quality with Sigma Aldrich Diagnostics Division, and as Operations Manager with Biomira Inc. (currently Oncothyreon Inc.)

Russell has a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Missouri, St. Louis (2002) and a Bachelor of Science majoring in Microbiology from the University of Alberta (1983).

Outside of work: Russell is a member of the Financial Advisor Board at the University of Missouri St. Louis, and has volunteered his time as a guest speaker and mentor at the Washington University, St. Louis College of Pharmacy, Fontbonne University, and University of Missouri St. Louis.

**Matthew MacEwan** is the CEO and Founder of NanoMed, LLC and an MD/PhD Candidate at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO. Mr. MacEwan's research experience focuses on applied nanotechnology, neural engineering, and regenerative medicine, with clinical experience in plastic / reconstructive and neurosurgery. Mr. MacEwan’s commercial experience includes founding and directing NanoMed, LLC, a leader in nanofabricated surgical materials, and Red Rock Laboratories, LLC, a biotechnology firm.
manufacturing instrumentation designed to facilitate high-throughput assessment of functional recovery in laboratory animals. Throughout his time at Washington University, Mr. MacEwan has received multiple awards for his entrepreneurial work in the life science community, including the 2011 Olin Cup Award, presented by the Olin School of Business at Washington University, and the Grand Prize at the 2011 LES Global Business Plan Competition, award by the International Licensing Executives Society. Mr. MacEwan graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Biomedical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH with a specialization in polymer biomaterials / biocompatibility.

H. David Feldman, US Recruiting Operations Lead, Monsanto Global Talent Acquisition

David Feldman serves as the US Recruiting Operations Lead for Monsanto’s Global Talent Acquisition Organization. In this role, he leads all initiatives related to US recruiting workflow and capacity management, US hiring process management, allocation and management of flexible recruiting resources, and development of centralized reporting and metrics tools/strategies for US Talent Acquisition. David also leads the recruiting efforts for Monsanto's US HR organization.

David joined Monsanto in 2006 as a Sr. Recruiter for the Global Breeding and Breeding Technology organizations, sub-divisions for Monsanto’s Global Technology (R&D) Organization. In 2009, he transitioned to lead recruiting efforts for the Chemistry Technology, Global Regulatory, and Global Vegetable R&D organizations, also sub-divisions for Monsanto’s Global Technology (R&D) Organization. He transitioned into his current role in 2011. David is based at Monsanto’s global headquarters located in Creve Coeur, MO.

David started his career in 2002 as a Recruiter with Aerotek, an operating company of the Allegis Group. He helped build the first financial recruiting team for the St. Louis, MO marketplace. He joined Citigroup in 2005, where he managed the recruiting for the Commercial Mortgage and Consumer Asset Operation divisions across the US. David received his BSM from the A.B. Freeman School of Business at Tulane University in May 2002. He is a double major in Marketing and Management.

Headquartered in St. Louis, MO USA, Monsanto Company is a leading global provider of technology-based solutions and agricultural products that improve farm productivity and food quality. It has 21,000+ employees operating in 404 facilities across 66 countries. Monsanto remains focused on enabling both small-holder and large-scale farmers to produce more from their land while conserving more of our world’s natural resources such as water and energy.

Miranda Eilers is an Account Recruiting Manager from Aerotek Scientific where she has been since mid 2010. She earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Corporate Communication from the University of Central Missouri in December 2008. Previously, Miranda served as a Guest Coordinator for Drs. Deepak Chopra and David Simon at The Chopra Center in San Diego, California and a Master General Agent for American Income Life Insurance.
Flyers for the different seminars

Figure 6: Flyer for Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market VII – Starting & Keeping a Career

Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market VII – Starting & Keeping a Career
Washington University Danforth Campus,
Room: Laboratory Sciences 250,
April 7th, 6:00 P.M.

“Career Resilience”
-Dr. Arlene Taich, Graduate Career Strategist,
Washington University
“Networking 101”
- Dr. Lisa Balbes, Career Consultant,
American Chemical Society

- 6:00 P.M.: Networking / Pizza and Soda
- 6:30 P.M.: Dr. Arlene Taich
- 7:00 P.M.: Dr. Lisa Balbes
- 7:30 P.M.: Q & A and Networking

* $3 (in cash) to attend
* RSVP to Eva Stastna at stastnae@wustl.edu by April 6th

Presented by St. Louis Local Section of American Chemical Society
Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) www.silacs.org/ycc
Chair: Eric Bruton eric.bruton@gmail.com
Resourses for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market VIII – Entrepreneurial Spirit

Washington University Danforth Campus, Room:
McMillen Laboratory Sciences 311, November 8th, 6:30 P.M.

“The Serendipitous Entrepreneur—
A Story of Intent, Effort, Perseverance and Guts”
- Russell D. Odegard, Managing Partner, Dynalabs LLC
“Benchtop to Business”
- Matthew R. MacEwan, Founder/CEO, NanoMed

- 6:30 P.M.: Networking / Pizza and Soda
- 7:00 P.M.: Russell D. Odegard
- 7:30 P.M.: Matthew R. MacEwan
- 8:00 P.M.: Q & A and Networking

* $3 (in cash) to attend
* RSVP to ycc@stlacs.org by Nov 7th

Presented by St. Louis Local Section of American Chemical Society
Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) www.stlacs.org/ycc
Chair: Eric Bruton eric.bruton@gmail.com

Figure 7: Flyer for Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market VIII – Entrepreneurial Spirit
Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market IX – Straight from the Recruiters

Washington University Danforth Campus
McMillen Laboratory Sciences 311, December 6th, 6:30 P.M.

"Who Are You Really? The Use of Standard Global Competencies to Evaluate Top Talent"
- David Feldman, US Recruiting Operations Lead, Monsanto Global Talent Acquisition

"Scientific Career Management Information & Tips"
- Miranda Eilers, Account Recruiting Manager, Aerotek Scientific

- 6:30 P.M.: Networking / Pizza and Soda
- 7:00 P.M.: David Feldman
- 7:30 P.M.: Miranda Eilers
- 8:00 P.M.: Q & A and Networking

* $3 (in cash) to attend
* RSVP to ycc@stlacs.org by Dec 5th

Presented by St. Louis Local Section of American Chemical Society
Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) www.stlacs.org/ycc and
www.facebook.com/ACS.STL.YCC
Chair: Eric Bruton eric.bruton@gmail.com

Figure 8: Flyer for Resources for Career Management for Chemists in a Challenging Market IX – Straight from the Recruiters