

Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

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March Dinner Meeting

How to Survive in the World of Biotech

George A. Scangos, Ph.D.

Biography

George A. Scangos, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of Exelixis (www.exelixis.com), joined the company in 1996, coming from Bayer Corporation. At Bayer, he held several positions, including Senior Vice President of Research and Development for Bayer's pharmaceutical division, and then President of Bayer Biotechnology, where he was responsible for 1,100 employees in research & development, business development, process development, manufacturing, engineering, and quality assurance. Prior to Bayer, Dr. Scangos was on the faculty of The Johns Hopkins



University where he now holds an appointment as Adjunct Professor of Biology. He serves on the Board of Visitors at the University of California, San Francisco School of Pharmacy, the Board of Overseers at the University

of California, Davis Medical School, and the Boards of Directors at Anadys Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Entelos, Inc., Onyx Pharmaceuticals, and Exelixis. Dr. Scangos holds a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Massachusetts, and was a Jane Coffin Childs Postdoctoral Fellow.

Abstract

Dr. Scangos' topic is "How to

continued on next page

February Dinner Reminder

On February 19th, join the presenters Howard and Sally Peters for a tastier dinner meeting. They will be discussing the Chemistry of Brown: Chocolate, the food of the gods. We will convene at a new venue, the Palo Alto Elks Lodge for a buffet style dinner. The cost of the dinner, dessert, and coffee will be \$15.00. Please register by February 15th using the website (www.scvacs.org) or contacting Shirley Radding (408-246-2564, 408-296-8625 FAX). If you are unable to honor and cancel your reservation prior to the day of the meeting, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.

All attendees will be part of a free raffle for a 10-lb bar of bitter-sweet Guittard Chocolate – could you be the lucky winner?

March Dinner Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2004

Time: 6:00 PM Social Hour

6:45 PM Dinner

8:00 PM Lecture

9:15 PM Adjourn

Location: Basque Cultural Center
599 Railroad Avenue
South San Francisco, CA
650-583-8091

Speaker: Dr. George Scangos
CEO of Exelixis

*"How to Survive in the
World of Biotech"*

Menu: Choice of Salmon, Chicken or
Pasta, Coffee and Dessert

Cost: \$25 Dinner
\$12.50 for Unemployed and
Students

Reservations: www.scvacs.org
Shirley Radding
408-246-2564
408-296-8625 Fax

Reservations should be made by March 12th, stating your name, address, company affiliation, and number in party.

For our unemployed chemists and students, we are offering a 50% discount for the dinner to help you decide to come, meet fellow chemists and maybe make some connections.

There is no charge for simply attending the lecture.

If you are unable to honor your reservation and do not cancel prior to the day of the dinner, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.

Survive in the World of Biotech.” As you can see from his biography, Dr. Scangos brings with him an extended wealth of knowledge about the biotech world – from biology, pharmaceutical, Research and Development and business & process development to the engineering,

manufacturing, and QA elements of bringing biotechnical materials and products to market for the health and well-being of the living. Dr. Scangos will talk about his experiences in attaining his successes and surviving in the biotech frontier.



Chair's Message

In January, Section activities began in earnest with the Harry & Carol Mosher Award given to Dr. Joseph B. Lambert at the Biltmore Hotel in Santa Clara. It is fascinating to discover how chemistry plays a role in archeology by looking at what our ancestors used to eat, what materials were used, and how things were made.

Be sure to make your reservations to attend this month's dinner meeting on Thursday, February 19, at the Palo Alto Elks Lodge. Howard and Sally Peters will be talking about Howard's favorite subject- Chocolate, the Food of the Gods, and the Chemistry of Brown. Everyone attending will have a chance to win a free raffle for a ten-pound bar of Guittard Chocolate. Even if you are not a chocolate lover, plan to attend and meet with old and new friends. Sign up at www.scvacs.org. See the meeting reminder and Howard's article in this newsletter.

Our March dinner gathering will be a joint meeting of the Santa Clara Valley and California sections of ACS, the NorCal section of AIChE, and ANS. The location is in the northern part of our Section in South San Francisco at the Basque Cultural Center. Read the March dinner meeting notice for details. Dr. George Scangos, the CEO of Exelixis, will tell us about "How to Survive in the World of Biotech." This event will be a great opportunity to meet other chemists and chemical engineers and find out what's going on in the biotechnology field.

Then, on April 22, we'll get a

chance to hear about prions and what make cows mad, an important topic of late. Watch for the announcement next month.

Those of you planning to attend the ACS National Spring Meeting in Anaheim should, if you haven't already done so, be registering for the meeting and making your travel reservations now. The dates are from March 28 through April 1. Contact one of our Section Councilors, listed on the back page of this newsletter, if you have any questions or concerns about the American Chemical Society.

Be watching the newsletter AND our website for ChemPloyment notices of job opportunities in the coming months. The Section solicits ads from local companies who are looking for qualified chemists and chemical engineers. The Executive Committee has decided to place ads on the website in addition to the newsletter to help you check out new opportunities.

I hope to see you at an upcoming meeting and invite your participation in Section activities. Let me know if you are interested in becoming more involved but don't know what's stirrin' in the beaker, as it were. Things to consider are Chem Olympiad, National Chemistry Week, teacher workshops, helping with registration at meetings, help with planning future events, retired chemists, women chemists, younger chemists, student affiliates, minority affairs, SCVACS website, or other favorite area(s) of your interest.

George Lechner



Chocolate Food of the Gods

1. "Theobroma" really does translate from the Greek as "God's food." Theobromine, component of chocolate, is a N-demethylated derivative of caffeine.
2. Use the Google search engine for "chocolate" and you will get about 6,500,000 hits. Which ones are of interest? Here are some to consider:

Hershey www.hersbeys.com

Chocolate for the trencherman. The Hershey's facility in Oakdale, California stopped plant tours after 9/11.

Nestle www.nestle.com

The Swiss food giant is credited with inventing condensed milk and canned milk. Daniel Peter, a Nestle employee, is credited with inventing solid milk chocolate for bars in Basel in the 1840s. So far, I have not been able to connect this Daniel Peter to my Peter(s) (the spelling of my original German family name) family tree – but I will continue trying.

Mars www.mars.com

Snickers, Milky Way, Pedigree dog food?

A \$41 billion conglomerate started by Frank and Ethel (Ethel M.) Mars about 1911 in Tacoma, WA and vastly expanded by their son Forrest. The company is still privately held, and one book describes the Mars family as "strange." Judge for yourself.

See's Candies www.sees.com

A personal favorite! See's is a part of Warren Buffet's hugely successful Berkshire-Hathaway growth fund. Charles Huggins, the then See's president, spoke to our SCV group in 1997. (Thank you, Herb Silber.) Mr. Huggins brought truffles for everyone, but I got the 10-pound solid bar of Guittard chocolate, the Burlingame chocolate supplier for See's (a single

servicing at our house!). Guittard dark bittersweet in the 10-pound bar is available at the Milk Pail market in Mountain View (San Antonio Road and California Avenue, 650-941-2505. Call ahead – it goes really fast.) Did you know the classic ‘I Love Lucy’ candy making assembly line episode was filmed in Pasadena at the See’s facility?

Scharffenberger

www.scharffenberger.com

A new local chocolate company specializing in dark bittersweet chocolate – wonderful stuff. Their plant tour in Berkeley is great – the smell is worth the trip in itself. See the web site for a 90 sec MPEG virtual tour – a must-see.

Ghirardelli www.ghirardelli.com

It was started in 1852 in San Francisco and it was the oldest family owned chocolate company in the country.

3. The “CHUNKY” candy bar was really named for the founder’s daughter. Thanks, DAD.
4. “Baby Ruth” the candy bar from the Curtiss Candy Company of Philadelphia was named for Ruth Cleveland the infant daughter of US President Grover Cleveland – with the new parents’ agreement. [It is not to be confused with Curtis Publishing Company (Look, Vogue) of Philadelphia with Edward Bok as publisher. Derek Curtis Bok, a grandson of Bok graduated from Stanford in 1968 and went on to get a law degree at

Harvard, and later become the Dean of the Harvard Law School. He was named President of Harvard College about 1983. This was the time when the president of Harvard was a Stanford grad, and the president of Stanford Dr. Donald Kennedy was a Harvard grad. Will wonders never cease?]

5. Percy L. Spencer – who was he? See www.invent.org, at the National Inventors Hall of Fame. He was the self-taught engineer with a grammar school education that first created the mass production of the magnetron (U.S. Patent 2,405,235 – useful in radar) for Raytheon in Mass. He won the DOD’s highest civilian award for this. Spencer is mostly remembered as the engineer who had the chocolate bar in his shirt pocket when he got too close to an operating magnetron. The chocolate bar melted. (we don’t ask what happened to his heart and lungs). He sent out for popcorn and it popped – as he assumed it would. Next he tried eggs – they exploded. Raytheon’s RADARRANGES soon incorporated the expensive magnetron (sort of like having a Porsche engine in your lawn mower) and never really were a commercial success. By 1970 when the patent rights ran out, Raytheon had lost money and considered the RADARRANGE to be a financial flop. Yet today 80% of all U.S. households have a microwave oven.
7. THE CHOCOLATEFEST is usually held locally in the evenings on the

weekend close to October 13th at the Belmont Congregational Church on Alameda de las Pulgas (Avenue of the Fleas). It is all the chocolate from local vendors you can eat, plus champagne and coffee. For us, it is a bargain for \$15 each. There is usually a string quartet, a raffle, and lots of fun. For more information, go to www.uccbelmont.org/CFlyercol.pdf or contact the church BelmontUCC@aol.com.

8. When we were students at Stanford 40 years ago, we didn’t have the money to celebrate with a bottle of wine – even Thunderbird. So when a big exam was over, a course passed, I would bike over to See’s at Stanford Shopping Center to get four white chocolate divinity puffs – at 15 cents each. We left Stanford in October to go Dow Chemical in Midland Michigan. During winter, with so much snow, we couldn’t see the ground until the next April. That December, I searched in vain for the white chocolate – the local product white birch bark – just didn’t do it. Finally, in desperation, I put \$10 bill into an envelope to See’s at Stanford with a letter explaining this dire situation. On December 23rd, I came home from the Dow lab to find Sally hunched over the See’s candy box, the entire top layer was gone, she had a big smile on her face and there were all these white wrappers on the floor.

I asked, “What was she doing with my candy?”

She retorted with, “What do you mean, buddy? This is my candy. All mine.” The next day, a second 2 pound box arrived in the mail. She had done exactly the same thing I had done with See’s (I have often wondered what See’s thought was going on).

Don’t be surprised, but all the candy was gone in two days.

Howard Peters



Help Needed for the 2004 Chemistry Olympiad

Kiel, Germany will be the site of the International Chemistry Olympiad in July. The ACS will be sending a team of four high school students to participate in the challenge. Those four students will be selected from a pool of 20 excellent students from across the United States. The selection process begins right here in our local section! The top 16 students from the Santa Clara Valley will participate in written exams and a lab exercise to determine their placement at the national level.

Our students will be chosen from their results after taking an ACS standardized test at their high school. The local section encourages the high schools to participate and provides the testing materials.

Would you like to help in this process? Encourage your local chemistry teachers to have their advanced placement and honors classes participate in the testing process. We will be sending out hardcopy letters to over 400 high schools in the section's area giving the teachers the Olympiad information and encouraging them to participate.

We will need a few local section members to be test proctors on April 24th at Los Positas Community College in Livermore, where we will join with the California section and administer the regional tests. This is a good chance to volunteer if you live in the south east section of the Bay Area and have a Saturday to devote to a

good cause! We even provide lunch!

Each student participant receives an ACS certificate. If you have access to a good color printer and/or have access to a scanner/printer and could help with the final printing would be very useful! There should be about 75 to 100 certificates that will need personalized.

So, here is your chance to help with the 2004 International Chemistry Olympiad – encourage the teachers to participate (maybe offer to help them grade the exams!) and volunteer to be a proctor or help print certificates. If you need more information, please contact me.

Sally Peters

Chair of the Santa Clara Valley
ChemOlympiad Committee

Important Upcoming Science Fair News

The Dr. George Washington Carver Science Fair and Carver Kidvention were cancelled again for the recent January 5th (Carver Day in California). The economic situation has not improved enough over the past year in the Silicon Valley to proceed. We will keep you posted about any plans for January 2005.

In San Mateo County, the Science Fair will be held from January 30th to February 6th at the Hiller Museum in San Carlos. See www.hiller.org/ later in January and www.aldencase.com/SanCarlosScienceFair/ for more information.

SCIENCEPAOOLZA is a program of the East Side Union High School in San Jose. It will be on Saturday, February 28th at the San Clara County Fair Grounds in San Jose. See www.outreach-foundation.org/palooza/palooza.html for more information and to sign up to be a judge.

The Santa Clara Valley Section will be hosting for the first time at the Synopsis Championship in March with ACS judging and an ACS awards presentation. Two groups of judges will be needed on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at the McInery Convention

Center in San Jose: one group for ACS chemistry (7-10 judges needed) and one group for the usual chemistry awards made by Synopsys (as has been done in the past – and at least 10 different chemistry judges will be needed). See www.science-fair.org/ for more information and procedures to sign up to be a judge.

The Bay Area Science Fair will be held during March 21 and 27 at the San Francisco County Fair Building. The change is due to the closing of the California Academy of Sciences building in Golden Gate Park for four years around December 31st for a complete demolition and reconstruction. See <http://home.pacbell.net/sfbasf/> for more information.

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) will be held May 9-15, 2004 in Portland, OR. Judging is usually Tuesday afternoon, May 11th and all-day Wednesday, May 12th. See www.sciserv.org/isef/ for judging.

The California Science Fair will be held May 24-25 at the California Science Center in Exposition Park near downtown Los Angeles. See www.usc.edu/CSSF/ for more information.

Thoughts to Ponder...

One cannot lead
without putting others first.
Take your work seriously,
but never yourself.

– Margot Fonteyn, *Dancer*

If enough people think of a thing
and work hard enough at it,
I guess it's pretty
nearly bound to happen,
wind and weather permitting.

– Laura Ingalls Wilder, *writer*

Character consists
of what you do on the third
and fourth tries.

– James A. Michener

Life is change. Growth is optional.
Choose wisely.

– Karen Kaiser Clark

The speed of the leader
determines the rate of the pack.

– Wayne Lukas

When you blame others,
you give up your power to change.

– Robert Anthony

Everybody is ignorant,
only on different subjects.

– Will Rogers



FORE!

Play in the Inaugural WCC (Woman Chemists Committee) Golf Classic

Wednesday, March 31, 2004
Coyote Hills Golf Course, Anaheim, CA

Calling all male and female pros, duffers, and everyone in between! Plan now to sign up and play. Fees are \$75 per golfer or \$300 for a foursome until February 27. Late entries between March 1 and 15 are \$95/\$380 per player/foursome. Groups of four will be arranged for individuals who sign up.

- Golfer registration deadline is March 15, 2004.
- Registration forms and details are on the WCC website at <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC>. Golfer registrations should be faxed to Lissa Dulany at 404-872-2098.



New from Career Services

Begin 2004 with a new online service to enhance your career. Explore Advanced Career Tools (ACT)! These career tools include a free searchable database of nearly 300 articles on topics such as resume writing, interviewing, legal issues, stock, salary negotiations, and more.

You can also take advantage of personal career coaching that will provide one-on-one assistance in areas such as learning to succeed in performance reviews, developing skills in negotiating salary, and obtaining a detailed analysis of your behavioral style. This component of ACT, while a cost item, is discounted for ACS members at below-market rates. Visit <http://chemistry.org/careers> to use ACT.

Chemists Celebrate Earth Day

April 22, 2004

What do you know about H₂O?

Members of the American Chemical Society's Committee on Community Activities invite you to participate in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day on April 22, 2004. The program is a joint effort between the ACS Committee on Community Activities, the Committee on Environmental Improvement, and the Green Chemistry Institute. Chemists Celebrate Earth Day provides volunteers with an opportunity to showcase chemistry's contributions to sustaining a healthy planet and environment as part of the annual Earth Day celebration.

The 2004 theme for Chemists Celebrate Earth Day is "What do you know about H₂O?" As part of the celebration, the American Chemical Society is sponsoring a music video competition for students in grades K-12. The contest encourages students to produce a music video best illustrating the theme "What Do You Know About H₂O?" As the unifying event, local sections are asked to participate in "Testing Rain Water" an activity designed to measure the acidity of rainwater in area communities and to compare results online to national findings. The web activity is made available through ACS collaboration with members of the National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) and the ACS East Central Illinois Section. Hands-on activities, as well as a sample press release and templates, are available at <http://chemistry.org/earthday>. For additional information, contact the ACS Office of Community Activities at 1-800-227-5558, ext. 6078.



CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS FEBRUARY 2004

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3730

Positive Title: Group Leader, Analytical Lab. Operations

Job Description: Responsible for management of analytical lab operations including scheduling of work and review of results; staff training, preparation of reports and installation, calibration and maintenance of lab equipment.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED

Education: Must have a bachelors in Chemistry or related field.

Experience: minimum of 6-10 years exp in the pharmaceutical industry with a strong emphasis on chromatographic methods and stability; a strong background in cGMP requirements for anal lab operations; & a proven track record including exp supervising laboratory staff.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS

Location: Petaluma

Description: Dow Pharmaceutical Sciences is a dynamic & growing independent contract drug development & consulting company, specializing in dermatologic, ophthalmic and other topical products. We provide individual or integrated services to clients including formulation development, analytical and stability services, clinical trial materials, and regulatory and clinical affairs.

Application Instructions: Located in Sonoma County, we offer a rewarding and friendly working environment and excellent benefits. Resumes may be emailed to hr@dowpharmsci.com or fax (707) 793-2615, Attn: HR EOF

Employment Help in Other Areas of California

The following are names and addresses of contacts in other California Sections. You may write to them or call to find out how to receive their job listings or how to place a job listing with them. Do not send self-addressed envelopes unless requested to do so.

California Section: Mrs. Nancy Gephart, American Chemical Society, California Section
49 Quail Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925-287-8055 e-mail: office@calacs.org

California Los Padres Section: Dr. Sandra Lamb, Chemistry Dept., University of Calif Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9510 e-mail: lamb@chem.ucsb.edu

Mojave Desert Section: Dr. Peter Zarras, NAWCWD, Code 4T4220D 760-939-1396
1 Administration Circle, China Lake, CA 93555 e-mail: zarrasp@navair.navy.mil

Orange County Section: Ron Denedour, 23731 Coronel Drive, Mission Viejo, CA 92691-3306
Geoff Anderson, Hycor Biomedical, 78272 Chapman Avenue, Garden Grove, CA 92641 714-895-9558

Sacramento Section: John R. Bingham, 809 W. Stadium Lane, Sacramento, CA 95209
916-927-7088 916-927-7006 FAX

San Diego Section: Renate Valois 619-260-4513 619-260-2211 FAX e-mail: pascal@acusd.edu

Southern California Section: Send a self-addressed, 55-cent-stamped, business envelope to: ACS
job listing, 14934 South Figueroa Street, Gardena, CA 90248 310-327-1216
e-mail: office@scalacs.org www.scalacs.org/employ.html



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FEBRUARY 2004 NEWSLETTER TOPICS:

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Chemists Celebrate Earth Day

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS

To receive emails when newsletters are published on our web site, send an email to SCVACS-newsletters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

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FUTURE MEETINGS

- Feb 19** SCV Dinner Meeting
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- Mar 18** SCV Dinner Meeting
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of Biotech
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Anaheim, CA
- Apr 22** SCV Dinner Meeting
Chemistry of Prions and Prion
Diseases
Mike Baldwin, UCSF
- Apr 25-27** ACS Prospectus
Pharmaceutical Authentication
and Forensic Analysis
Tampa, FL
- Jun 6-9** BIO 2004
San Francisco, CA



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SCV/ACS web site: www.scvacs.org

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