Trash to Treasure: Extracting and Converting Wastewater Pollutants into Products

William Abraham Tarpeh, PhD
Department of Chemical Engineering, Stanford University

DATE: Wednesday, July 14, 2021
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: Your Computer

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:
William Tarpeh, PhD, is an assistant professor at Stanford University in the Department of Chemical Engineering. He received a BS degree in chemical engineering from Stanford University and MS and PhD degrees in environmental engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

ABOUT THE PRESENTATION:
One person’s trash is another person’s treasure. But what about one person’s wastewater? Because over 80% of wastewater generated worldwide is discharged to the environment without treatment, valorizing wastewater can simultaneously mitigate pollution and improve chemical manufacturing. This seminar will focus on nitrogen and sulfur, two key fertilizer constituents found in wastewater. Wastewater-derived fertilizers can reduce the energy input, cost, and greenhouse gas emissions of conventional manufacturing while reducing the effects of runaway pollution that causes harmful algal blooms. We pair novel electrochemical processes and materials to advance the science of extracting and converting wastewater pollutants into products. While wastewaters are promising modern mines, their variable and heterogeneous composition require highly selective reactive separation processes to achieve this goal. Electrochemical approaches are particularly well-suited for this challenge because they can be applied in distributed networks, across multiple scales, and with automated process control. These approaches level catalysis and separations to improve the sustainability of chemical manufacturing and the efficacy of environmental protection for future generations.
Dear ACS Members,

Welcome to summer and Happy Independence Day! We had our sixth Executive Committee Meeting of 2021 virtually on Zoom on Thursday, June 3rd, where we planned several future events and discussed the many activities that occurred in May.

On Tuesday, June 15th, Professor Ryan Shenvi, Department of Chemistry at Scripps Research La Jolla, discussed "Navigating Chemical Space, Career and Family". He discussed how the beauty and challenges of natural products inspired discoveries at the interface of chemistry, biology, catalysis and mechanism. He also examined the challenges faced by faculty members in the 21st century, both in mobility, family, housing, and other career choices, especially in the age of the pandemic. We had over 80 online registrations and over 35 virtual attendees.

On Wednesday, July 14th at 7PM, Professor William Abraham Tarpeh, Department of Chemical Engineering at Stanford University, will discuss "Trash to Treasure: Extracting and Converting Wastewater Pollutants into Products". Dr. Tarpeh will discuss electrochemical processes and materials to advance the science of extracting and converting wastewater pollutants into products, in order to reduce the energy input, cost, and greenhouse gas emissions of conventional manufacturing while reducing the effects of runoff pollution that causes harmful algal blooms. Registration for the talk is via Eventbrite - [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trash-to-treasure-extracting-and-converting-wastewater-pollutants-tickets-159947576507](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trash-to-treasure-extracting-and-converting-wastewater-pollutants-tickets-159947576507)

Our next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Thursday, July 8th at 7pm, on Zoom. I invite all members who wish to become more involved in the Section to join us. Bring your ideas, your suggestions, and your unique talents to help make 2021 a wonderful year. Please contact me at jshih@sandiegoacs.org to receive Zoom login details.

James J. Shih, 2021 Chair
San Diego Section of the American Chemical Society
E-mail: jshih@sandiegoacs.org
Web: [www.sandiegoacs.org](http://www.sandiegoacs.org)

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**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS!**

Does your non-profit organization have an upcoming event that might be of interest to members of the ACS – San Diego Section? If so, please send your announcement to our 2021 Chair, Jim Shih at jshih@sandiegoacs.org. Once approved, Jim will see that your announcement is published on our website ([www.sandiegoacs.org](http://www.sandiegoacs.org)) and, if received by the 20th of the month before the event, in The San Diego Chemist newsletter. This is a free service of the ACS – San Diego Section. Take advantage of it!

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**ATTENTION ADVERTISERS**

**Did you know** that The San Diego Chemist is the only monthly e-newsletter that targets chemists and chemical engineers in San Diego and Imperial Counties? As soon as our newsletter is uploaded on [www.sandiegoacs.org](http://www.sandiegoacs.org) a separate notification is sent to the 2,500 members of the ACS-San Diego Section, each potential customers for your products and services! Quick turnaround: Ad copy submitted by the 20th of each month will be published by the end of that month.

Payments can be made by check or credit cards to [https://checkout.square.site/merchant/MLAPMMDVQ8HQB/checkout/TIKH3SV5GGW6MVQ2NYGION4N](https://checkout.square.site/merchant/MLAPMMDVQ8HQB/checkout/TIKH3SV5GGW6MVQ2NYGION4N)

For more information, please contact:

Renate Valois at renate@sandiegoacs.org

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**THE SAN DIEGO CHEMIST**, the official newsletter of the San Diego Section of the American Chemical Society, published on a monthly basis, can be viewed at [http://www.sandiegoacs.org/newsletter/](http://www.sandiegoacs.org/newsletter/)

All contents are published at the discretion of the Section's Executive Committee. Events of interest to chemistry professionals in the community may be included in the events calendar as space permits and are subject to editing for brevity. Advertisements and announcements from the chemistry community are accepted at published rates. The deadline for items submitted is the 20th of the month for publication by the end of that month.

**Advertisers:** Ad prices as of January 1, 2015:

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Discounts will be available for issues not shown.

Please send your jpg to:

Renate Valois at [renate@sandiegoacs.org](mailto:renate@sandiegoacs.org)

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**SECTION E-MAIL LISTSERVER!**

Get up-to-the-minute reminders of local events and develop dialogs with your fellow members!

To subscribe to our moderated listserver:
1. Send an e-mail with SUBSCRIBE TO LISTSERVER in the subject line, and your name and e-mail in the body of the message to Ken Poggenburg at [jkp135@att.net](mailto:jkp135@att.net).
2. If you receive a message from the postman, reply to confirm that you wish to be added to the list, otherwise it will not take effect.
3. You will receive reminders approx. 5-7 days prior to upcoming events and messages of general interest to members.
4. To post topics for discussion, or informational items to the listserver members, send the message to [sandiego-chemist@ucsd.edu](mailto:sandiego-chemist@ucsd.edu).
5. If the moderator approves the post, it will be sent to the members.

**NOTE:** That is the letter "l", not the number "1", following the word "chemist".

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**Executive Committee Meeting Dates 2021**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 4th</td>
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Zoom Meetings until further notice.
The San Diego Section of the American Chemical Society would like to thank our Corporate Sponsors. Here are a few examples of our annual outreach programs that are made possible by their generous donations:

**Mad Science** - Stage demonstrations for 4th and 5th graders which make science fun for kids! Last year the program was viewed by over 8000 students in low-income areas and from military families.

**ChemExpo** - A science event for middle and high school students held in Balboa Park annually for the past 27 years. It features live stage demonstrations and interactive booths that teach kids about applied science. Last year over 1000 local students participated!

**EarthFair** – We participate in the world’s largest free annual environmental fair, held in Balboa Park.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Nikhil Seshadri, together with three other students, will be representing Team USA in the International Chemistry Olympiad to be held remotely in Japan. Nikhil also participated in the California "You Be the Chemist Challenge" in 2015, 2016, and 2017" and was the first runner-up in 2015 and 2016, and was the California State Champion in 2017.

**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE 26 TO JUNE 30, 2022**

The Executive Committee of the Division of Organic Chemistry of the American Chemical Society and the Department of Chemistry at the University of California, San Diego, invite you to attend the 47th National Organic Chemistry Symposium. This biennial event will be held from Sunday, June 26 to Thursday, June 30, 2022 at UCSD.

For more information please see https://nationalorganicsymposium.org/.
For volunteers please see https://nationalorganicsymposium.org/organizers/.

Volunteer opportunities include chairing sessions during the plenary talks, judging the poster sessions, and running registration tables and social events.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**EARTH DAY - EARTHFair 2021**
http://www.earthdayweb.org/

**New Date:** Sunday, September 19, 2021, Balboa Park • 10am - 5pm

San Diego ACS volunteers will set up a table in the Children's Activity Area. This special area has crafts, games, face painting, storytelling, and hands-on activities for children of all ages. Activities are intended to educate, entertain and inspire youth, in the spirit of Earth Day.

Please contact James Caldwell, jcaldwell@sandiegoacs.org, to volunteer Sunday, September 19, 2021. We need 3-4 persons for each of the 3-4 hour shifts on September 19. Please support us and share your care for our earth, chemistry education, and the San Diego ACS!

**IT IS NOT TOO EARLY------ TO THINK ABOUT THE ANNUAL SAN DIEGO ACS LOCAL SECTION ELECTIONS 2022**

Nominations for Section offices are now in order. Per our Bylaws, the current Chair-Elect will assume the Chair, but other positions are open for election, including:

**Chair-Elect • Secretary • Treasurer • 3 Councilors • 3 Members-at-Large**

Councilors, Alternate Councilors, and Members-at-Large serve for three years, and all incumbents may succeed themselves. We encourage the active participation of our members! In particular, Member-at-Large is an excellent way to get involved in Section leadership. If you have an interest in becoming involved in the ACS-San Diego Section and want to make a self-nomination as a candidate for an elected position, please contact: Jim Shih at jshih@sandiegoacs.org

Please send your bios to Renate Valois at renate@sandiegoacs.org by September 23.

**NOTE: VOTING WILL AGAIN BE DONE ELECTRONICALLY**

Voting will be done electronically using your email address on record for the ACS. If you wish to receive a paper ballot instead, please call or e-mail Jackie Trischman, Election Coordinator, at 858-414-3323 or trischma@csusm.edu, by Tuesday, November 2, and leave your name and mailing address. You will be mailed a paper ballot.

If you do not request a paper ballot, you will receive instructions on how to vote via email. Please be sure your email address on file with the ACS is current! To update your email address with the ACS, use www.chemistry.org
Navigating Chemical Space, Career and Family
Ryan Shenvi, PhD
Department of Chemistry
Scripps Research, La Jolla
June 15, 2021

For the San Diego ACS Section June monthly meeting we were fortunate to have Ryan Shenvi speak on the topic “Navigating Chemical Space, Career and Family” which turned out to be a whirlwind tour of a young professor’s journey through early stages of academic life and simultaneous family life.

Ryan, an advocate of retrosynthetic design and synthesis as first advanced by Professor E. J. Corey, illustrated with multiple examples the strategic process of taking a complex natural product structure and working backwards through simpler and simpler compounds to reach readily available starting materials to use for the lab synthesis. He illustrated how multiple routes were examined tactically to choose the most likely to succeed pathway.

An interesting twist on the process was willingness to aim for not just the natural product itself but a close analog of the target, especially when the modification shortened the synthetic route and improved the target scaffold. In one particular example, using a gem-dimethyl in place of a stereogenic single methyl group at the same carbon, overcame the synthetic roadblock and led to a final product analog of the natural product which remarkably exhibited significantly enhanced stability and bioactivity. In other words, since a primary goal of total synthesis is to enable utility, the close analog could serve as a more easily accessible final target and substrate for biological study.

A special part of the talk was his willingness to engage about issues of family life when each partner pursues a professional career, a very common situation nowadays. With four young children, and a Ph.D. and an M.D. as parents with each aspiring to professional careers, life becomes understandably very busy.

Since the talk contained unpublished work, we will not have a follow-up slide deck available to peruse.

Tom Beattie
Councilor, San Diego Section of the ACS

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SUMMARY OF THE SAN DIEGO ACS SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE JUNE 3, 2021

May ExComm Minutes – Approved

San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering virtual event -- Chemistry is Better than Magic show, not as impactful when done online, students made videos but very few watched the results, and promotional items were not distributed

Monthly Seminars – May seminar: 61 attendees, good involvement of attendees in Q&A afterward; June seminar – Prof. Ryan Shenvi, Navigating Career & Family; Sept.: Mary Virginia Orna discussing women who were passed over for Nobel Prize; Oct.: two possible seminars -- teaching chemistry to underrepresented students and potential seminar on chemistry of glass to include a glassblowing demonstration; Nov – still open

50-60-70 Year Members – No students expressed interest in interviewing honorees and writing life sketches even when offered a stipend

Distinguished Scientist Award – Discussion has begun as to whether an award should be made for 2021 and whether an in-person banquet is appropriate

Mad Science – SDUSD returning to full in-person classes, which allows us to consider 10 in-person presentations this Fall; Mad Science organization is seeing great interest to schedule programs and expecting to have a waiting list for presentations; schools may not allow ACS observers to view the in-person presentations

Treasurer’s Report – Income: $5K donation from Ferring Pharmaceuticals; $80 from IIT for Newsletter ad; Expenses: $595.45 for Web domain renewal, $450 for Newsletter preparation, $375.80 storage unit, promotional items from ACS store; sale of 650 Vanguard shares is in confirmation process; transfer of $108K from checking to Great Rate Savings account in progress

IPG Grant – Proposing an activity for National Chemistry Week – Art and Chemistry of Glass – to be held in glassmaker’s shop; looking for chemist to present brief chemistry of glass before demonstration

Nominations – Openings for 2022 ExComm: chair-elect (no incumbent); secretary, treasurer and 3 councilors (incumbents); also many committee openings

Western Regional Meeting 2022 – Organizers sent flyer regarding program to be held in Las Vegas area; Oct 19-22, 2022

Next meeting: July 8
8:25 AM  **Opening Remarks: Emmanuel Theodorakis**

8:30 AM  **Dr. Scott Sutton, Pfizer**
“The Discovery of PF-06873600, a CDK2/4/6 Inhibitor for the Treatment of Cancer”

9:15 AM  **Dr. Rommie Amaro, University of California San Diego**
“Computational Microscopy of SARS-CoV-2”

10:00 AM  **Break**

10:30 AM  **Dr. Svitlana Kulyk, Mirati**
“Fragment-Based Discovery of MRTX9768, a Synthetic Lethal Inhibitor of PRMT5/MTA Complex”

11:15 AM  **Dr. Ryan Shenvi, Scripps Research**
“New Cross-Coupling Methods through Cage Control”

12:00 PM  **Symposium Conclusion**

Registration information

http://www-chem.ucsd.edu/graduate-program/Events/medchem/registraton.html
2021 ACS REGIONAL MEETINGS

Northeast Regional Meeting – NERM 21  
October 8-11  Boston, MA
Midwest Regional Meeting (MWRM)  
October 21-22  Springfield, MO
Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting (RMRM)  
October 21-23  Tucson, AZ
Southwest Regional Meeting (SWRM)  
October 31-Nov 3  Austin, TX
SERMACS 2021  
November 10-13  Birmingham, AL

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For information contact: Renate Valois – renate@sandiegoacs.org

NEW OFFERINGS ON CAREER INFORMATION

The National ACS Career Office has announced a new website "Careers & the Chemical Sciences" at acs.org. Readers can now explore over 40 fields to assist them in determining the career path that best meets their interests and needs. In addition, they can explore which work sector is best for them, read the profiles and job responsibilities of chemists in various sub-fields.

Graduate students and post-docs can do a self-assessment, learn how to increase their marketability, chart a path forward in their job search, and examine various career options. Undergraduate students can learn about internships and other career opportunities.

Valerie Kuck, a San Diego Section career consultant, encouraged people to gather as much information while they are in school. She thought the “Careers & Chemical Sciences” was a great start in becoming aware of opportunities and your strengths.

ACS Webinars™

Welcome to ACS Webinars, your source for online live and on-demand content, created by the American Chemical Society. Please join us weekly, Thursdays at 2pm ET.

For more information and upcoming Webinars see: https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/acs-webinars.html

ATTENTION COMPANIES!
Do you hire student workers?

If you have open positions in chemistry and biochemistry that would be of interest to college students, such as summer internship opportunities, here is a list of contacts you'll want to keep handy. The people listed below are the faculty advisors of the ACS Student Affiliate groups for all chemistry programs in San Diego County. These professors can get the word out to all chemistry and biochemistry majors at their schools about jobs, career fairs, open houses, etc.

California State University, San Marcos
Jacqueline Trischman
trischma@csusm.edu
760-750-4206

Point Loma Nazarene University
Sara Choung
SaraChoung@PointLoma.edu
619-849-2627

San Diego Mesa College
Dwayne Gergens
dgergens@sdccd.edu
619-388-2609

San Diego Miramar College
Fred Garces
fgarces@sdccd.edu
619-388-7493
Linda Woods
lwoods@sdccd.edu
(619) 388-7750

Southwestern College, Chula Vista
Juan Gonzalez
jgonzalez3@swccd.edu
619-421-6700x5947

University of California, San Diego
Stacey Brydges
sbrydges@ucsd.edu
858-246-0993
Thomas Bussey
dbussey@ucsd.edu
858-822-6665

University of San Diego
Tammy Dwyer
tdwyer@sandiego.edu
619-260-4030

YOUR AD HERE

Your ad in the next issue of

THE SAN DIEGO CHEMIST

For information contact:
Renate Valois – renate@sandiegoacs.org
Western Regional Meeting (WRM) Information

WRM 2022 - Empower Chemists For A Better Tomorrow
- October 19-22, 2022
- Convention Center @ Flamingo Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada
- Contact: Dr. Rampur Viswanath

Technical Sessions And Symposia
- Special Invited Speaker: Dr. H.N. Cheng, ACS President
- Keynote Speaker: Professor Stephen L. Buchwald, MIT
- Innovating Organometallics
- Radiochemical Separations for Nuclear Forensics and Nuclear Medicine
- Wearable Sensors/Chemistry
- Water and Waste Pollution Investigations and Treatment Management
- Recent Breakthroughs in Organic Chemistry
- Novel Applications in Mass Spectrometry
- Advances in Medicinal Chemistry

Exposition Area
- Selected Vendors
- Interactive Poster Display and Contests
- Latest Analytical Instrumentation and Data Acquisition Tools
- Details in the next update

Opportunities
- Mentoring and Networking
- Sci-Social Mixers
- Gain Access to Contemporary Research
- Planned Local Tours of Scientific Interests
- World Class Entertainment & Fine Dining
- And Much, Much More!

Places of Interest

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Zion National Park

Hoover Dam

Red Rock Canyon

Atomic Testing Museum
UPCOMING EVENTS

VIRTUAL
TRASH TO TREASURE: EXTRACTING AND CONVERTING WASTEWATER POLLUTANTS INTO PRODUCTS
William Abraham Tarpeh, PhD
Department of Chemical Engineering
Stanford University
July 14, 2021

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VIRTUAL
23rd ANNUAL SAN DIEGO MEDCHEM SYMPOSIUM
Start 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Friday, July 16, 2021

**********

262nd ACS NATIONAL MEETING & EXPOSITION
Atlanta, Georgia
August 22-26, 2021

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EARTH DAY - EARTHFAIR 2021
Balboa Park, San Diego, CA
http://www.earthdayweb.org/
Sunday, September 19, 2021


THE SAN DIEGO SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
WELCOMES ITS NEW MEMBERS

Nicole Behnke
Alex Blatt
Natalie Botros
Sara Desalegne
Stefanie Gangano
Isabella Hanson
Uyen Hoang
August Konrad
Martha Lyzzett Lozano
Daniella Corene Luistro
Sam Willard Marchant
Thomas Martinez
Keith Alan Maruya
Aria Masoudifar
Trina Nguyentu
Diego Perez
Hailey Romero
Bethany Ann Sawyer
Austin Topel
Michael Townsend
Han Quynh Trieu
Carlos M Valerio
Salvador Vallejo
Ming Xu
Hanxiang Zeng
Marc Anthony Zepeda
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SAN DIEGO SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

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Past Chair James Caldwell, Accelagen, Inc., jcalwell@sandiegoacs.org (2021) 815-262-9697
Chair-Elect Juan P. Gonzalez-Gonzalez, Southwestern College, jgonzalez3@swccd.edu (2021) 619-813-8520
Secretary William Tolley, SeaCoast Science, Inc., b_tolley@juno.com (2021) 858-780-0978
Treasurer Desiree Grubisha, Heron Therapeutics, dgrubisha@gmail.com (2021) 858-254-5497

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Hui Cai, WuXi AppTec (2022) 858-361-8838
Desiree Grubisha, Heron Therapeutics (2021) 858-254-5497
Valerie Kuck (2023) 973-744-5510
Jackie Trischman, CSUSM (2022) 858-414-3123
David Wallace, Wallace Scientific Consulting (2021) 858-638-1866

Alternate Councilors
Surya K. De, Supra Sciences, Inc. (2022) 858-337-4961
Julann Miller, Waters Corporation (2023) 800-252-4752 x6802
Ken Poggenburg (2022) 760-635-2573
Ben Pratt, Pratt Pharma Consulting LLC (2022) 858-945-7893
Shannon Woodruff, HP Inc. (2023) 949-735-9021

Members-at-Large
James O’Brien, TE Connectivity (2023) 858-336-0654
Bill Szabo (2022) 858-550-0306
Joann Um, Southwestern College (2022) 510-823-8637

STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES
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Valerie Kuck (Co-Chair) 973-744-5510
ChemExpo
Jackie Trischman, CSUSM 858-414-3323
Communications Committee
Surya K. De, Supra Sciences, Inc. 858-337-4961
Desiree Grubisha, Heron Therapeutics 858-254-5497
Ken Poggenburg 760-635-2573
Renate Valois (Newsletter Editor) 619-692-0638
David Wallace, Wallace Scientific Consulting 858-638-1866

Distinguished Scientist Awards Nomination Committee
Thomas R. Beattie (Chair) 858-293-3012
Tammy Dwyer USD 619-260-4030
Barbara Sawrey 858-729-0689
David Wallace, Wallace Scientific Consulting 858-204-5412

Education Committee
Joann Um (Chair), Southwestern College 510-823-8637
Valerie Kuck 973-744-5510
Joan Schelling, USD 619-260-7960

EarthFair
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Finance Committee
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Tom Beattie 858-293-3012
James Caldwell, Accelagen, Inc. 815-262-9697

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Ken Poggenburg 760-635-2573

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Ryan C. Smith, Duane Morris LLP 619-744-2220

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Mark Tichenor (Co-Chair), Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 858-734-8914
David Wallace (Co-Chair), Wallace Scientific Consulting 858-638-1866

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Julann Miller, Waters Corporation 800-252-4752 x6802

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Christopher Fisher, CG Life, 860-455-5297
Alexander Rovira, Janssen Research and Development 858-760-0978
Bratitany P. Witherspoon, Janssen Research and Development 619-373-2436

Voice Mail – San Diego Section 619-687-5570