

Dear Colleagues:

I am very excited about being able to welcome all of you to this year's Annual Meeting which will take place next month in my home country of Spain. The AMPC chair, Maria Jesus Vicent, and her committee have prepared an exceptional program in which all of you, I am sure, will want to participate. Nearly a thousand people have already registered for the conference. If you haven't registered yet, you can do so now by clicking [here](#).

Among the many highlights of the Annual Meeting will include these outstanding plenary sessions:

- Can We Really Regenerate Brain Tissue with Controlled Protein Delivery? **Speaker: Professor Molly Shoichet, University of Toronto, Canada**
- New Approaches in Imaging and Sensing of Drug Action Speaker: **Dr. Ralph Weissleder, Harvard Medical School, USA**
- Next Generation Antibiotics Speaker: **Professor Ada Yonath, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel**
- Harnessing The Digital Exhaust: Incorporating Wellness Into The Pharma Model: **Justin Wright, Novartis, U.S.A.**

You will also want to attend a great debate entitled "Stars Collide" focusing on "Nanomedicine" and featuring Professors Patrick Couvreur and Kinam Park.

In addition to this impressive line-up, the Annual Meeting offers you the opportunity to participate in a variety of focus group sessions (Immuno, Transdermal and Mucosal Delivery Nanomedicine, Bioinspired, Gene, Ocular or Oral Delivery), scientific sessions, mini-symposia and round tables. It is also a great opportunity to network with friends and colleagues around the globe.

It's the mission of CRS to help members succeed. In keeping with that mission, it is important for us to recognize and reward those who have made significant contributions to our Society and our science. It is fitting, then, that among the many awards presented at the Annual Meeting, will be the following major CRS awards:

- DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: **Alexander "Sandy" Florence, PH.D. Emeritus Professor, University College of London, UK**
- FOUNDERS AWARD **Randall Mrsny, PH.D. Professor's Chair, University of Bath, UK**
- TRANSDERMAL DELIVERY KYDONIEUS FOUNDATION AWARD **Joke Bouwstra, PH.D. Professor University of Leiden, Netherlands**
- YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD **Jordan Green, PH.D. Professor Johns Hopkins University, USA**
- T NAGAI POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH AWARD RESEARCHER - **Michael Mitchell, PH.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology / University of Pennsylvania --Adviser - Robert S. Langer, PH.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA**

In addition to these distinguished honorees, CRS will be welcoming three new members to the College of Fellows. The elevation of a member to 'fellow' recognizes these persons as those who have made

outstanding and sustained contributions to the field of delivery science and technology. The Board forwarded candidates to the College of Fellows, which elected the following three members:

- **Christine Allen, University of Toronto, Canada**
- **Patrick Couvreur, Professor Head of Department, University of Paris South, France**
- **Paula Hammond, David H. Koch Chair Professor of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA**

I would also like to highlight the recognition of Professor Couvreur as a “CRS 2019 Special Honoree”. On his behalf, we were able to fund our Travel Lottery, which has awarded up to 15 PhD students and post-docs.

Worth of mentioning is also the fact that the CRS has awarded 33 students from Local Chapters around the world.

All together we have provided our membership with 78 Awards! And more will come during the Annual Meeting.

As you know, we recently held elections for the 2019-2020 officers and new directors to the Board. Based on the votes cast, you have selected the following:

- **President-Elect, Yvonne Perrie, Ph.D., University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK**
- **Secretary, Andy Lewis, Ph.D., Quotient Sciences, UK**
- **Treasurer-Elect, Cornell Stamoran, Ph.D., Catalent, Inc., U.S.A.**
- **Director-at-Large, Alexander Kabanov, Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, U.S.A.**
- **Director-at-Large, Kathryn A. Whitehead, Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University, U.S.A.**

It has been a wonderful year and I have been extremely privileged to serve as your president. While I will be offering my heartfelt thanks and appreciation during my comments at the closing session of the Annual Meeting, I did want to take this opportunity to thank of all you for your wonderful support throughout the year.

I look forward to seeing you in Valencia!

Warmest Regards,

Maria