



Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh



February Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

5:30 PM Social Hour – Shepperson Suite
5:30 - 6:00 PM SSP Technology Forum – Power Center Ballroom
6:30 PM Dinner – Power Center Ballroom
Student Affiliate Meeting – Shepperson Suite
7:15 PM Business Meeting – Power Center Ballroom
7:45 PM Technical Program – Power Center Ballroom

**Deadline for Dinner Reservations: Tuesday, February 4, 2020
before Noon**

SSP TECHNOLOGY FORUM

Andrew Hiser, CannaTech Extracts, LLC

“Medical Cannabis in PA: A Scientist’s Perspective”



This presentation is intended for those trying to navigate the CBD- or THC-containing cannabis market. Whether you are the consumer, caregiver, or just someone who wants to learn more about the industry, the best way to understand it, is to research this highly functional plant at home. That is easy enough to say, but to actually do it; well, where would you even start? At the beginning of course.

I intend to help the participants to learn what research is needed and some facts and myths to shed some light on the cannabis “stigma”. Following a quick history on cannabis, some of the details of the plants structure are highlighted. The history and structure of the plant are both important to fully understand the products that you are going to purchase.

The structure of cannabis operates as the perfect segue into the Endocannabinoid System (ECS) and Phytocannabinoids. After quickly covering some products and how they are made, the more analytical side of the industry will be looked at. A general knowledge of the processing path can help consumers know what to expect in their product whereas, analytical testing tells them exactly what is in the product.

It is my hope that this presentation creates a new understanding of cannabis, its structure, the ECS, and how products are made. You should leave with enough knowledge to research the use and effects of cannabis and choose a safe and natural medication.

It is only through education that we can end the cannabis stigma. After all the discovery of the ECS has caused many text books to add new chapters.

BIOGRAPHY

About 7 years ago Andrew Hiser entered the steel industry as a laboratory technician fresh out of Geneva College with a bachelor's in Biochemistry. It took Andrew a little over a year to grow into a Senior Research Technician. From there Andrew gained some credits at Auburn University's online program for Materials Engineering. After 5 years Andrew was invested in the steel industry. Although, Andrew enjoyed his job in the steel industry, he stumbled across an article online that there was a need for an extraction manager at a new medical cannabis processing facility, a short distance from his home. Andrew applied for the job and was offered an extraction technician position. Even though Andrew did not have knowledge about the industry, he was ready to accept the

job. Except he did not accept it. Instead, Andrew decided to do research from the beginning to learn the basics. He read a few cannabis business books and followed that with brushing up on his ISO and GLP. He wrote a letter to the Chief Scientific Officer of Holistic Industries which contained a presentation on Current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) in the pharmaceutical industry. This letter was based on information provided by Shimadzu and a few articles on management. The letter also highlighted his experience in compliance, expertise in navigating and mastering computer software and his analytical knowledge. He also mentioned his limited experience operating the equipment and his lack of managerial experience. A few days later Andrew was hired as the Laboratory Operations Manager. As the Operations Manager at Holistic Industries Andrew was able to develop new extraction methods to increase efficiencies, new products, and implement new safety practices. Andrew also aided in the build out of the processing facility and helped the contractors throughout the process. After a year he found himself as an interim General Manager/Lab Manager, having no time to extract or to develop. He no longer enjoyed his job. Andrew was lucky enough to find an incredible group of individuals through a mutual friend. They had already been in the cannabis industry a few years and seemed to understand Andrew's desire to help others heal. They granted the funds and opened a company called CannaTech Extracts. Every day Andrew asks himself "Can a Tech Extract"? Yes, he can!

SSP TECHNICAL PROGRAM

Dr. Jim Cybulski, CEO Foldscope
“Development/Deployment of Inexpensive, Robust Instruments
for Combating Disease on a Global Scale”



Foldscope was created with a vision to solve an accessibility problem in science. What began as a simple idea has now grown into a company that provides powerful low-cost tools to communities around the world, all in an effort to help advance education, health, and opportunity! We believe that the most important part of our company is not the tools themselves, but the communities that use them. Through our production of low-cost tools, we aim to break down the price barrier between people & the curiosity and excitement of scientific exploration. In other words allowing people (especially children) to "do" science as opposed to simply learning about science.

This presentation will focus on the development and application of Foldscope microscopes for science education, disease prevention and providing accessible portals

to the microcosmos.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Cybulski is the co-inventor of the Foldscope, and has spent the last 6 years developing and field testing Foldscopes all over the world, first as a PhD engineering student in the Prakash Lab at Stanford University and now as President and CEO of Foldscope Instruments. His primary role is to lead our efforts to provide access to scientific tools across the globe. Jim received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford, has a M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from MIT and B.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Physics from Lehigh University.

DINNER RESERVATIONS: Please complete the **Online Dinner Reservation Form NO LATER THAN Tuesday, February 4, 2020**, before Noon. The form is also located under the Meeting Notice on websites www.sacp.org & www.ssp-pgh.org. Should you not be able to access the form, please call 412-825-3220, ext. 200 and ask the SACP & SSP Administrative Assistant to make your dinner reservation. The entrée choices for February are Braised Short Ribs and Crab Cake or Stuffed Portobello Mushroom. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions. Dinner will cost \$10 (\$5 for undergraduate students). Checks can be made payable to the SSP.

PARKING: Duquesne University Parking Garage entrance is on Forbes Avenue. Upon entering the garage, you will need to get a parking ticket and drive to upper floors. Bring your parking ticket to the dinner or meeting for a validation ticket. Should any difficulties arise, please contact Duquesne University.