

COSMEGRAM

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MONTHLY MEETING - JANUARY 2025

EPIGENETICS-BASED COSMETIC CARE: REWRITING THE RULES OF AGING

Speaker: Dr. Paul Lawrence



The cosmetic care industry has been investigating the power of epigenetic mechanisms to improve skin and hair health for some time. Indeed, a considerable amount of data has been amassed over the years, bringing this innovation to a slow boil, where new bio-active ingredients exhibiting epigenetic activity are being launched with greater frequency. And many experts are currently suggesting that epigenetics might be the path toward actually “reversing skin aging.” To that end, cosmetic care scientists and non-scientists alike must appreciate the complexity of this topic and understand that there are multiple epigenetic mechanisms by which lofty goals can potentially be achieved. Some might be surprised that many already-existing bio-active materials are imbued with molecular activity that is epigenetic in nature. Here, an overview will be provided of what is meant by “epigenetics,” the dynamics of its associated mechanisms, and why this new approach to cosmetic care has the potential to be a game-

changer. Key subject areas will be elaborated upon, including DNA methylation, oscillating post-translational modifications of histone proteins, and post-transcriptional gene silencing through small non-coding RNA molecules, particularly microRNAs. Laboratory techniques will also be presented that can assess possible epigenetic activity associated with cosmetic ingredients and how to describe those findings. Moreover, examples of epigenetic-based products will be expanded to highlight the unique power of this skincare approach and ways to leverage this technology for both diagnostic and therapeutic applications.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Hi CASCC, and Happy New Year!

I'm excited to kick off 2025 as your Chair! Before we dive into the year ahead, I want to take a moment to thank Mason Montgomery for his leadership in 2024. Mason didn't just raise the bar, he set new records with sold-out events and financial and administrative achievements that will benefit our chapter for years to come. Thank you, Mason, for your dedication and hard work.

We wrapped up 2024 in true West Coast style with the SCC78 Annual Meeting hosted right here in sunny SoCal. As the second-largest chapter within the SCC community, we had the distinct honor of hosting the After-Party, and let's just say, *"Ain't no party like a West Coast party!"* Thank you to everyone who joined us, we hope you enjoyed your time in SoCal as much as we loved having you!

Looking ahead to 2025, my goals for our chapter include:

Membership Growth & Engagement – Continuing to build our amazing CASCC community.

NextGen Initiatives – Supporting students and the next generation while driving innovation within our industry remain top priorities.

Commitment to Education – We'll provide resources and insights that inspire, educate and empower our members.

It's truly an honor to lead this incredible chapter. As LeBron James once said, "I'm just a kid from Bolingbrook, IL," and your trust and support as Chair inspire me every day. I can't wait to see all that we'll accomplish together in 2025. We've already got a packed calendar of exciting events, starting with our first meeting of the year at the Universal Sheraton on January 21st.

Here's to an amazing year ahead!

All the best,
Brittney C. Strickland
Chair, 2025 CASCC



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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



It's a new year and with a new year comes my time to say goodbye as your Cosmegram Editor. What a blast it has been to be the gatherer of information and publish for your reading delight! I am very proud of the issues published in the last 4 years. I believe our boards, past and present, have risen to the occasion with some great articles. I am hopeful that we will continue to publish some great technical articles, so I implore you to bring those to the new editor.

I am so pleased to announce that Josie Wauford from Lubrizol, will be your new editor. She will bring her own spin to the publication, and I am excited to see how the Cosmegram will evolve!

Have a wonderful 2025 and I look forward to seeing you at the next CASCC meeting!

Your 2021-2025 Cosmegram Editor
Jennifer Lee Curtis!



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2/18/25

3/18/25

AVENUE OF THE ARTS
Costa Mesa, CA

DINNER MEETING
Bay Area, CA

4/29/25

5/13/25

DUKE'S MALIBU
Malibu, CA

DINNER DANCE - MARDI GRAS
Anaheim Marriott

5/17/25

July

SUMMER EVENT
TBD

CASCC + SCIFTS GOLF TOURNAMENT
TBD

August

9/16/25

DINNER MEETING
Valley, CA

CASCC SUPPLIERS' DAY + AFTER-PARTY
Long Beach Convention Center

10/29 - 10/30

11/18/25

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Our Thoughts are with Los Angeles

The Society of Cosmetic Chemists, California Chapter stands in solidarity with our members, friends, supporters, and the communities affected by the devastating wildfires in Los Angeles.

Our hearts go out to the victims, their families, and everyone impacted during this tragic time.

We deeply honor the courageous firefighters, first responders, and all those who have risked their safety to protect the people of Los Angeles. In moments like these, we are reminded of the strength of our community and the importance of supporting one another.

To everyone affected, please know that you have our unwavering support. We hope you remain safe and healthy as we navigate this difficult time together.

- Society of Cosmetic Chemists, California Chapter -

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SUPPLIERS' DAY 2025

LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER
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Day 1: WED. OCT. 29 10AM-5PM

Day 2: THURS. OCT. 30 10AM-3PM



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Watch this space for the **registration link** and **FAQ**: https://caliscc.org/Suppliers_Day_2025

Suppliers' Day is free to attend.

Children under the age of 18 are not allowed on the show floor.

Show Dates & Times

Set up: Tuesday, October 28, 2025, opens 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Day 1: Wednesday, October 29, 2025, opens 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Day 2: Thursday, October 30, 2025, opens 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Tear Down: The booth must be torn down on Thursday, October 30, 2025.

After Party Date & Time: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 from 7:00 to 11:30 pm

Exhibiting Opportunities

Cost for Standard booth: \$3000 (10 x 10)

Cost for Corner Booths: \$3100 (10 x 10)

Exhibitor Manual – will be available when registration opens.

Booths are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis based on payment received.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Yes, there are many sponsorships available. Please review during your registration process.

Suppliers' Day CASCC Contacts

Suppliers Day Contact: Margarita Gomez-Nadin, Vantage Personal Care via SuppliersDay@CaliSCC.org

After Party: Velvet Arriola, Norman Fox via SuppliersDay@CaliSCC.org

TECHNICAL ARTICLE

REPLACING SYNTHETICS NATURALLY AND EFFECTIVELY

Caroline Recardo

Technical Director, Alchemy Ingredients

Introduction

In the cosmetic industry there has been a gradual trend over the past 50 years to replace synthetic raw materials with more naturally derived, plant based ones. In 1970, the approximate percentage of naturally derived material (excluding water) in a typical cosmetic product was around 50%, which included some animal derived feedstock. In 2020, it was more likely to be 75% and this was wholly plant based. There are several drivers for this trend:

- Consumer perception that natural ingredients are healthier for the skin and hair.
- Concern about petrochemical derived feedstocks and sustainability.
- Green manufacturing processes and plant based raw materials becoming readily available.
- Biodegradability concerns.
- Cosmetics formulators preferring to use natural raw materials.
- Label reading by consumers and not wanting 'chemicals' in their cosmetic products.

Limitations using natural materials

Performance

Often the natural raw material cannot be used as a direct 1:1 weight for weight replacement. This is because synthetic raw materials have usually been created specifically for a purpose, for example the viscosity modifier carbomer. This material was designed from scratch to bind and hold a great deal of water and provide a smooth, suspending, transparent gel. Natural thickeners do not have that advantage as they are produced and extracted from plants or fermentation and are complex mixtures. Although transparent and smooth textures can be obtained, usually a much higher percentage of the thickener is needed to produce the same viscosity. For example a viscosity of 30,000 Cps can be obtained with 0.2% of carbomer, whereas 2% of Xanthan gum is required to reach the same viscosity. Often the natural raw material needs to be taken into careful consideration due to special properties the material has, for example a particular pH or salt level requirements.

Predictability

One of the advantages of using synthetic materials is the predictability and reliability of these materials. They are often chemically pure (one single chemical substance), are often colorless and stable, and do not vary from batch to batch. When natural raw materials are used, the opposite is often true – the color can be darker, and can vary from batch to batch. Due to the complexity of natural raw materials, the performance of the product can vary depending on the formulation it is in. This is particularly true of preservatives, where the type of formulation, packaging and pH can affect the level of natural preservative required greatly.

Price

It is an unfortunate fact that natural raw materials are often more expensive in a formulation than the synthetic equivalent. There are several reasons for this: firstly, the starting raw materials are commonly farmed and this involves higher labour and energy costs than synthetic starting materials, which are usually petrochemical in origin. Secondly, the extraction and refining processes required to make the material suitable for cosmetic use are often complex and expensive, pushing the cost up. Finally the pricing for natural, premium raw materials can be set artificially high as it is known that these type of finished cosmetics are more expensive than standard ones.

Categories of Natural Ingredients that can replace synthetics

In the example categories shown below, the degree of difficulty in replacing synthetics is discussed. For some products, a simple substitution or careful selection is required without much effort or reformulation, in others a complete work around is needed.

Emulsifiers

This is a relatively easy category of ingredient to replace with a natural alternative depending on the type of formulation being made. The main function of an emulsifier is to form a physical barrier between the oil and water phases, organize the internal phase (either droplets or liquid crystal type arrangements), and provide texture and body to the emulsion. The earliest types of emulsifiers were in fact natural, for example egg, plants such as soapwort or hemp, soap, and mustard. In the 1940s and 50s synthetic emulsifiers were extensively developed, with ethoxylated (PEG based) materials becoming very popular due to their low cost and high functionality. It was then that the concept of the HLB (hydrophilic-lipophilic balance) was introduced by Griffin, providing a simple classification system for emulsifiers to predict the type of emulsion formed and the behavior of the emulsifier. It is important to note that this system is only applicable to synthetic emulsifiers. It cannot be applied to natural emulsifiers easily because the hydrophilic and lipophilic groups are not as 'pure' and therefore the value is not accurate, and usually the emulsifiers are complex mixtures. However, it has been successfully carried over to some emulsifier types such as the polyglycerol ester group of products, due to the similarity of the Polyglycerol group to PEG. Table 1 shows some emulsifier categories and the synthetics that they replace.

Natural Emulsifier type	Examples	Synthetic emulsifier replaced
Polyglycerol Esters (High HLB)	Polyglyceryl-10 Stearate, Polyglyceryl-6 Oleate	Ethoxylated esters e.g. PEG-100 Stearate, PEG-40 Hydrogenated Castor Oil, Polysorbate 20
Polyglycerol Esters (Low HLB)	Polyglyceryl-2 Triisostearate, Polyglyceryl-3 Polyricinoleate	Laureth-3, Steareth-2
Sucrose Esters	Sucrose Laurate, Sucrose Stearate	High HLB Ethoxylates
Natural Anionic Emulsifiers	Sodium Stearoyl Lactylate, Sodium Stearoyl Glutamate, Glyceryl Stearyl Citrate, Potassium Cetyl Phosphate	High HLB Ethoxylates

Table 1. Natural Emulsifier systems

It is worth noting that some commonly used raw materials used alongside and often blended with synthetic emulsifiers are natural and 100% plant derived. Examples of these are Cetyl Alcohol, Cetearyl Alcohol, Stearic acid and Glyceryl Stearate. With some careful formulating these popular natural materials can be used alongside natural emulsifiers to obtain a great texture.

Water Thickeners

One of the most common ingredient categories in cosmetics that is targeted for replacement with natural ingredients is rheology modifiers and thickeners. Carbomer, a polymer of acrylic acid, is a useful and highly functional raw material specifically developed for the cosmetic industry to improve the feel, stability, and viscosity of a wide variety of cosmetic formulations such as face creams, lotions, facial and body gels, hair gel, hand sanitizer and many more. The INCI name for carbomer is usually listed as 'Carbomer' but close derivatives include Acrylates/C10-30 Alkyl Acrylate Crosspolymer and Acrylates Copolymer. Most of them produce highly viscous, transparent gels in water at a low use level. The texture and skin feel of Carbomer makes it a difficult product to replace effectively with natural alternatives. The key to replacing Carbomer effectively is defining what function it has in the selected formulation. If transparency is the key property, and the high viscosity and suspension characteristics are not that important, then products such as Cellulose Gum, transparent Xanthan Gum and Sclerotium Gum could be considered. If a high viscosity is required but transparency is not important, for example in a cream formulation, then gums such as Guar, Tara and Gellan could be considered. Table 2 below shows some natural thickener systems based on the functional properties required.

Key Property Required	Suggested natural ingredients	Notes on use
Transparency	Cellulose Gum, Xanthan Gum (certain grades), Sclerotium Gum, Locust Bean Gum (Carob), Carrageenan	Need to select those grades that are transparent. High levels of use may not be completely transparent.
High viscosity	Tara Gum, Guar Gum, Gellan Gum, Konjac, Carrageenan	Viscosity usually increases with use level, however high levels are associated with unfavorable sensory effects such as pilling.
Stabilization	Microcrystalline or microfibrillated Cellulose, Xanthan Gum, Sclerotium Gum, Gellan Gum	Thixotropy (rheology associated with shear thinning) is often a sign that a thickener is good for stabilizing emulsions.

Table 2. Natural Thickeners

Surfactants

The all-purpose surfactant Sodium Laureth Sulfate (SLES) has both natural and synthetic molecular parts, and is often targeted for removal by formulators due to ethoxylation of the Lauryl group. There are other reasons for this, not just the synthetic aspect, but also because it is a known eye and skin irritant and may not be suitable for some applications. SLES is a very effective and cheap ingredient and is not easy to replace due to its superior foam production and the fact it is salt thickened, meaning that any alternative system probably has to be thickened using another technique such as a natural gum, giving a less favorable (and more expensive) rheology. The secondary amphoteric surfactant Cocamidopropylbetaine is less often targeted for removal, however it does contain synthetic entities so in very natural products is sometimes replaced with Coco-Betaine which is 100% naturally derived.

Common natural replacements are shown in Table 3. It is worth mentioning that performance is usually compromised by substituting the synthetics and effective foaming and cleansing is difficult to achieve using only natural ingredients.

Natural Surfactant	Primary or Secondary	Classification	Notes on use
Glucosides (Decyl, Lauryl, Coco)	Primary	Non Ionic	Popular natural mild surfactants based on glucose. Not salt thickened.
Saponins (eg. Yucca, Quillaja, Soapnut, Sopawort)	Secondary / Foam Booster	Non ionic	Not highly cleansing or foaming on their own, but can be an effective additive.
Sucrose Esters (Laurate, Myristate)	Secondary	Non ionic	Effective but expensive.
Biosurfactants (Sphorolipids, Glycolipids, Rhamnolipids)	Primary or Secondary	Non ionic	Fermentation technology, foaming performance poor but acceptable cleansing.
Amino Acid based surfactants (eg. Sodium Cocoyl Glycinate)	Primary or secondary	Anionic	Very effective but relatively expensive.

Table 3. Surfactant systems to replace synthetics

Emollients

Emollients is an easy category of ingredients to replace with natural alternatives and often natural oils and esters are the first choice for many formulators due to their sensory properties. Most vegetable oils will be classified as natural and COSMOS approved; it is however worth checking with the supplier how the oil was extracted as some are hexane extracted from the seed or nut making them unsuitable for COSMOS approval. For true natural classification, oils should be cold pressed or CO₂ extracted.

There are a huge number of vegetable derived esters available and these can be considered COSMOS natural due to esterification being a permitted chemical process reaction. Many different sensory characteristics can be obtained with esters, from very light and volatile to heavy and substantive depending on the chain length, degree of saturation and branching of the fatty acids that make up the ester.

The synthetic emollient group mainly consists of paraffin oil and derivatives such as petrolatum, synthetic emollient esters and silicones. Silicones are worth a special mention as they are quite difficult to replace, particularly in haircare applications. It is hard to reproduce the slippery feel, smoothing effect and spreadability of silicones, as is the high heat stability in applications such as heat protection spray or serum. Hair conditioners that are silicone free sometimes lack the smoothing effectiveness of those containing silicones, although 'silicone free' is a popular claim for those consumers who believe build-up on hair to be a problem. Table 4 shows a selection of popular natural emollients and their properties.

* See next page for Table 4

Emollient	What it can replace	Notes for use
Vegetable oil (Sunflower, Olive, Sweet Almond etc.)	Liquid paraffin, synthetic liquid esters	Can have a heavy and occlusive feel for skincare and work best balanced with lighter esters.
Caprylic/Capric Triglyceride	Paraffin oil, Dimethicone	Similar viscosity and skin feel to paraffin oil, transparent and colorless.
Coco-Caprylate	Lighter silicones	Light ester
Dicaprylyl Ether	Cyclopentasiloxane and other volatile silicones	Very light ester
Coconut Alkanes or C9-C12 Alkanes	Volatile silicones	Light hydrocarbons with high volatility
Squalane	Liquid Paraffin	As Squalane is a hydrocarbon, it is a close (but much more expensive) natural alternative to paraffin oil.
Mixtures of wax and natural resin plus vegetable oil / butter or just vegetable butters	Petrolatum	The combination of a higher melting point wax with vegetable oils can effectively mimic the skin feel of petroleum.

Table 4. Natural Emollients

Colors

Essential to add interest or in makeup, the use of colors in cosmetics has always been a challenge. In natural cosmetics it is difficult to achieve the vibrancy and longevity of a synthetic color and some compromises need to be made. However, natural colors can be used effectively in some cases. Colors can be oil soluble, water soluble, or in the form of insoluble pigments. The water-soluble group of products include organic molecules such as blackcurrant extract (red/purple) which can color a cream or other water based preparation. These form part of a group of molecules known as anthocyanins and other examples in this group include colored potatoes, flowers and carrots. Another common natural colorant is Annetto, which contains Bixin and Norbixin, a yellow oil soluble color. Other natural colors include Chlorophyll (green), Beta-Carotene (orange), Curcumin (Yellow-Orange) and Betanin from Beetroot (Red/Purple). Some of these compounds have a pH requirement and are more stable on the acidic side. Many do not claim to be fully light stable on a long term basis so caution is needed when using them.

In the natural pigments (insoluble) sector, compounds such as Iron Oxides (brown) and Vegetable carbon (black) can be used, alongside colored substances such as flower petals, crushed fruit and vegetables and peels. Many of these natural colors can be derived from the food industry, although in cosmetics the shelf life is normally longer, so colors need to be more light and pH stable.

Fragrances

This category is fairly easy to replace with natural alternatives, but care needs to be taken from a regulatory and safety point of view. Essential oils can be very effective fragrance oil substitutes, however the level of use in a final product and the advice for different types of products needs to be taken into account as they are potentially irritant and toxic raw materials even though they are natural. As an example, Wintergreen oil is toxic at fairly low levels, and cinnamon and clove can cause skin irritation. Another consideration when using essential oils is that they do not contain the carrier oils, solvents, stabilizers and other synthetic components of fragrance oils. This means that they may change over time in a cosmetic product, or even fade away easily.

However, there are many natural cosmetic products that successfully use essential oils as their fragrance component without the use of synthetic compounds, even though this is an expensive option.

Preservatives

A notoriously difficult category of materials to replace, the field of truly natural preservatives is small and not particularly effective. In order to replace broad spectrum preservative systems such as Phenoxyethanol and Ethylhexylglycerin, a blend of different natural ingredients need to be used. One common way to improve the efficacy and reduce the amount of preservative required is to add humectants such as Glycerin, 1,2 Propanediol or Butylene glycol. This will reduce water activity as well as overall water % and help with natural preservation. Anhydrous or nearly anhydrous products could also be considered for the same reason.

If water-based preservatives are required, there are some natural choices available, for example Lactobacillus Ferment, which is a probiotic, although it does require an acidic or neutral pH to work. Other systems include variations on Benzoic acid, Benzyl Alcohol, Potassium Sorbate and Sodium Benzoate, which are classified as natural systems even though they are synthesized. Other extracts such as Magnolia extract, Grapefruit seed Extract and Naticide (INCI: Fragrance) can be used, although they are often most effective when combined with boosters such as Caprylyl Alcohol Caprylic Acid, Gluconolactone or Glyceryl Caprylate.

Face Cream

Ingredient	Function	% w/w	Natural alternative	% w/w	Notes
Water	Solvent	qs	Water	qs	
Propylene Glycol	Humectant	5	Vegetable Glycerin	5	Could also use naturally derived PG
PEG-100 Stearate	Emulsifier	3	Polyglyceryl-10 Stearate	3	Or any high HLB emulsifier
Glyceryl Stearate	Co-Emulsifier	3	Glyceryl Stearate	3	No need to substitute
Paraffinum Liquidum	Emollient	10	Caprylic/Capric Triglyceride	10	Gives a similar skin feel and also colorless
Petrolatum	Emollient	5	Shea Butter	5	Gives a similar rich feel
Carbomer	Thickener	0.1	Xanthan Gum	0.5	Higher level required
CI 15850	Pink Color	0.1	Red Carrot Extract	0.1	Natural colorant
Parfum	Fragrance	0.5	Rosa Damascena Flower Oil	0.5	Natural fragrance
Phenoxyethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin	Preservative	1	Lactobacillus Ferment	3	Natural preservative
Citric Acid	pH adjuster	qs	Citric acid	qs	No need to substitute

Shampoo

Ingredient	Function	% w/w	Natural alternative	% w/w	Notes
Water	Solvent	qs	Water	qs	
Sodium Laureth Sulfate	Primary Surfactant	30	Sodium Cocoyl Glycinate	30	Or other natural alternative
Cocamidopropyl Betaine	Secondary Surfactant	10	Coco-Glucoside or Coco-Betaine	10	Or other natural alternative
Dimethiconol	Smoothing agent	5	Coconut Oil	5	Gives a similar smoothing effect
Glycerin	Humectant	10	Glycerin	10	No need to substitute
Carbomer	Thickener	0.1	Xanthan Gum	0.5	Higher level required
Phenoxyethanol, Ethylhexylglycerin	Preservative	1	Gluconolactone, Sodium Benzoate	1	Natural preservative
Citric Acid	pH adjuster	qs	Citric acid	qs	No need to substitute

Conclusion

Replacement of synthetic ingredients with natural ingredients is not as simple as removal of each material one by one and substituting it. Care needs to be taken to keep good stability and texture and produce a finished formulation that the consumer will accept, even at a higher price. It is anticipated that the trend for sustainable, plant based ingredients will continue.

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THE LEGEND OF ZORRO AN OLD SCC HISTORIAN



There are many legends of the old west. Billy the kid, the miner 49er, The lone ranger are some of the more recognizable names. One such legend, however, has been known for decades...Zorro.

The legend is synonymous with the Robinhood of old, fighting for justice and the rule of law. Such a legend exists today. However, only old-timers know his true name, whispered in the gusts of the Santa Ana winds...John Luna.

For the past few months, I have been trying to find this elusive character, using my old Mossad tracking skills. I was fortunate enough to find an old monk, who was sworn to silence that knew how to connect with Zorro. Through many silent exchanges of hand-written notes, I was able to secure a meeting with the infamous character.

On a dark and stormy night, I walked into an old dusty bar at an undisclosed location in the desert. He was sitting in a darkened corner of the restaurant, waiting for my arrival. We had a few shots of whiskey before we started speaking.

My first question was:

How did the name Zorro come about? **Debbie Pierce, then the VP of California Tan and myself with Tri-k would throw an annual Halloween party and I would always dress up as El Zorro, mostly because I kept the costume after the first year. It then took on a deeper meaning, I truly became El Hombre De La Noche. Selling Tri-K goods during the day, rescuing damsels in distress at night, there was no time to rest.**

When did you start in the cosmetic Industry and who molded you? **I started in 1982 as a salesman for Tri-K Industries. I quickly made friends with John Garruto who just recently retired from the Industry. I would say he and the co-owner of Tri-K, Charlie Buffa molded me and if you know those two people, it kind of makes sense.**

When not on the road fighting for justice and the American way, you are known to mesmerize unsuspecting cosmetic chemists with your musical skills. What instrument do you play and when did you decide to pick up your side kicks known as "The unstable Emulsions"? **Well I cannot take credit for started the band or the name, that came from my buddy, John Mizialko who was the leader of the band and keyboard player, his wife Jan was our first vocalist. I was the drummer for the ten years or so we were together, we would only play once a year at a Suppliers day party until they started having their own big party a few years ago. I have retired playing the drums but have been thinking of picking them up again.**

Rumor has it that you had a short, but fruitful stint as an SCC historian, much like myself? Did you enjoy the assignment? Can you impart your wisdom on how you came up with your articles? **I was asked by John Garruto to become the Historian but apparently my articles were slightly unorthodox to say the least so I was then fired which kind of shocked me, not many people**



THE LEGEND OF ZORRO AN OLD SCC HISTORIAN



can say they got fired from a volunteer position. A few years later, Mauricio “El Duque” Castro became SCC Chairman and reinstated me for a second term. Sadly I was fired yet again this time from Stephanie Ross who was chairwoman but on the upside I don’t think many can say they were fired twice from a volunteer job, I hold that distinct honor!! I wrote the articles for pure entertainment but there was always a kernel of truth and probably not more than that. Erica with your sense of humor, you are the perfect person for this job.

Your beautiful daughter has taken on the family legacy. What did you do to encourage her to enter such a challenging field? I remember when Sandi was in 6th grade, we had take your daughter to work day. We went to Neutrogena where she met Carol Collins, Lewis “LewDog” Bealer, Minerva Villamor, and El Duque. From that day on she wanted to be in this industry. She joined me at Deveraux back in 2010, right out of college, she started her own company, Create Actives in 2022. I could not be more proud of her! By the way, her two little monsters, Gabe and Benny call me Z Pa.

What other hobbies do you have, aside from negotiating skills to lower costs from the suppliers that are robbing us blind? **Keeping active is key with cycling, hiking, walking, etc. Sedentary way of life is not good at any age.**

What are your retirement plans? **As of now I will be this Deveraux for at least another year and after that, who knows. I think I would be a good greeter at Walmart, I can also work the product section at Ralphs, the skies the limit!!**

The hour grew late and I knew I was over the time limit for questions. I thanked Zorro for the interview, knowing that we may never meet again. As we drove off, I could see the outline of a “Z” in the dust stirred up by his car driving into the dark night.



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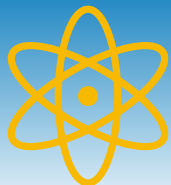
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REGULATORY UPDATES



USA

FDA

- MoCRA-The FDA issued updated guidance on Cosmetic Product Facility Registration and Product Listing- The guidance clarified a few a few points of interest in the Appendix and FAQs sections regarding responsibilities of the US agent, multiple buildings with the same FEI#, and requirements for promotional gifts and free samples.
- The FDA Issued draft guidance for Tattoo Inks, “Insanitary Conditions in the Preparation, Packing, and Holding of Tattoo Inks and the Risk of Microbial Contamination.”
- Warning Letter- A Tom’s of Maine factory was issued a warning letter for cGMP concerns.
- Warning Letter-Catwalk Labs was issued a warning letter for cGMP concerns.

PCPC

- Urged Trump to support MoCRA and implementation.

California

- Safer Consumer Products (SCP) – held a workshop to discuss the potential of listing Butyl- and Propylparaben for leave-on Products in December. Comment period open till Jan 16, 2025.

Recalls

- Baby Powder recalled for Asbestos concerns. In Oct. 2024, Dynarex Corp. expanded it’s recall over potential for asbestos contamination.
- 3 Products recalled by Drug Elephant due to an ingredient mix-up of surfactant and preservative.

Benzene

- A new study published in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology found that 111 Benzoyl Peroxide containing products exceeded the OTC drug limit for Benzene, indicating that UV may affect Benzene formation.



REGULATORY UPDATES



INTERNATIONAL

EU

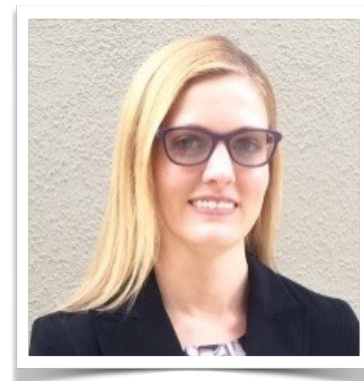
- The European Commission held a webinar on Ecolabel standards for sustainable cosmetics in Dec. 2024.
- ECHA tested products and founds hundreds of cosmetics that contain toxic, cancer causing, hormone disruption, and fertility issues, “forever chemicals”.
- EU SCCS consults on an opinion for Red. No. 18.

New Zealand

- The EPA bans PFAs in cosmetics by changed the Cosmetic Products Group Standard.

Canada

- Companies are required to provide required info on PFAs by Jan 29, 2025 for consideration by Health Canada.



Ariana Farina



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SUMMER EVENT 2024 RECAP

This summer, the Society of Cosmetic Chemists, California Chapter, hit the lanes for a strikingly fun bowling event that was nothing short of spectacular! Members gathered at Xlanes in DTLA for an evening filled with strikes, spares, and plenty of laughs.

From the moment the pins started falling, it was clear that our community of cosmetic chemists knows how to have a good time both in and out of the lab. Teams formed, friendly rivalries sparked, and the competition was fierce, but the camaraderie and shared passion for #CASCC was even brighter.

As the night progressed, the sounds of laughter and cheers filled the air, creating an atmosphere of joy and connection. Whether you were a bowling pro or just there for the fun, everyone had a blast. The event was a fantastic opportunity to unwind, network, and make new friends within our CASCC community.

Special thanks to all who attended and made the evening such a success. A big shoutout to our event sponsors: Above Rinaldi Labs, Presperse, TCR and Nilokj Inc. Until our next event, keep those bowling skills sharp and remember, life is like a bowling ball: sometimes you're on a roll, and other times you just got to pick yourself out the gutter!

See you all soon.

Your 2024 Chair-Elect,
Brittney C. Strickland

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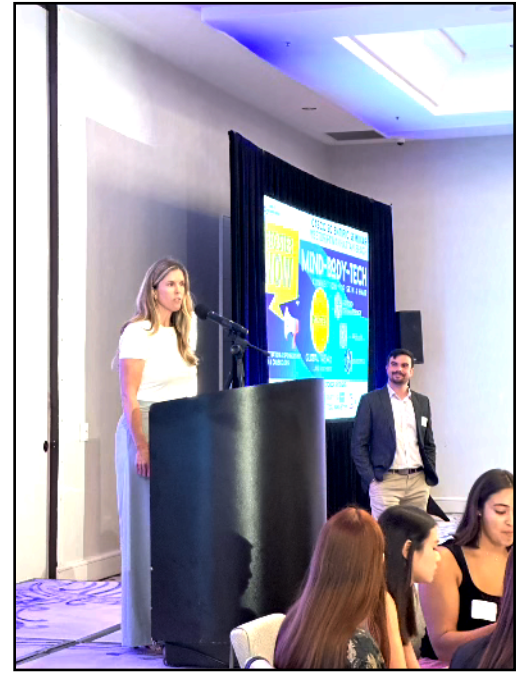
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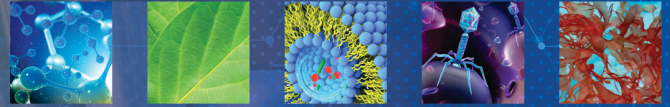
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Joey Bilotta
jbilotta.scc@gmail.com

REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Ariana Farina
afarina20@hotmail.com

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Josie Wauford - Editor
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