COSMEGRAM

November 2026 • Vol 56 | Issue 7

MONTHLY MEETING - NOVEMBER 2026

Uncovering Interactions between Sunscreens and the Skin Microbiome: A Clinical & Bacterial Analysis

Speaker: Dr. AJ Addae - Global Head of R&D, Murad, Adjunct Professor, Nova Southeastern University



Dr. AJ Addae is a cosmetic chemist, clinical researcher, and product developer. She earned a B.S. in Biology from Northeastern University, and a M.S. and PhD in chemistry from UCLA. Her academic research introduces new analytical methods for evaluating sunscreen performance and white cast, alongside studying the effects of sunscreen use on the skin microbiome. Alongside this, Dr. Addae is the founder of award-winning cosmetic product development laboratory SULA LABS, an adjunct professor of cosmetic science at Nova Southeastern University's pharmacy graduate program, and she currently serves as the Global Head of R&D at Murad. Her work has earned scientific recognition from platforms like BeautyMatter and CEW, and she was named a top 30 product developer by Beauty Independent. Ultimately, her broader research interests center on understanding how cosmetic formulation influences interactions with the skin and hair, with an emphasis on introducing more inclusive approaches to the field.

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November 17, 2026
5:00 - 8:30 PM

Huntington Beach Hyatt Regency
21500 Pacific Coast Hwy
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

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LETTER FROM *The Editor*

Can you believe how fast this year has flown by?! We've had so many great events this year from our staples like the Dinner Dance and Golf Outing to our special Cooking Class and Scientific Seminar. We know how to have fun while staying on top of all the latest in the industry 😉

Excited to have the SCC Annual Meeting back in LA this year. Be sure to check out the issue for more details on SCC80 and the After-Party! There's so much you don't want to miss in this issue!

If you would like to contribute any content for future issues, please reach out to me. We are always looking for new ways to keep our community engaged and informed.

I want to thank you all for a great 2026 and look forward to seeing you all in the new year!

Josie Wauford
Lubrizol
Cosmegram Editor 2025
josie.wauford@lubrizol.com



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UPCOMING 2026 Events

JAN 20	**UNIVERSAL SHERATON** Universal City, CA
FEB 17	**WEST DRIFT** Manhattan Beach, CA
MAR 17	**AVENUE OF THE ARTS** Costa Mesa, CA
APR 21	**THE BOX SF** San Francisco, CA
MAY 12	**DUKE'S** Malibu, CA
JUN 6	**DINNER DANCE** Long Beach, CA
JUN 27	**SUMMER EVENT** Santa Monica, CA
SEP 22	**SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR** Los Angeles, CA
OCT 6	**GOLF OUTING** Cypress, CA
NOV 17	**HUNTINGTON BEACH HYATT** Huntington Beach, CA
DEC 1-2	**SCC 80th ANNUAL MEETING** Los Angeles, CA

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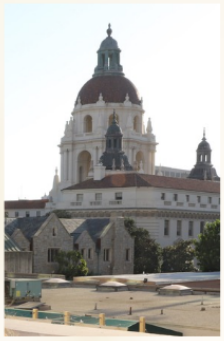
2026 CASCC SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR

THE SKIN FRONTIER: FUTURE OF SKIN CARE

The Westin Pasadena

SEP 22 2026





Thank you for attending!

Thank You for Making the CA SCC Scientific Seminar 2026 a Success
On September 22, 2026, more than 200 members and guests gathered at the CA SCC Scientific Seminar 2026 in Pasadena for a day of learning, networking, and inspiration. The program featured two engaging panel discussions covering skin and scalp health as well as innovative active ingredient suppliers, with presentations from Aegean H. Chan, Zoë Indigo, Robyn Watkins, Narjis A. Askar, Philip Luudwig, Blanca Martinez, and Patricia Moreira.

The day concluded with an inspiring keynote from Gloria Lu and Victoria Fu, co-founders of Chemist Confessions, who shared their unique perspectives on science communication and the future of skincare.

Thank you to our speakers, sponsors, volunteers, and attendees for making this event such a success. We enjoyed beautiful weather, excellent hospitality from the Westin Pasadena, and valuable time connecting with colleagues across our cosmetic science community. We look forward to seeing you at our next CA SCC event!

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SCC80 FIFTH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING & SHOWCASE
DECEMBER 1 - 2, 2026 | JW MARRIOTT LA LIVE LOS ANGELES, CA

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TUESDAY DECEMBER 1, 2026

8:30 PM AFTER SCC80

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DECEMBER 1-2, 2026 | LOS ANGELES, CA

The Glossy AFTER-PARTY

SCIENCE BY DAY. GLOSSY BY NIGHT.

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1. Head to National SCC site: **scconline.org**
2. Log in as if you're registering for SCC80
3. Click "Register to Attend"
4. Select "Pay Now"
5. Update/Review your contact info
6. Choose **"CA Chapter After Party"** under registration options

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Are you ready to take your beauty-industry career to the next level? The California Society of Cosmetic Chemists (CASCC) offers several scholarship and grant opportunities to help students and professionals deepen their expertise, attend key industry events, and accelerate their professional growth. Whether you're eyeing attendance at the National Convention, upskilling through educational programs, or joining our signature Suppliers' Day and Future Chemist Workshop, we've got you covered. Check out the full list of awards and apply today! Your next big step in cosmetic science could be just one submission away!

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Regulatory Updates

USA

FDA

- The FDA clarified that they don't provide certificates or other such confirmation that facilities are in compliance with cosmetic facility registration. This was in response to the FDA receiving an increased number of requests for these types of documents.
- The FDA clarified that cosmetic product listings under MoCRA does not mean that the cosmetic is FDA approved.
- FDA final administrative order- to remove PABA and Trolamine Salicylate from the monograph approved actives.

California

- SCP:
  a. Workshop on Nov. 5, 2026 – Children's products containing ortho-phthalates.
- OEHHA:
  a. Vinyl Acetate intent to list draft comment period was open till Oct. 21, 2026. Also a webinar was held on this topic on Sept 30, 2026.
  b. Atrazine- Intent to list announced with comment period open till Nov. 9, 2026.
- Bill Passed AB 1744 -Regulates environmental Advertising of Sunscreen, particularly what can be claimed to be "reef safe" and other similar claims cannot be made if the product contains what are defined as "chemical" UV filters.
- Bill Passed AB 2246 – Creates new requirements for websites likely accessed by children.

Washington

- Interim. Lead Policy - Dept. of Ecology confirmed that the interim policy will no longer expire on Dec. 31, 2026 for now until the rule is update or removed. And for the companies that chose option 2 of the interim. Policy, the department has randomly chose 10 companies to submit their data.

INTERNATIONAL

Australia

- Has proposed making higher dose retinol products prescription only, which might drop the cosmetic limit from 1% to as low as 0.05%. Stay tuned....



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The History of Korean Beauty

It is an unavoidable trend. K-beauty has taken hold of the entire world, which made me think, how did this trend start? How did a small country in Asia become the Milan of skincare fashion?

Several years ago, before K-pop, Demon hunter and BTS success, Korea was not known for flawless, glowing skin. The typical routine of the average citizen in that country was washing your face with soap. However, it is a little known fact that the historical beauty practices of the Noblewomen with clear complexions involved natural ingredients such as rice water, mung beans, honey and other botanical extracts. It was a very minimalistic skincare routine that focused on clear healthy skin, rather than heavy make-up. During the Joseon Dynasty, beauty became closely linked to elegance, health and refinement. Pale, even-toned skin was considered highly desirable, largely because it reflected life that was spent indoors, rather than working outdoors in the sun.

Rapid economic growth of this small nation in the last decade with technological innovations, gave rise to a thriving beauty industry. And so, it was the start of what is now called the Skin-care arms race between multiple research laboratories. A 3-step system of cleansing, toning and moisturizing became an insane 17 step ritual. Common ingredients used are Bee venom, Centella Asiatica, Fermented yeast extracts, Propolis, Mugwort and Snail mucin. I guess it was decided that if a snail can survive crawling across a sidewalk, maybe it knew something about staying hydrated??

Here is an example of a typical routine (minus a few steps):

1. Cleansing oil
2. Water cleanser
3. Exfoliation
4. Toning
5. Essence
6. Serum
7. Ampoule
8. Another serum...why not?!
9. Sheet mask
10. Moisturizer
11. Eye cream
12. Sleeping pack
13. Other specialty skin treatments

For some reason, women across the globe adopted this approach and it became an international fad. With the help of internet videos and influencers with perfect glowing skin, this routine has become an international success with no end in sight.

The History of Korean Beauty

Enter the age of “Glass skin”. Personally, I find this trend to be a little weird. The skin looks like a greasy mess. However, the result of having skin that looks perfectly polished, that it reflected light, somehow became trendy.

And so, by the year 2020, Korean beauty had become a worldwide phenomenon. Products are filling the shelved from Los Angeles to London. We were introduced to terms such as “Cushion compacts”, Essence, double cleansing. These products also made customers more ingredient aware, with more curiosity about the percent of beneficial ingredients such as Niacinamide.

K-beauty also gave rise to more creative packaging from supercute mascots, to highly elegant compacts. It also made the customer more aware that skincare is not a quick fix, but a change of lifestyle and a long term commitment.

Currently the ingredients being researched range from Mushroom spores, volcanic flowers and Sea cucumber enzymes.

Other nations are also joining this trend such as J-Beauty (Japan) and C-Beauty from China.

Very exciting times to be a skincare formulator!

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!



Erica Herrel

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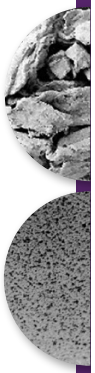



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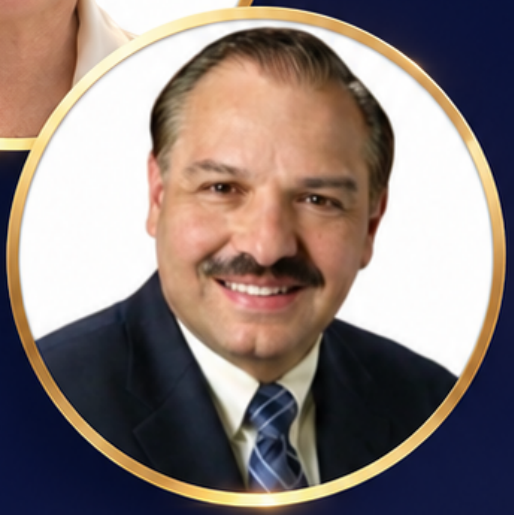

Guest Speaker

Robert J. Bianchini, Ph.D., AAD

Dermalogica

Date
November 10, 2026

Time
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Location
westdrift Manhattan Beach

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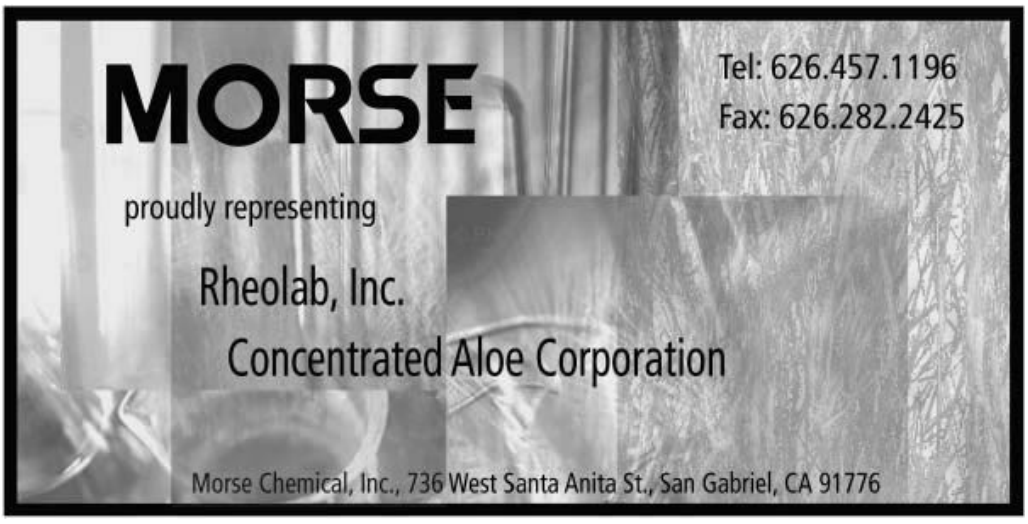

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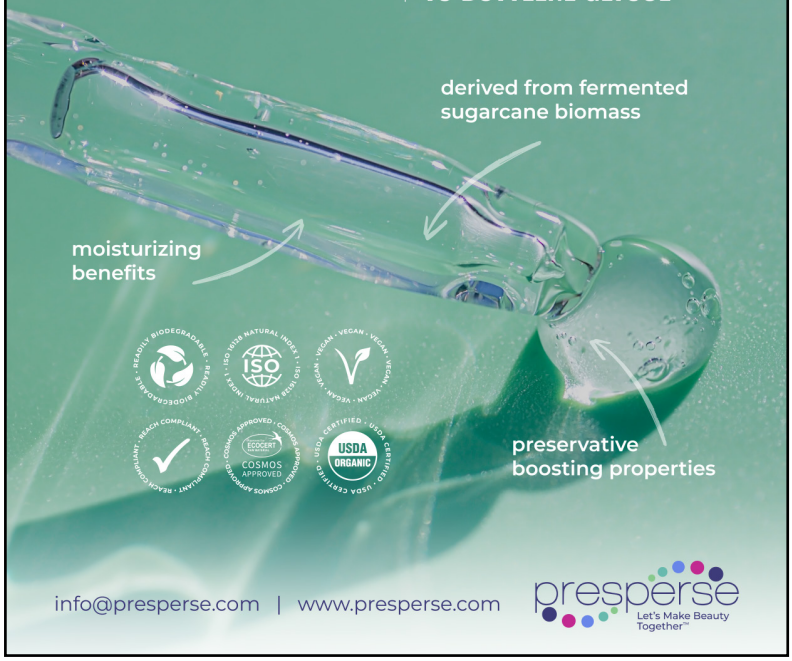

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