Have Questions?

Type them into questions box!

“Why am I muted?”
Don’t worry. Everyone is muted except the presenter and host.
Thank you and enjoy the show.

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  How do ideas make it from the lab to the real world? Discover the ins and outs of the chemical industry whether you are looking to start a business or desire a priceless industry-wide perspective.

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ACS Career Navigator: Your Home for Career Services

Whether you are just starting your journey, transitioning jobs, or looking to brush up or learn new skills, the ACS Career Navigator has the resources to point you in the right direction.

We have a collection of career resources to support you during this global pandemic:

- Professional Education
- Virtual Career Consultants
- ACS Leadership Development System
- Career Navigator LIVE!
- ChemIDP
- College to Career
- ACS Webinars
- Virtual Classrooms

Visit [www.ACS.org/COVID19-Network](http://www.ACS.org/COVID19-Network) to learn more!

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A Career Planning Tool For Chemical Scientists

ChemIDP is an Individual Development Plan designed specifically for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in the chemical sciences. Through immersive, self-paced activities, users explore potential careers, determine specific skills needed for success, and develop plans to achieve professional goals. ChemIDP tracks user progress and input, providing tips and strategies to complete goals and guide career exploration.

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How to Survive a Life in Chemistry in a Post-COVID-19 World

JOE MARTINO
Career Consultant and Presenter,
American Chemical Society

TOM HALLERAN
Career Consultant Program,
American Chemical Society

Presentation slides are available now! The edited recording will be made available as soon as possible.

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The Enemy: Still Here, But We’re Winning!
What pathway in your chemistry career are you following?

- Industry
- Academic
- Government
- Entrepreneurship (a.k.a: Working for Yourself)
- Other (Tell us more in the chat)

* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!

What we’ll discuss . . .

- What has happened?
- Where are we now?
- Thoughts on where we are going.

Tips and tricks presented throughout the presentation.
What has happened?

WE’VE GONE THROUGH PLENTY!

- One year of COVID-19 – close to 600,000 deaths.
- Very uneven rollout of COVID-19 mitigation procedures from state to state!
- Politicization of mask-wearing – some wear them and some don’t.
- Fallout from the death of George Floyd.
What has happened?

What has happened?
What has happened?

THE U.S. HAS ENDURED UNPRECEDENTED TRAUMA!

- Americans are grieving, exhausted and angry – and these emotions are very palpable!
- Our children have experienced a trauma that we as children did not.
- Trust in government institutions has eroded.
- Trust in the stability of American Democracy has been shaken.

All of this is unprecedented in our lifetimes.
From last year’s talk:

• Academic institutions are in “suspended animation”
  – Restricted to essential personnel
  – Minimal staff present due to social distancing rules
  – Virtualization

• Industry
  – Team approach
  – Potential for shift work, due to demand and to accommodate social distancing
  – Virtualization of non-laboratory work

Where are we now?

• Academic institutions are pushing to return to normal
  – Some universities requiring COVID-19 vaccinations (e.g.: Rutgers).
  – Some are targeting opening to as full a capacity as possible in as safe a manner as possible.
  – Strong preference toward in-person, traditional learning (though some elements of the virtual experience will probably remain).

• Industry
  – Employers encouraging employees to get vaccinated for COVID-19, especially those in the lab and travelling.
  – Work-from-home options will be more plentiful than before.
  – Zoom meetings and job interviews – for better or worse – are here to say. They are cost-effective and reduce travel.
In general, how do you feel about video conferencing?

- Love it
- Like it
- Are neutral about it
- Hate it

* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!
Video Conferencing Changes

- **Free options available – but with restrictions**
  - FreeConferenceCall.com, Google Meet, Zoom has a free, but limited option
- **Skype, Google Hangouts, WhatsApp and LinkedIn offer free video chats**
  - If you subscribe to Google Fi, you can make calls through Google Messaging.
- **Takeaway:** Set up a free teleconferencing account – but read the fine print! The freebies from last year are not necessarily there!

Video Conferencing Tips – These Haven’t Changed

- **Test drive your service and equipment** – get familiar with it before you go live.
- **Be aware of your background!** Use something neutral or use the service’s “background blur” or artificial background.
- **Dress appropriately!** Business casual is acceptable, but when interviewing, you should wear business formal (i.e.: interview suit)!
- **Accept the fact that video conferencing robs you of privacy** – you will be at home doing this!
Structure and Self-Discipline
A Review From Last Year – This Didn’t Change!

Adding Structure and Self-Discipline

- **What time do you get up to go to work?** Get up at that time!
- **Get dressed as if you’re going to work** – no fuzzy slippers!
- **What time do you go to lunch? Take a break?** Keep those times!
- Beware that you’ll be doing more time in front of a computer!
  - Check ergonomics
  - Take a break from the computer screen
- **Find a way to exercise!**
- **Find a way to socialize!**
Adding Structure and Self-Discipline

- **Make a list!**
  - Write down the tasks that you need to accomplish in one day
  - Do the simplest things first – gives you a sense of accomplishment

- **Track your accomplishments**
  - If you’re working from home, document your work as if you were in the office
  - If you’re furloughed or in transition, summarize any networking conversations for future reference

- **Reward yourself for a job well done!**

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**Audience Survey Question**

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT

In general, how do you feel about networking?

- Love it
- Like it
- Are neutral about it
- Hate it

*If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!*
From Virtual to Hybrid

• We are slowly – but surely – going back to an in-person modality.

• It will most likely not be the same as pre-COVID-19, but a hybrid.
  
  – Zoom meetings are here to stay.
  
  – People are by nature social, so there is a need for in-person contact.
    
    • We are chemists. Virtual lab work is not an option!
    
    • Students need – and are demanding – an in-person option!

From Virtual to Hybrid

• Employers are encouraging their employees to return to the office
  
  – Lab work
  
  – Meeting with external clients
  
  – Unevenness of COVID-19 mitigation protocols
Networking Tips

Why Get Vaccinated For Networking?

• You’re doing your part to end the COVID-19 pandemic.
• You will be saving lives – including possibly your own!
• You are returning control of things back to where it belongs – in your hands!
• You are protecting yourself from others who for whatever reason don’t believe in vaccines or masks.
• You are giving yourself flexibility since COVID-19 mitigation protocols vary from place to place.
When Networking . . .

- Be professional! Now is not the time to be casual!
- Avoid politics or COVID-19 in any networking conversation.
- Do not drink any alcoholic beverages at all.
- **Practice patience.** All of us have undergone a trauma.
- **Show empathy!**

Networking in a virtual world: A Review

- Sign up for a free conferencing service
  - Virtual “face time”
- **Utilize LinkedIn** (and if you still don’t have a LinkedIn account, sign up for one!)
- Pick up the phone!
- Email!
- Reach out to networking groups to see if they need help during this time
- The key here is to maintain your network (and if you’re vaccinated, you might have the option to do this in person!)
Fill the gap! A Review

- Remember: Employers will ask what you have been doing during COVID-19 lockdown!
- Volunteer for a professional organization (wink, wink, nod, nod)
- Why?
  - It develops skill sets that you may not be able to develop at work
  - It develops your network (and more importantly, advocates)
  - Solid resume experience
- Online courses and classes
- For some, consulting

The Solution!

BE AS FLEXIBLE AS NOODLES!
ACS Career Resources

ACS Career Consultant Virtual Office Hours
(Reserved exclusively for ACS members)

May 6 - Register
May 13 - Register
May 20 - Register

ACS Members can join a weekly moderated group session to:

- Ask questions about resume writing and video interviewing
- Learn to optimize your LinkedIn profile
- Get tips on successful networking
- Find additional ACS career resources and more!

https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/careers/personal-career-consulting.html

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