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INDUSTRY MATTERS

Information, insights, and advice for ACS industry members

January 30, 2020

Kevin Edgar spent 30 years with Eastman Chemical Company, followed by 13 years with Virginia Tech. Read what he has to say on all manners of the relationship between industry and academia. And be sure to read the question about his Dad – a WWII B-17 crew member. In fact, if you read just one answer, read that one.

Frankie Wood-Black, in the latest “On the Safe Side,” talks about fires, and how your training might not adequately focus on prevention.

Did you make a critical error at work? Let the Career Consultants advise you on how to mitigate the damage, and move your career forward.

*John C. Katz
Executive Editor*

WHAT I LEARNED

"Having spent nearly 30 years working at Eastman Chemical Company, and now 13 years at Virginia Tech (VT), what advice do you have for young chemists debating whether to opt for a career in industry vs. academia?"



Kevin Edgar

Professor,
Virginia Tech Department of Sustainable
Biomaterials

"The path I was able to take (first industry, then academia) was ideal. Industry taught the frontiers in my discipline. Industry provided all of the professional development skills that one does not get (or anyway, not in my day)..." [Read More](#)

CAREER CORNER

"I made an impactful error at work – how do I regain credibility in the eyes of my colleagues and my boss?"

Tamara Herman, ACS Career Consultant:

"Crucial errors at work will affect your reputation. These are some ways to remedy this situation:

A. Accept the..."

Samina Azad, R&D Manager, PLZ Aerospace Corporation:

"Smart bosses know that not being afraid to make mistakes is a big part of innovation and creativity that today's..."

Joseph Moore, Technical Applications Specialist, DuPont:

"Take ownership and show your willingness..."

ON THE SAFE SIDE

Starting the Fire

It seems that fire has been a "hot topic." The recent incident in Texas and the wildfires in Australia, fire has been in the headlines. Hopefully, due to our education and chosen profession, you have an understanding of... [Read More](#)



Frankie Wood-Black
Safety Expert

LINKEDIN LEARNING COURSE

What you most need to know from an industry-connected LinkedIn Learning Course. Today's course: Strategic Thinking

When you start out at an organization, doing the tasks you're told will benefit you. In the long run, though, doing only that will stall your career. To make an impact at your organization, you must be able to...[Read More](#)

COMING SOON

- Do you think about the work that goes into designing your medicine? Pfizer's Charlotte Allerton does.
- Is a company culture that important? Career Consultant Joe Martino says yes.
- We want to hear from you! Look out for our brief survey.

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MORE FROM ACS

ACS Career Day returns to the DC Metro Area!

All chemists are invited to attend ACS Career Day on February 8th in Washington, DC. The one day event will feature career building workshops and networking opportunities recruiters and more. ACS Members can sign-up onsite to meet with ACS Career Consultants. [Register now for this FREE career day.](#)

Top non-technical skills sought by CTOs



If you missed last week's issue... See what 14 CTOs say about non-technical skills they most highly value among scientists. [Go to the infographic](#)



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