So far at least, COVID-19 is an untamed beast that is ravaging the world’s health and prosperity. It will be subdued, in time. Amid all the bad news, we asked 8 industry veterans to find some positives that will emerge from this ordeal. They have many to share with you.

“Don’t be afraid of a challenge” – those are the words of Ivona Sasimovich, an early career chemist profiled in this issue. You’ll see similar words spoken by Vanessa Chan, an educator, entrepreneur, and innovator, as well as Allen Clauss, an ACS career consultant. All of them agree that in order to grow, you need to take on challenges, overcome fear, and equate disappointment with learning.

Finally, our LinkedIn Learning summary examines leading global teams, and the unique opportunities the situation presents.

John C. Katz
Executive Editor

COVID-19 FEATURE

"As you have been forced to adapt to the fallout from COVID-19, what have you learned that will benefit you when it passes?"

"It is reassuring that people will do their part to promote safety and overcome..." Read more from past What I Learned contributors
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Ivona Sasimovich
Development Chemist
International Flavors & Fragrances, Inc.

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Allen Clauss
President,
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QUOTABLE

“One reason some adults become seriously unwell with the virus is because their body triggers a huge immune response — a so-called cytokine storm - that can affect the heart and lungs. 'Imagine you have a couple of thieves coming into a village and you bring in an army and some cannons to fight them,' explained Gary Wong, a pediatrics professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. 'You get rid of the thieves but destroy the village.' ”

- Financial Times, May 9

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