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Information, insights, and advice for ACS industry members

July 1, 2019

Welcome to the 7.4.19 issue. We're delivering it early so it won't get lost in the glare of the fireworks. Something new to this issue: A short summary highlighting what you most need to know from of an industry-connected LinkedIn Learning Course. In addition, Boss Talk with Thomas Foust, Director of the Nat'l Renewable Energy Lab's National Bioenergy Center, and What I Learned with Dow's Mark Jones. Lots of great insights in this issue. Happy 4th!

John C. Katz
Executive Editor

[BOSS TALK](#)

Insights and advice from a senior executive in the chemical industry



Thomas Foust, Director, National Renewable Energy Laboratory's National Bioenergy Center (NBC)

[With a B.S., M.E., and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering, how did you supplement that technical expertise with the necessary management and executive leadership skills to obtain your position as Director of the National Renewable Energy](#)

[Laboratory's National Bioenergy Center?](#)

I realized very early in my career that I was attracted to the challenges of management and leadership and was informed by many early mentors and managers that I had a good aptitude for leadership. Thus, I applied and was accepted to a fairly large number of... [Read More](#).

[CAREER CORNER](#)

ACS Career Consultants and other experts answer questions about advancing your career in industry

[Question: What do I do if my request for a raise gets turned down?](#)



Frank Romano, Field Service Engineer, Agilent Technologies, Inc.

I would ask my manager what I could do moving forward to improve my chance of getting my raise approved in the future. I would maintain open communication... [Read More](#).



Martin Oderinde, Senior Research Investigator, Bristol Meyers Squibb

You should start looking for other opportunities outside... [Read More](#).



Mary Dery, Senior Scientist II, Project Manager, BASF

Ask for specifics about accomplishments required to be considered for a

raise. Also, do you have benchmark... [Read More](#).



Dana Ferraris, Principal Scientist, Johns Hopkins University

I've never actually been in that situation. Then again, I've never done my job strictly for financial reasons either. I've always thought that the companies... [Read More](#).

[WHAT I LEARNED](#)

Observations and reflections from chemists with decades of experience working in industry



Mark E. Jones, Ph.D., Executive External Strategy and Communications Fellow, The Dow Chemical Company

[You have enjoyed a long, successful career at Dow. What are the most critical non-technical skills that enabled your success?](#)

"I don't know" is a sentence that should be used more. Adding the clause, "but I will sure find out" can be pretty helpful, too. Admitting when I don't know something... [Read More](#).

[LINKEDIN LEARNING COURSE](#)

What you most need to know from an industry-connected LinkedIn Learning Course. Today's course: Leading and Working in Teams

Academic, industry and government organizations are all dependent on [work done by teams](#). In her course, "Leading and Working in Teams," Amy Edmondson of Harvard Business School describes what distinguishes a team

that thrives from one that merely survives. Amy starts by explaining the difference between "Teams" and "Teaming"... [Read More](#).

[QUOTABLE](#)

"When you listen, it's amazing what you can learn. When you act on what you've learned, it amazing what you can change."

Audrey McLaughlin, Canadian Politician

[MORE FROM ACS](#)

Chemours sponsors [U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad](#) program

Four high school students will be representing the U.S. in the [51st International Chemistry Olympiad](#) in Paris from July 21–30. The members of the U.S. team were chosen based on their performance at last month's intensive Chemistry Olympiad [Study Camp](#) at the University of Maryland, College Park. The study camp – which included [20 of the nation's top high school chemistry students](#) -- was organized by the American Chemical Society and sponsored by Chemours. [Read More](#).

[Research spending continues on an upward trajectory](#)

For the second year in a row, chemical companies ratcheted up investments devoted to novel products and process experimentation. Over the past 10 years, R&D spending, like the economy, has ebbed and flowed. Collective spending by 19 of the 20 companies surveyed... [Read More](#).

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American Chemical Society

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