You’ll want to read about a new way to innovate from Gerard Baillely, P&G’s VP, Research & Development, Corporate Functions. For the wine lovers among you, Gerard (a Frenchman) also has something very interesting to say about French vs. California wines. Val Kuck, in “What I Learned,” talks about how today’s graduates can best prepare for career success, and the obstacles impeding greater advancement for women chemists in industry.

John C. Katz
Executive Editor

BOSS TALK

Insights and advice from a senior executive in the chemical industry

Boss Talk with Gerard Baillely, VP, R&D
Corporate Functions for P&G Co

At a 2017 event focused on a collaboration between Procter & Gamble and the University of Cincinnati, you said the following: “Modeling and simulation is now the new norm for innovation in the industry.” Can you elaborate on what you meant? What are
the implications of this ‘new norm’ for chemists and chemical engineers?

Great question. In the industry, the new imperative is to innovate faster with truly breakthrough solutions for the customers or consumers they serve. For a very long time, science was either... Read More

CAREER CORNER

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

How do I approach feeling excluded at work?

Patrick Gordon, ACS Career Consultant

Seek a mentor that’s in a higher position than you. Often times, companies have programs for this. Politely asking to be more included in... Read More

Matt Greaney, Senior Research Chemist in the Catalysts Business Unit of Cariant

Feeling excluded can be a huge downer. It can take away your motivation and adversely affect your performance. One way to avoid this... Read More

Kimberly Browne - Senior Associate, Career Services - American Chemical Society

If you feel excluded at work, consider discussing this with your manager. Be prepared to explain the situation(s) that make you feel as if... Read More
Participate. Make friends by talking about the weather and other non-work related things. We all have things in common - our commute... Read More

WHAT I LEARNED

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

Valerie Kuck, Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technologies, Retired

What is your forecast for the next generation of chemists working in industry? How will their careers differ from the one you started in the 60s at Bell Labs?

The forecast for the next generation of industrial chemists is to expect a career that can change at any time. Companies can change their focus quickly, and the people and skills needed for new areas can also change quickly. Therefore, be... Read More

LINKEDIN LEARNING COURSE

What you most need to know from an industry-connected LinkedIn Learning Course. Today’s course: Delivering Bad News Effectively

Delivering bad news is rarely a pleasant experience. While none of us can completely avoid bad news, you can control how to deliver it. In this course, Gemma Roberts explains how to confidently communicate bad news with tact and how... Read More
QUOTABLE

"Capturing the minds, hearts and unleashing the insights of a wonderfully diverse palette of R&D talents is one prerequisite to deliver my mission as VP. In this context, my biggest challenge, as an organic and inorganic chemist with 34 years under the belt, is how to capture the hearts, minds, and insights of the millennial or Gen Z scientists."

Gerard Baillely, P&G Vice President, Research & Development, Corporate Functions

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