

# SOCIETY FOR applied spectroscopy

## GUEST EDITORIAL

### **Pittcon 2016** **Pittcon . . . Where Innovations in** **Spectroscopy Go to Play** **March 6 – 10, 2016** **Atlanta, Georgia**



We invite you to join us for Pittcon 2016, March 6–10, in Atlanta, Georgia. Atlanta ranks third in research facility space among all U.S. bioscience clusters, and the state life sciences industry is anchored by world-class public and private research institutions and universities, such as Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, University of Georgia, Medical College of Georgia, Georgia State University, Morehouse School of Medicine, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Georgia's leading industry is agricultural business, and 38 of the top 100 food processing companies have operations in Georgia. In addition, it is America's leading source of sustainable biomass. The region ranks first in commercial timberland and second in total timberland. This local industry diversity complements our technical program, as well as the equipment displayed at the Exposition making it a perfect venue for Pittcon.

Attending this leading conference and exposition for laboratory science, gives you a unique opportunity to get a hands-on look at the latest instrumentation and related products and services. Discover new applications for spectroscopy in areas such as bioanalytical, biomedical, pharmaceutical, material science, environmental science, agriculture, and nanotechnology.

This dynamic exposition begins on Monday, March 7, and promises to be an exciting combination of live demonstrations, product seminars, technical collaborations, contests, giveaways and much more. A new feature on the exposition floor that you will not want to miss will be the Live Demo area which will offer scheduled 15-20 minute interactive product demonstrations by various exhibitors.

From consumable products, such as glassware to sample preparation equipment, to the most sophisticated and innovative instruments such as optical emission or fluorescence spectrometers and UV-Vis, FT-IR, and atomic absorption spectrometers—Pittcon has something for everyone. Technical experts will be on hand to offer tips on techniques, troubleshoot problems, and provide answers to your critical questions.

This vast and all-inclusive array of the latest spectroscopic instrumentation will provide solutions to laboratory challenges in a wide variety of specialties, including but not limited to, fuels/oil/petroleum, food & beverage, homeland security, forensics, genomics, proteomics, drug discovery, environmental science, and materials.

Conference week will kick off with the Wallace H. Coulter Lecture, "How Optical Single-Molecule Detection in Solids Led to Super-Resolution Nanoscopy in Cells and Beyond", that will be presented by the 2014 Nobel Laureate W.E. Moerner, the Harry S. Mosher Professor in Chemistry at Stanford University. Dr. Moerner's lecture will focus on his research in physical chemistry and chemical physics of single molecules, single-molecule biophysics, super-resolution imaging and tracking in cells, and trapping of single molecules in solution. All attendees are invited to attend a complimentary mixer and poster session following the lecture.

The Technical Program, consisting of more than 2,000 technical sessions, will feature new developments such as using atomic spectroscopy in underwater applications and food analysis, molecular spectroscopy to measure non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gases, the latest generation of handheld XRF analyzers and their new analytical capa-

bilities and applications, and nanotubes as a drug delivery system—to name a few.

The following is a sample of the symposia titles that will be offered at Pittcon 2016:

- Analytical Techniques in Neuroscience
- Ultrahigh-Resolution Mass Spectrometry: A New Frontier
- Handheld Spectrometers
- New Approaches to Nuclear Safeguards and Forensics Analysis
- Advances in Vibrational Spectroscopy for Medical Diagnostics
- Standoff Detection Methods for Security Applications

Attendees can also network with others on techniques such as NMR, UV-Vis, Raman, and infrared spectroscopy. See the complete list and details for more than 600 technical presentations covering topics relevant to spectroscopy at [www.pittcon.org](http://www.pittcon.org)

Another educational aspect of the Pittcon experience is the Short Course program which offers a wide variety of affordable courses for continuing your education and enhancing your skills. These are offered at beginner and intermediate levels. Topics include traditional basic techniques such as NIR and Raman to trend analysis for the pharmaceutical industry. There are more than 50 courses covering topics relevant to spectroscopy such as the latest in Raman, FT-IR, X-ray, ICP-MS, lasers, optics, regulatory issues and more. These courses, taught by experts in their fields, range from half-day up to two-days in length.

The following is a sample listing of several of the courses:

- Practical Introduction to Near IR and Raman Spectroscopy
- Ambient Air Monitoring: What are the Right Tools for the Job?
- Solventless Sample Preparation Prior to Mass Spectrometric Analysis
- Overview on Advances in Compliant Multi-Parameter Analysis of Solid and Liquid Wastes

Participate in a key opportunity to network with colleagues from around the world by attending any or all of the 30 lively Conferee Networking sessions. These informal 90-minute interactive discussions will bring together members of the scientific community with similar interests to brainstorm ideas, solve problems and build awareness for a specific topic. The following is a sample of the sessions:

- Cannabis Analytical Testing Forum
- ICP-MS and Chromatography for Metals Speciation
- Mobile Phase Selection for LC-MS Analysis

The mobile app, *Pittcon 2016*, is currently available for free download to iOS and Android devices and will help attendees manage all aspects of the Conference and Exposition before, during, and after the event. This app includes enhanced networking, search, and agenda functions and displays the most up-to-date information about the event.

Visit [www.pittcon.org](http://www.pittcon.org) or the mobile app to subscribe for updates, register, and get complete exhibitor, Live Demo, Technical Program and Short Course details. Make a small investment for a huge return—The cost to attend is only \$225 (before February 12; \$375 after February 12) and entitles a conferee to week-long unlimited access to the Exposition floor, technical sessions, and all conference amenities. Take advantage of pre-negotiated discount hotel rates and other benefits at [PittconHousing.com](http://PittconHousing.com).

We are excited to be back in Atlanta this year where around every corner is a new attraction, restaurant, or shopping opportunity. So join us for science and southern hospitality.

*William R. Sharpe*

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Pittcon 2016 President