



# ACS Orange County Section



## Dinner Meeting and Scientific Presentation

**Wednesday, November 19,  
2025**

**Waters Corporation Facility  
3540 Howard Way,  
Suite 100/125  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626**

Make your reservation  
NOW



**Social: 5:30 PM** **Dinner: 6:00 PM** **Program & Presentation: 7:00 PM**

### **Reservations**

Please contact us immediately, no later than 12 noon on Monday, November 19, 2025, at [OCACS@sbcglobal.net](mailto:OCACS@sbcglobal.net). Indicate if you will be attending the dinner and program or the program only. List all the names of attendees and special food requests like vegetarian or gluten free. There is a limit on the number of attendees, so make your reservation early.

Dinner cost is \$25 for members and members' significant others; \$35 for non-members or those without reservations. **Teachers and students who register for this meeting will receive a \$10 discount on their dinner.** Since we are not at this time set up to accept credit cards, please plan on using a check or cash.

*Note: OCACS pays the caterer on the basis of the number of dinner reservations made. Your reservation for dinner is a commitment to pay.*

### **Recognition**

We congratulate members of the Orange County Section who have reached milestones of 50, 60, and 70 years of membership and service to the American Chemical Society:

- **50 Year Members:** Dr. Roger Albert Acey, Dr. Charles A. Jacks, Dr. Kenneth Carl Janda, Mr. Robert Lee Jordan, Mr. Michael R. Kimbrell, Dr. Richard J. Laub, Mr. Kyung Wab Min, Dr. Michael Craig Pirrung, Mr. Alan Marc Schwartz, Mr. William L Sedlak, Jr., Dr. Eric T. Sun
- **60 Year Members:** Dr. Michael Joseph Block, Dr. Larry E. Overman, Dr. Arnold Louis Shugarman
- **70 Year Members:** Mr. Henry Nakano

In appreciation of our 50-, 60- and 70-year members, dinner for them will be covered by OCACS.

### **Presentation**

# Medicinal Chemistry Strategies to Combat Infectious Diseases

Jozef Stec, Ph.D.

Marshall B. Ketchum University, Fullerton, CA

## Abstract

Bacteria, parasites, viruses, and fungi represent the four major and distinctive infective agents that plagued humankind for millennia, often leading to high morbidity and mortality rates. Tuberculosis, caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* is currently ranked as the leading cause of mortality worldwide from a single infectious agent. Toxoplasmosis, caused by *Toxoplasma gondii*, is considered to be a leading cause of death attributed to a foodborne illness whereas the causative agent of cryptosporidiosis, *Cryptosporidium parvum*, is estimated to be one of the leading causes of waterborne disease among humans in the US. These diseases, among other infections, pose serious health threats not only in endemic countries but across the entire globe.

The currently available medications to treat the aforementioned infectious diseases were often developed as early as the 1950s during the so-called "golden era of antibiotics." Additionally, it is commonly required that multiple therapeutic agents are administered concurrently (i.e. combination therapy) for improved treatment outcomes, which in turn increases the risk of serious adverse effects thus limiting their use. Therefore, the discovery and development of new, safe, and effective agents to not only control but ideally eradicate these devastating diseases is of high priority. During this presentation, a medicinal chemistry approach will be discussed to discover and develop diverse chemical scaffolds as prospective pharmacologic cures to combat and eradicate tuberculosis, toxoplasmosis, and cryptosporidiosis.

## Speaker Biography



Jozef has been shaped by a unique Polish, British, and U.S. education and training path. He obtained MSc in Molecular and Pharmaceutical Biotechnology at Gdansk University of Technology, Poland; PhD in Synthetic Organic and Organometallic Chemistry at the University of Southampton, England, UK; and postdoctoral training in Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Illinois at Chicago, USA. Currently, he holds an appointment as the Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences (with focus on Medicinal Chemistry) at the College of Pharmacy at Marshall B. Ketchum University, in Fullerton, CA.

Jozef's research interests are in the field of widely understood synthetic organic and modern medicinal chemistry. At the center of his research endeavors are: discovery and development of new antibacterial and antiprotozoal agents, synthesis of chemical probes for orphan nuclear receptors, reaction invention and development, synthesis of natural products and their analogs. The research output produced by the Stec group is summarized by nearly 100 published research works that include journal articles, peer-reviewed conference abstracts, US patent and several patent disclosures. His research is sponsored by funding from internal and external sources, including federal agencies.

Jozef provides medicinal chemistry classroom instruction in Doctor of Pharmacy professional curriculum at MBKU, and he is also mentoring students in research projects as well as advising small student groups outside the regular classroom. Jozef continues to serve as a member and/or chair on several college-wide committees as well as actively contributes to various professional organizations such as the American Chemical Society, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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**American Chemical Society, Orange County Section**

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