ACS
Orange County Section

Dinner Meeting and Scientific Presentation

Wednesday, June 18, 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, June 16, 2025, at 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. Chales 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

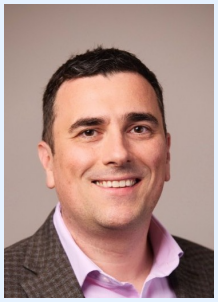
In appreciation of our 50-, 60- and 70-year members, dinner for them will be covered by OCACS.

Presentation

Designed Multiple Ligands as Non-opioid Analgesics for Treating Chronic Pain

Stevan Pecic, Ph.D.
California State University, Fullerton

Abstract:
Chronic pain is the primary cause of disability worldwide. According to the National Institutes of Health, approximately 1 in 5 adults worldwide suffer from pain, and another 1 in 10 adults are diagnosed with chronic pain each year. Current treatment primarily relies on opioid agonists, which, despite their efficacy in managing moderate-to-severe pain, pose significant risks of tolerance, physical dependence, and addiction. We aim to develop dual inhibitors, single small molecules that will simultaneously inhibit two enzymes: soluble epoxide hydrolase and fatty acid amide hydrolase, both involved in pain and inflammation. Through comprehensive in vitro and in vivo studies, we aim to establish the efficacy of these dual inhibitors in simultaneously targeting both enzymes and achieving pain relief in a rat model of chronic inflammatory pain with the potential to become novel, safe, and effective non-opioid treatments for patients suffering from chronic pain.



Speaker Biography
Dr. Stevan Pecic earned his Dipl. Pharm. degree, equivalent to the US PharmD degree, from the University of Belgrade in Serbia. He then pursued a doctorate in Biochemistry with a focus on Medicinal Chemistry at The Graduate School and University Center of The City University of New York, under the mentorship of Dr. Wayne W. Harding. His graduate work involved studying natural products, specifically aporphines, as serotonin (5HT2a) receptor antagonists and acetylcholinesterase inhibitors.
Following his doctoral studies, Dr. Pecic served as an Associate Research Scientist at Columbia University Medical Center in the Division of Experimental Therapeutics, where he specialized in designing nucleic acid-based biosensors. In 2018 Dr. Pecic joined the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at California State University, Fullerton, as an Assistant Professor. He was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 2024.
At CSUF, Dr. Pecic focuses on medicinal chemistry research, with his lab dedicated to understanding the pharmacology and biochemistry of small molecules involved in lipid metabolism, with the goal to evaluate these molecules as potential therapeutics for treating multifactorial diseases. Dr. Pecic has secured over $1.4 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health for his research projects and published his work in over 40 publications in leading international journals such as Nature Chemistry, Science Translational Medicine, Scientific Reports, Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry, and ACS Chemical Biology.

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PO Box 211, Placentia,
California 90871