



Orange County Section April Dinner Meeting
College Awards Dinner Meeting
Wednesday April 22, 2026

Concordia University, Irvine
1530 Concordia West, Irvine, CA 92612
Grimm Hall Conference Center (Grimm Hall, Third Floor)

Air Quality Science, Policy, and Communications: Improving Public Health with a Background in the Chemical Sciences

Dr. Scott Epstein, Ph.D.
Planning and Rules Manager
Planning, Rule Development and Implementation Division
South Coast Air Quality Management District



Registration & Social:	6:00 pm	Dinner:	6:15 pm
Presentation:	7:00 pm	Awards Program:	7:40 pm

Abstract: A background in chemical engineering and chemistry provided me with the skill set to study air pollution, implement policy, and communicate with the public to help them reduce their exposure to poor air quality in the most polluted region in the United States.

Biography: Dr. Scott Epstein is a Planning and Rules Manager who oversees the Air Quality Assessment Group and the Air Toxics Hot Spots Program (AB 2588) at the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The Air Quality Assessment Group is tasked with helping the public interpret air pollution data in order to reduce their exposure to poor air quality. The Air Toxics Hot Spots Group implements a comprehensive program to inform the public and reduce risk nearby facilities with air toxic emissions. Dr. Epstein joined the South Coast AQMD in 2014 after a postdoc in Atmospheric Chemistry at the University of California, Irvine. He has a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the Center for Atmospheric Particle Studies at Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelors in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Chemistry from the University of Delaware.