



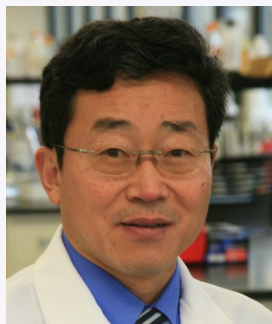
# Michigan SCC - News from the Mitten

SOCIETY OF COSMETIC CHEMISTS — MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Volume 3 Issue 1

February 2015

## A message from chairperson Di Qu



Dear fellow SCCMI chapter members,

Welcome to the New Year! 2015 marks the third year of our young chapter, but it has been showing a mature and well-established image thanks to the strong leadership and the hard work of the chairs, board members, and the talented volunteers in the first two years. Observing how much effort each of our volunteers has put in and how wonderful each event had turned out, I was greatly encouraged and felt privileged to have the chance to work with you this year.

The operation of our chapter is already on autopilot. The arrangements for our four annual events this year are pretty much in place. As the new chapter chair, I have set my goal for this year to show how wonderful our members' work has been. We joined the society for professional affiliation and career fulfillment. Our talent is shown through the daily activity at work as well as the volunteer work in the chapter. Recognizing that, I'd like to use our chapter as a platform that provides opportunity to maximize each member's interest. To that point, I would urge each of us to fully utilize this platform to exchange ideas, insights, experiences, and professional achievements. I would also like to invite you to write and share your accomplishments in our future newsletters.

We have some exciting events lined up. Within our chapter, the first meeting of this year will be held on March 12, followed by three more meetings on May 18, September 10 and November 12, 2015. At the national level, the annual meeting of SCC will be held on December 10-11, during which the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our society will be celebrated. And, on the world stage, the 29<sup>th</sup> IFSCC Congress will take place in the U.S. in October, 2016, with SCC being the proud host society. With all these exciting events coming, I hope our members are well prepared to take the opportunity to contribute to the scientific programs and celebrate together with the members of our sister chapters and societies in the upcoming events.

I wish everyone a successful and fruitful year of 2015!

*Di Qu*

### SCC MICHIGAN CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2014

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## (Almost) Spring Meeting—March 12

### LOCATION

Ziibiwing Center  
6650 East Broadway  
Mount Pleasant MI 48858  
<http://www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing/>

### SCHEDULE

2:30 – 3:30 Officers Meeting  
3:30 – 4:00 Registration  
4:00 – 5:00 Welcome and Speaker  
5:00 – 5:45 Dinner  
5:45 – 6:30 Anishinabe Dance Performance

### Featured Speaker Craig Bonda *Three Dimensions of Photoprotection: Regulatory, Scientific, and Therapeutic*

The presentation begins with a review of global sunscreen regulations and the degree to which they have been harmonized among 57 major international venues. The current state of regulation in the U.S. is discussed including the status of the eight European UV filters currently being considered for inclusion in the FDA sunscreen monograph. Because sunscreens and some anti-aging products are best understood as photochemical systems that function according to the science of photochemistry, a photochemistry primer is presented to set the stage for the more technical sections to come. The first of these is a review of the complex photochemistry of the highly photolabile UVA filter Avobenzone. Its photostability alone and in combination with the UVB filter OMC is discussed as is the general approach necessary to improve its performance through photostabilization. Next is a review of the biology and photochemistry of the anti-aging skin care active ingredient Retinol, including a strategy for improving its efficacy through photostabilization. The presentation concludes with a discussion of trends in photoprotection with emphasis on anti-aging benefits and a proposal for a new approach to antioxidation in which photostabilization plays a key role.

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## Around the Lab: Making Small Batches by Mike Starch

I have worked as a formulator in our industry in product development labs and in ingredient application development labs. What these two lab environments have in common is that both kinds of work involve making lots of batches of cosmetic formulations. When I am doing this work, one problem often is limited amounts of ingredients since many of the ingredients must be obtained as free samples from different vendors. Even if the vendor is generous with samples, it is can be difficult to get them to send large samples (e.g. kilogram quantities). So the formulator is faced with a dilemma. They need to learn as much as possible about how ingredient behaves in a formulation, while at the same time conserving the limited quantity of ingredients that they have been able to obtain from different vendors.



I recently did some work at a client and their lab was equipped with a SpeedMixer. This type of mixer is sometimes called a dental mixer because it is used by dental technicians to mix thick molding compounds for dental impressions. I discovered that this mixer is ideal for making small batches of cosmetic formulations. It works by rapidly spinning (e.g. 3500rpm) a small cup containing the ingredients. The spinning action causes the contents to circulate inside the cup and your formulation never comes into contact with anything but the walls of the cup. This mixer is particularly useful for tasks like dispersing powders into liquids or gels. I was making sunscreens and needed to disperse TiO<sub>2</sub> into a mixture of silicone fluids and gels. Using the SpeedMixer, I could do this in 60 seconds and there were no worries about the powder escaping from the mixer or having to clean a mixing blade. Each batch is contained within the disposable mixing cup and you just grab a new cup to make another batch. I could make easily make 10-15 batches in a couple of hours and each batch was only 100 g, so I was able to conserve raw materials. The mixer I used was from a company called FlackTek and you can check out their mixers and see demo videos at <http://www.speedmixer.com/index.php>.

I have used a dental mixer to make hundreds of anhydrous blends using various powders, oils, and silicone elastomer blends. Some of the formulations contained iron oxides with TiO<sub>2</sub> and these pigments typically are ground together in a very high shear mixer or some kind of mill. To do this with the dental mixer I added ceramic beads to the cup and they did an excellent job of dispersing the pigments to make liquid foundations. And I could make lots of shade variations with limited quantities of the pigments by preparing small batches of pigment blends (40-50g). The only issue is to keep the viscosity of the pigment dispersions low enough so that the ceramic beads fall to the bottom of the cup after the mixer stops. This allows the pigment dispersion to be scooped out of the top of the cup while leaving the beads on the bottom.

I also used the SpeedMixer to make water-in-silicone emulsions by first combining the silicone phase ingredients in a cup and then adding the water phase in small aliquots and mixing after each water phase addition. I am not sure how well such a process would scale-up to conventional mixing equipment, but the point is that you can investigate dozens of different emulsion formulations using small batches and then pick your best candidates to make on larger equipment.

I have never bought a dental mixer and I understand they are very expensive, but my experience has been that they can be a tremendous tool for enhancing productivity in a cosmetic formulation lab. They allow the preparation of small batches very quickly and there is nothing to clean up afterward. In fact the only instance where cleaning was a problem was the time that I made a batch of dark brown pigment dispersion and some of the pigment dispersion got into the thread area on the outside of the cup. So when I re-mixed this dispersion a couple of days later and neglected to tighten the lid sufficiently, I "painted" the inside of the mixer cabinet with pigment dispersion. Not much material escaped the cup, but it went everywhere. It was a huge mess that took me an hour or so to clean up but it did not put me off using mixer. I just made sure to clean the thread area and use a new lid when re-mixing pigment dispersions.



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## 2015 Calendar

March 12th—SCC Michigan Chapter Meeting (Mt. Pleasant, MI)

March 17th—The Twin Cities SCC Chapter presents the 7th Biennial Holistic Cosmetic Symposium. For more information, visit [www.tccscc.org](http://www.tccscc.org)

May 18th—SCC Michigan Chapter Meeting (Kalamazoo, MI)

September 10th—SCC Michigan Chapter Free Education Course (Grand Rapids, MI)

September 16-18—The Florida SCC Chapter presents the 2015 Sunscreen Symposium. For more information, visit [www.fl SCC.org](http://www.fl SCC.org)

November 12th—SCC Michigan Chapter Meeting (Grand Rapids, MI)

December 11-12—SCC National Meeting



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