

#### PDA Europe

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Editor, PDA Journal of Pharmaceutical Science

and Technology: Lee Kirsch, PhD University of Iowa April 2008

Dear all.

I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break despite the cold and miserable weather. As there have been a number of activities I wanted to provide you with an update.

#### Conferences

In February, I was one of about 400 attendees at the joint PDA / EMEA conference in Budapest. Although you will certainly see articles in the PDA Letter I wanted to give you some of my impressions from the event. The theme attracted a very large number of regulators from all around Europe, especially the new member states. On the other hand the almost complete absence of industry delegates from the Eastern European countries was rather unexpected. It seems that travel and accommodation cost pose a formidable hurdle. That is not helped by prices in Budapest easily matching those in London. The conference offered an ideal opportunity for industry and the regulators to openly share their views on recent and planned changes to the regulations. It seemed to me that many on the regulators' side were surprised by industry's strong and often highly critical response to these changes. It really shows the important role PDA can play in bringing industry and the regulators together.

# **UK Chapter Events**

Speaking about events, we have made good progress in defining the type, locations and dates for events here in the UK. At the last board meeting in Epsom on 4th March it was agreed to organise afternoon/evening events close to where our members are located. We want to bring the events close to you and assure as little interference with your daily work as possible. We have identified the dates

Thursday 11 September 2008 Thursday 16 October 2008 Thursday 13 March 2009 Thursday 7 May 2009

and we are currently evaluating the locations and the themes for these. Rather than have formal presentations we intend to have informal discussions around some current topic, and have subject matter experts present to get the discussion going and help answer any questions. Where possible, we will arrange these meetings on a production site, with the option of a tour of the facility. More details will follow soon.

If you have a suggestion for a location or would like to help with one of these events, please let me know.

### **Science Advisory Board**

The Science Advisory Board (SAB) has started liaising with the PDA Chapters to find out if there is a need for a Technical Report, or a topic that the Chapter members would like to raise as a possible 'burning issue'. If so, SAB would be happy to hear about it and provide any assistance that they can. If you send me your suggestions, I will make sure they will be communicated to the SAB Chapter liaison person. I think this is an excellent opportunity to influence the development of Technical Reports with little effort.

## **UK Chapter Website**

And there is more good news:

The PDA UK Chapter website <a href="http://pdachapters.org/unitedkingdom">http://pdachapters.org/unitedkingdom</a> is now updated regularly and you should be able to find all the information you may be looking for including this newsletter. If not, please send me an email (siegfried.schmitt@parexel.com) or give me a call (+44(0)7824 592401).

And lastly, please don't forget to keep your contact details up-to-date on www.pda.org so you don't miss any news from the PDA.

With best regards

Dr Siegfried Schmitt MRSC CChem CSci

President PDA UK Chapter

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