



## **Sino-American Pharmaceutical Professionals Association**

### **SAPA Successfully Held 2019 Scientific Symposium Themed In Innovation and Emerging Technologies in Drug Development**

April 6<sup>th</sup> 2019, the Sino-American Pharmaceutical Professionals Association (SAPA) 2019 Scientific Symposium was successfully held, in Piscataway, New Jersey. Approximately 400 people attended the Symposium at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University. Attendees are from across functions in pharmaceutical/biotechnology industries, CRO, CMO, and academia. Themed in “Innovation and Emerging Technologies in Drug Development”, this one-day event brought participants eye-opening presentations and discussions on cutting edge innovations and technologies. It was also a great opportunity to network with pharmaceutical industry leaders, renowned professors, and experts from many specific areas.

The symposium began with opening remarks and warm welcome by Dr. Jerry J. Li, the Chair of the Symposium. Dr. Xiaole Shen, SAPA President of 2018-2019 introduced the SAPA HQ organization, its chapters and the other upcoming SAPA events in 2019. The four keynote speakers in the Plenary Session presented their outstanding work introducing the latest techniques and new treatment options in multiple fields. Mr. Sanjeev Luther, CEO of Rafael Pharmaceuticals, talked about innovative oncology therapies by targeting altered regulation of cancer metabolism. He shared the clinical trial experiences of Rafael’s leading compound Devimistat. Dr. Jianqing Fan, professor of Princeton University introduced FARM-select and FARM-test methods to control the false discovery proportion in large-scale data, which can be applied in clinical trials, genomics and medical imaging. Dr. Bruce Car, VP and head of Translational Research from Bristol-Myers Squibb, discussed the innovative and emerging technologies in translational medicine. New technologies including Single Cell, PET tracer tech, Digital Pathology, Next generation sequencing and Proteomic, ensure a higher probability of technical success in prosecuting novel pharmacology targets. Last but not least is the talk presented by Dr. Liang Deng, an Associate Member from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Deng discussed the progress in engineering a recombinant Modified vaccinia virus Ankara (MVA) that removes viral immune-suppressive genes and expresses immune-activating transgenes to improve anti-tumor effects in preclinical tumor models.

The 16 distinguished speakers of three afternoon parallel sessions covered a broad scope of topics from AI/machine learning, big data to clinical development, and CMC. In AI Session, speakers shared the progress and experience in nanomedicine, artificial intelligence and machine learning for drug development and discovery. In Clinical Development Session, experts from Innovative Cellular Therapeutics (ICT), Novartis, Merck, and KYOWA KIRIN, presented the challenges and opportunities in new drug and



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therapy approval. In CMC Session, speakers from BMS、PTC Therapeutics、Medicilon, Hrain Biotech and Luye Pharma, focused on the CMC of the biological drugs and gene therapy.

2019 Scientific Symposium, one of the SAPA's significant events was another great success with tremendous support from our distinguished speakers, dedicated volunteers, and generous corporate sponsors including the Title Sponsor Innovative Cellular Therapeutics (ICT) and Dinner Sponsor Medicilon. SAPA is proud of our unwavering commitments to benefit SAPA's members and the communities that SAPA has been striving to serve.



SAPA 2019 Scientific Symposium Speakers, Organizing Committee and Volunteers



Chair of the Symposium, Dr. Jerry J. Li  
welcoming the audiences and acknowledging the volunteers



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SAPA 2018-2019 President Dr. Xiaole Shen  
Introducing SAPA and its Chapter, and the upcoming SAPA events in 2019.



Rafael Pharmaceuticals CEO Mr. Sanjeev Luther presenting new technique



Professor Jianqing Fan discussing large-scale data



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BMS VP and Head of Translational Medicine, Dr. Bruce Car discussing the innovations and trends in translational medicine



Audience in the Symposium

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