



2011-2012 POCC Lecture Series

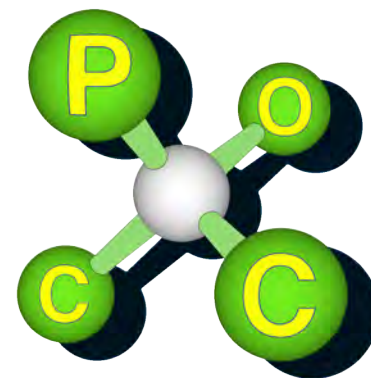
December 01, 2011, 8:00 PM

Dr. Gregory Ott
Cephalon

*Synthetic Approaches to Novel Scaffolds for the
Discovery of Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase
Inhibitors*

Carolyn Hoff Lynch Lecture Hall
Chemistry Building, University of Pennsylvania

The Philadelphia
Organic Chemist's
Club



POCClub.org

Gregory Ott was born in Pittsburgh, PA and attended Shady Side Academy where he took his first organic chemistry course in 1987. He received a B.A. in Chemistry from The Johns Hopkins University in 1992 where he spent 3 years doing research in molecular biology at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Deciding that he wanted to pursue his doctorate in synthetic chemistry, Greg joined the laboratories of Amos B. Smith, III at The University of Pennsylvania, completing his Ph.D. in 1997 working in the area of macrolide total synthesis. Following completion of his degree, Greg continued to pursue natural products total synthesis in the group of Clayton Heathcock as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of California, Berkeley. Greg started his industrial career in 1999 at DuPont Pharmaceuticals working in the area of matrix metalloprotease inhibition and made significant contributions to the discovery of highly selective TNF- α Convertase inhibitors. Following the purchase of DuPont Pharma by Bristol-Myers Squibb, Greg continued in the inflammation/immunology discovery group at BMS working on nuclear hormone receptor modulators. In 2005 Greg moved to Cephalon, Inc. and was the first chemist on the nascent ALK program in the oncology group. Greg is currently an Associate Director in the Medicinal Chemistry department at Cephalon. Greg has been active in the POCC holding various positions and chaired the organization in 2005-6.

Abstract: The molecular target Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase (ALK) has received much attention due to the clear genetic link of aberrant expression and activation of ALK with the onset and progression of ALK-positive anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL), non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and neuroblastomas. Thus, inhibition of ALK with a selective small molecule represents a therapeutic option for patients with well defined ALK-mediated cancers. The oncology chemistry group at Cephalon has developed an advanced program targeting ALK with a variety of novel chemical scaffolds. The design and synthetic approaches to these unique chemotypes as well as biological results from these efforts will be presented.