



CO-HOSTING with engineering

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

Development of drugs to treat Neglected Diseases - Technical and Economic Aspects

Speaker: Eric Easom

Date: March 15, 2012

Location: SJSU Engineering Bldg. Room 285

Time: Buffet (\$10 at the door) 6:30pm

Presentation 7:15pm

RSVP: via E-mail to <michael.jennings@sjsu.edu>
with Neglected Diseases Presentation in the subject line

Neglected tropical diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, African sleeping sickness, lymphatic filariasis and river blindness to name a few have claimed millions of lives or caused massive disabilities such as blindness over the past century. Today the available drugs used to treat these diseases are decades old, toxic, no longer work due to drug resistant organisms and/or they are too difficult to administer to the target population. This mismatch between the enormous needs of the people and drugs is not based on technology gaps or unsolvable problems but almost entirely due to a lack of economic incentives to pursue. These are diseases of extreme poverty, affecting mostly people living in the developing world such as sub-Saharan Africa where there is little or no incentive for companies to invest in new drugs. Luckily, over the past decade, a global movement led by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and governments has provided significant investment to help support efforts to fill the pipeline with new drugs for these awful diseases.

Eric Easom oversees Anacor Pharmaceuticals Inc. licensing and research and development efforts to advance new therapeutics for the treatment of neglected diseases, animal health and biodefense programs. He currently serves as chairman of the Infectious Disease Research Institute. He received an MBA from Indiana University and a BS and master's degree in engineering from the University of Louisville.

Anacor Pharmaceuticals, a Palo Alto, CA based biotechnology company that is focused on anti-infective and inflammatory diseases is actively involved in discovering and developing new drugs for neglected diseases.

GLAC is funded by the Donald & Sally Lucas Foundation