



Greg Russotti

Cell and Gene Therapies Award for 2019

The National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals (NIIMBL) and Engineering Conferences International are pleased to announce that Greg Russotti of Celgene is the recipient of the **2019 Award for Advancing Manufacture of Cell and Gene Therapy**. The award will be presented at the Advancing Manufacture of Cell and Gene Therapy VI conference, January 27-31, 2019 in Coronado, California.

Greg Russotti has established himself as a world leader in the field of cell therapy technical development and manufacturing. He joined Celgene over 12 years ago, just as Celgene began major efforts in the cell therapy field. He was initially responsible for process and analytical development of all cell-based processes at Celgene and was soon appointed CMC lead for Celgene's placental cell therapy product, PDA-001, with accountability for all technical operations activities, including process and analytical development, clinical production, quality control, quality assurance, and supply chain. Greg later took on functional responsibility for the aforementioned areas for all cell and tissue-based products.

Greg led Celgene's technical development efforts to drive five different cell therapy products to IND and clinical stage, including two different placental cell therapy products, cord blood-derived Natural Killer cells, autologous cytotoxic T lymphocytes, and autologous CAR T cells. Greg was awarded Celgene's most prestigious internal award, the **John W. Jackson Leadership Award**, in 2011 for driving Celgene's decision to build in-house cell therapy manufacturing capabilities and leading Celgene in the cell therapy space. This award is given to only one employee in the company each year.

Greg is known globally as a leader in the field, having given over 25 invited presentations and keynote lectures, including two presentations at the FDA, and one at the EMA. He has participated in various panel discussions and has given webinars at the largest cell therapy conferences in the US, Canada, and Europe. Greg was the meeting co-chair for first four **Annual ECI Scale-up and Manufacturing of Cell- Based Therapies** conferences, from 2012 to 2015, helping shape and build the conference. He remains actively involved as a Steering Committee member.

Greg is actively involved in various national consortia. His roles include:

- Celgene's technical cell therapy lead on NIIMBL

- Executive Committee member of the NSF-funded Center for the Manufacturing of Advanced Therapeutics, being led by the Georgia Tech
- Industrial Executive Board Chairman of the Marcus Center for the Commercialization of Cell Therapies (\$27MM facility) at Georgia Tech
- Executive Committee member of NIST-funded American Technology Cell Therapy Manufacturing Consortium, led by the Georgia Research Alliance
- Advisory Board Member of the Cell Therapy Facility at the NJ Institute of Innovation (at NJIT)

Greg has maintained a strong relationship with the academic community by serving in the following roles:

- Industrial Advisory Board Member in Rutgers University's Biomedical Engineering and Biochemical/Chemical Engineering Departments
- Guest lecturer in various classes at Rutgers and in past years at Princeton, Columbia, Georgia Tech, NC State, NJIT, and Michigan State
- Lecturer at the International Advanced Course on Regenerative Medicine Manufacturing, hosted by Technical University of Lisbon, Loughborough University, and Georgia Tech University, in 2013 in Portugal and in 2016 in Hilton Head, NC

Greg also designed, organized and taught a graduate level topics-based course, "Bioprocess Engineering: Fundamental and Real World Perspectives" in Rutgers University's Biomedical Engineering and Chemical/Biochemical Engineering Departments from 2000 until 2010, after which he passed the torch to others who have since led this course, which continues to enjoy success. For his active involvement in the Rutgers community and his leadership in the cell therapy field, Greg was awarded the **Rutgers Engineering School Distinguished Alumnus Medal of Excellence in Education and Research** in 2013. This award is given by Rutgers School of Engineering to one recipient per year.

Prior to joining Celgene in 2006, Greg spent 15 years at Merck Research Laboratories developing products that included live virus vaccines, monoclonal antibodies, recombinant vaccines, and microbially-produced natural products. He worked on development, scale-up, and tech transfer of cell culture, microbial fermentation, and downstream isolation processes to clinical and commercial manufacturing facilities. Greg received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Chemical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and his Ph.D. in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering from Rutgers University.

Currently, Greg has functional responsibility for all cell therapy development areas at Celgene, including cell culture, isolation and formulation process development, analytical development, product attributes sciences, development operations, which includes high throughput testing and data automation, clinical manufacturing QC, and manufacturing sciences, which supports clinical and commercial manufacturing.