



Kirk Leister

Dr. Kirk Leister received his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Biology from SUNY Brockport, and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Roswell Park Cancer Institute, SUNY Buffalo. As a Cancer Research Associate in Experimental Biology, Dr. Leister supervised operations of the Mammalian Tissue Culture Facility at Roswell Park. After completion of his Ph.D. he joined Dr. Efraim Racker's laboratory in Cell and Molecular Biochemistry at Cornell University as a NIH Research Fellow studying tumor growth factor signal transduction pathways.

Dr. Leister joined Bristol-Myers Squibb in the Analytical Research and Development Department in 1989 as a Research Scientist with principle responsibilities to build the bioanalytical laboratories. Over a ten year period Dr. Leister progressed to the position of Director of Analytical Research and Development having responsibilities for Biologic product characterization and Clinical release testing. In 2000, he accepted a position in the Technical Operations Biotechnology Development organization as Director of the Analytical Biochemistry Department, now known as Process Analytical Sciences. In addition to functional responsibilities in process development at BMS, Dr. Leister continues to lead the CTLA4Ig Integrated Development Team for the corporation. CTLA4Ig, also known as Orencia, is currently a successful commercial marketed product for the company.