



# THE SALZBERG CHEMISTRY SEMINAR SERIES



The City College  
of New York



**Monday, October 6 2025 @ 12:00 noon – MR1027**

## **Fragrance Chemistry – How chemistry is used to make the scents people love**



**Paul D. Jones**

Director – Principal Scientist, New Ingredient Discovery  
Iff.com (International Flavors & Fragrances, Inc.)

**Abstract:** The fragrance industry significantly impacts everyone's daily lives. Initially, fragrances were derived from natural extracts and accessible to only a select group of people. However, with the advent of synthetic organic chemistry, the perfumery palette expanded remarkably, introducing lower-cost ingredients to both the industry and consumers.

This presentation will delve into the various chemistries employed in the fragrance industry, focusing particularly on the challenges and opportunities faced by R&D scientists. Additionally, the presentation will be enriched by the olfactory experience of key ingredients and intermediates.

**Biography:** Paul is a seasoned scientist and innovation leader with nearly two decades of experience at IFF, where he currently serves as Director and Principal Scientist in New Ingredient Discovery. Since joining IFF in 2006, Paul has held multiple roles across Fragrance Synthesis, Strategic Partnerships, and Scent Ingredient Discovery, contributing to the development of multiple patents and commercial ingredients. His academic foundation includes a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Penn State University and a postdoctoral fellowship at UC Davis under the NIH. Prior to IFF, Paul began his career as a polymer chemist at Akzo Nobel. Paul's technical interest lies in using modern chemical techniques coupled with emerging science in biology and AI to design the next generation of fragrance ingredients. Beyond the lab, Paul is a mentor and team builder, guiding career development and technical growth within R&D. He's known for his clear communication, strategic foresight, and ability to bridge scientific depth with business impact. Born in White Plains, NY, Paul now lives in New Jersey with his family. Outside of work, he enjoys making music and indulging in hobbies like biking, grilling, and video games.

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