UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Department of Chemistry Presents Seminar Series Speaker

Dr. Tom Pochapsky

Brandeis University
Waltham, Massachusetts

Teaching an old dog new tricks: Enzyme function and engineering

The cytochrome P450s comprise a superfamily of enzymes that catalyze the oxidation of unactivated C-H and C-C bonds, often in a highly regio- and stereoselective fashion. Their substrates range in size from small hydrocarbons to very large biologically active molecules, such as steroid hormones and antibiotics. Despite the vast substrate-product combinations observed for P450s, they have a highly conserved structure. We are asking how P450s recognize and bind their substrates, using nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) as a primary tool. Our goal is to be able to re-design these enzymes for specific oxidations that are not available in nature.

Friday, April 2, 2021, 12:20 pm

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