

Bruce Johnson  
Portland State University  
Sherman Schaffer Award Winner



Bruce Johnson completed his BS (1979) and MS (1981) degrees in chemistry at PSU, working under Dr. Gary L. Gard. PSU advisors and mentors included Drs. Barnum, Roe, Silverman, Gatz, White, and Paul Emmett. In addition to the Sherman Schaffer award and grant-support in Dr. Gard's lab; he worked evenings and weekends at Columbia-American Plating, managing the chemistry of plating baths, as well as special-projects such as passivation of large castings for the nuclear industry, and grain-etch analysis of critical aircraft engine parts.

Shortly after graduation, he moved to Bend Oregon to work for Bend Research, which recently became Capsugel, and now Lonza. His 38-year career in Bend spanned the transition from start-up contract R&D firm, to pharmaceutical development and manufacturing (clinical, and now commercial) of new products with low-bioavailability. These products target significant therapeutic areas; treating and/or curing diseases such as cancer and hepatitis C. Work included membrane research, grant and proposal writing, EH&S and regulatory compliance, preparation of technical reports and product registration documents, business development, and the design, construction, and start-up of lab, engineering, and GMP manufacturing facilities in Bend. He holds 5 patents and has prepared numerous technical reports and presentations.

Bruce married Julie Ross in 1983, and they have one daughter, Nicole, and two grandchildren, Corbin and Chloe. They enjoy all outdoor activities such as gardening, camping, hunting, hiking, fishing, bicycle and motorcycle (dirt) riding, and Winter travel to warm places like Hawaii and Mexico. Bruce will retire in July 2019 and expand on these activities.



