

# About The Speakers



Dr. Gieseler is a licensed pharmacist in Germany since 2000 and received his PhD at the Department of Pharmaceutics, University of Erlangen (Germany) in 2004 with the thesis "Product Morphology and Drying Behavior delineated by a New Freeze-Drying Microbalance". After a post-doctoral research period at the School of Pharmacy, University of Connecticut (Prof. Michael J. Pikal, "UConn Freeze Drying") until early 2006, he returned as an Assistant Professor to the University of Erlangen where he founded the "Freeze Drying Focus Group" (FDFG) within the Division of Pharmaceutics. In 2010, Dr. Gieseler obtained his habilitation and *venia legendi* in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Erlangen with the thesis "Quality by Design (QbD) in Freeze-Drying Using Advanced Process Analytical Technology (PAT)". In the same year, he formed GILYOS GmbH, a contract freeze-drying service provider for the pharmaceutical and food industry. Dr. Gieseler has more than 10 years of experience in the field of freeze-drying and physicochemical characterization of materials. He authored or co-authored numerous publications in this field of interest and holds several patents. He is an active AAPS member and volunteer reviewer for a number of well-known research journals. More information about Dr. Gieseler, his current research activities and the group may be obtained on his website at [www.freeze-drying.eu](http://www.freeze-drying.eu).

Dr. Pikal is currently Professor and Distinguished Chair in Pharmaceutical Technology at the University of Connecticut. He received his Ph.D. in physical chemistry(1966) from Iowa State University and was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory(1966-1967). Prior to joining Lilly Research Laboratories in 1972, he was assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Tennessee (1967-1972). His current research activities include the solid state chemistry of pharmaceuticals, particularly the stability of amorphous materials, characterization of solids by calorimetry, and the science and technology of freeze drying with a focus on optimization of formulation and process for labile proteins. Dr. Pikal is a member of the ACS and AAPS. He was the recipient of the Ebert Prize (1977) and the PDA's "best paper of the year" award (1989). He received the Eli Lilly & Co."Presidents Award" in 1996. Dr. Pikal was the Busse Lecturer (University of Wisconsin, 1983) and the Enz Lecturer (University of Kansas, 1998). Dr. Pikal is a Fellow of the AAPS, and received the AAPS Research Achievement Award in Pharmaceutical Technologies in 2001, and the Crioforma award in Freeze Drying in 2006. Dr. Pikal is the 2009 recipient of the AAPS Distinguished Scientist Award.



Dr. Margit Gieseler is a licensed pharmacist in Germany since 2001 and received her PhD at the Department of Pharmaceutics, University of Würzburg (Germany) in 2006. In the same year she joined the formulation group of the Pharmaceutical R&D Department of Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co. KG where she contributed in numerous development projects. Since 2010, Dr. Gieseler works as a managing director at GILYOS® GmbH in Würzburg, a research-oriented contract service provider for industry in the field of pharmaceutical freeze-drying. Her key research expertise is Freeze Dry Microscopy, surface measurement and technical consultancy for freeze-drying equipment.

Peter Stärtzel is a licensed pharmacist in Germany and is currently pursuing his PhD in pharmaceutics under the supervision of Dr. Henning Gieseler at the Friedrich-Alexander-University, Erlangen. He is currently employed at GILYOS GmbH in Würzburg Germany as a Pharmaceutical Scientist.

