**Stand Firm on the Goal of Your Life**

Kinam Park

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, U.S.A.

 We all live only once. To live a meaningful life, each individual needs to set up a clear goal and do one’s best to achieve the goal. The goal of a scientist is the pursuit of truth. Finding the truth is largely dependent on the passionately curious mind. Achieving the goal is not easy, and frequently frustrating. But once the goal is set, the successful people march forward regardless of hurdles and unexpected events. For them, overcoming such difficulties one by one is indeed a pleasure. All scientists, like any other professionals, make many mistakes, but better scientists make the most mistakes in the shortest period of time. One important tenet of all of the successful scientists is that they are not afraid of exploring new things.

 In the drug delivery field, scientists choose research topics that pique their heartfelt interest. We all have many successes, mistakes, and failures, and they collectively provided a platform to think creatively, sometimes against prevailing dogmas. The future of drug delivery technologies is promising and ours to build. The future of the drug delivery field and science as a whole depends on the young scientists. It is critical to nurture them to embrace paradox and non-conformist views. This takes concerted efforts of all of us to understand the current situation, recognize difficulties, and respect different opinions. To be a good scientist, it is necessary to be an enlightened person first. The enlightened scientists stand firm on their goals.

**Biography**

 Professor Kinam Park received his Ph.D. degree in pharmaceutics from the the University of Wisconsin in 1983. After postdoctoral training in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the same university, he joined the faculty of College of Pharmacy, Purdue University in 1986. He became Showalter Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering in 2006. His research focuses on polymeric biomaterials and drug delivery systems. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Controlled Release. He is the founder of Akina, Inc. specializing in polymers for drug delivery.