



## AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

### PERMIAN BASIN SECTION

Newsletter

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### Letter from the Chair

August is the start of the fall semester of classes for many of you and is, hopefully, the month that we will start seeing the easing of the hot days of summer. August is also fall ACS meeting time. The 256<sup>th</sup> ACS National Meeting & Exposition in Boston, MA, August 19 – 23, 2018, was jam packed with talks on “Nanoscience, Nanotechnology & Beyond”. At this meeting, the venues were a bit further apart, so getting to the meetings was a bit more challenging and required advance planning to get to talks.

We are currently in discussions for potential speaker(s) for the fall. Many local sections have set up virtual meetings; we plan to look into the possibility for us to do so in the Permian Basin Section.

The local section has other projects in the incubator and will keep you informed as they develop. Feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or ideas for programs.

Dr. Kathryn Louie  
klouie@suddenlink.net

### Councilor Corner

Highlights from the 2018 Fall ACS National meeting:

1. Committee on Meetings and Expositions (M&E) reported a total Boston meeting attendance of **14,235** as of Monday, August 21.
2. The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced that ballots for the 2018 fall national election will be distributed October 1-3, with a voting deadline four weeks later, on October 31. ACS members eligible to vote and with an email address on file will receive an electronic ballot with the option to request a paper ballot. Those members with no email address on file will be sent a paper ballot but with the option to vote electronically.

3. Membership Affairs: As of August 21, ACS had 149,584 members, which is a decline of only eight-tenths of one percent from the over 150,000 members in 2017. This year-to-date figure represents an increase of over 1,200 members when compared to the last two years. The current membership count positions ACS for a strong close to the year, and there is cautious optimism that total membership will rise for the first time since 2011.
4. Special Discussion: President Dorhout introduced and led a special discussion on what role(s) ACS should play in preventing sexual harassment in the sciences. He highlighted several recent articles, workshops and studies that have called attention to the issue. He directed Council's attention to existing ACS codes and initiatives to address sexual harassment, and offered items for discussion and possible action.

A detailed report may be found on the website <http://permianbasin.sites.acs.org/>

## Upcoming National and Regional Meetings and Programs

### 257<sup>th</sup> ACS National Meeting & Exposition – Spring 2019

Orlando, FL

March 31 – April 4, 2019

**Theme: Chemistry for New Frontiers**

### 74<sup>th</sup> Annual SWRM

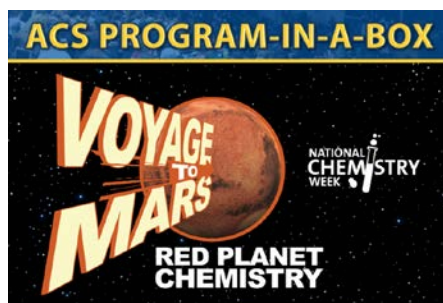
Little Rock, Arkansas

November 7-10, 2018

**Theme: The Natural State of Chemistry**



The San Angelo chapter of the ACS is having a live viewing of the ACS Program-in-a-Box Event “Voyage to Mars: Red Planet Chemistry” on October 23, 2018 at 6 pm ET, presented by the American Chemical Society in Cav 200 on the ASU campus. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend!



ACS-affiliated groups: [Register Early to Receive Your Box!](#)

## Permian Basin News

Dr. David Leaver from Sul Ross State University was recently listed as a co-author on a *Nature* publication (*Nature* **2018**, 560, 253-257) for work previously done at the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Monash University, Australia. Two acylsulfonylhydrazides (WM-8014 and WM-1119) were developed to selectively inhibit KAT6A/B (KATs: lysine acetyltransferases). KATs acetylate histones and this process is required for chromatin organization and function. The genes encoding for KAT6A/B are known oncogenes and it was shown that both WM-8014 and WM-1119 induced cell cycle exit and senescence without damaging DNA. WM-8014 was shown to potentiate oncogene-induced senescence *in vitro* and in a zebrafish model, while WM-1119 was shown to arrest lymphoma progression in mice. These results suggest that a new class of cancer drugs might be just around the corner.

NOTE: News about you makes this publication interesting for our members. Please take a few minutes to jot down what you are doing.

- 1) Speeches, papers, symposia, invited talks
- 2) Publications, patents, grants awarded
- 3) New positions, appointments, promotions, awards, honors, retirements, postdoctoral research
- 4) Offices held in professional societies
- 5) Avocational achievements, miscellaneous

## ACS Student Chapter News

The Midland College Chemistry Club set up a table at the West Texas Food Bank on April 21, 2018, for Chemists Celebrate Earth Week. This event was coordinated with Keep Midland Beautiful to help clean the area around the food bank. About 100 people stopped by their table.



Providing information about Chemists Celebrate Earth Week



ACS Student Chapter at Midland College cleaning the area around the food bank

On July 31, the San Angelo ACS chapter did a Magic Show at the Sunset Mall in San Angelo. About 200 parents and kids attended. They did Elephant Toothpaste, Crushing Cans with Steam, the Nonburning Dollar, the Ethanol Popgun, Guncotton, and other chemistry demonstrations.



Crushing a Can with Steam



Guncotton

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The Angelo State University student chapter participated in a Math and Science Night at Fort Concho Elementary on September 28. They did a few demonstrations, including Elephant Toothpaste, the Blue Bottle and Traffic Light color-change experiments, and a Crushing Can demo which used air pressure to crush an aluminum can filled with steam.



Elephant Toothpaste



Elephant Toothpaste

## A Chemical Thought

The three most important rules of the chemist:

- Label clearly.
- Measure twice.
- Eat elsewhere.

— Patrick Rothfuss, *The Name of the Wind* (2007)

## Chemists Just Want To Have pHun

A photon checked into a hotel, and when the porter asked him if he had any luggage, he replied, "No, I'm travelling light."

## Permian Basin ACS Local Section Officers 2018

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If you have news about local activities, student activities, new employees, new members, good (or bad) science/chemistry jokes, or any other events related to the local section that you want to be included in the newsletter, please send the information to [Kevin.Boudreaux@angelo.edu](mailto:Kevin.Boudreaux@angelo.edu).