



## AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

### PERMIAN BASIN SECTION

#### Newsletter

*Volume 13, Number 2*

*May, 2020*



### Letter from the Chair

Welcome to the second newsletter for 2020! We had exciting events planned for April and May 2020, but as you all know, our plans have been abruptly stopped by the pandemic. The ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia was canceled, and similarly various events were canceled / postponed all over the country.

Please stay safe and take care of yourself. We will come back strong in Fall 2020!

Pat Kesavan

### Councilor Corner

With the termination of the in-person Philadelphia National Meeting, the Council Policy Committee (CPC) has been acting Ad Interim for the Council.

1. The CPC voted on the recommendation of the Committee on Budget and Finance to set the member dues for 2021 at the 2020 rate of \$175.
2. CPC voted on the recommendation of the Committee on Membership Affairs to approve the *Petition on Benefits and Dues*, which is contingent on confirmation by the Board of Directors. This Petition amended Standing Rule I, Sec. 5, b, 9, 10; and Standing Rule II, Sec. 5, a. All membership information would be annually published in a Schedule of Membership and future changes require Council approval.
3. CPC also approved the *2021 Schedule of Membership*, which is contingent on the approval of the *Petition on Benefits and Dues* by the Board of Directors. Future changes in 2022 and beyond would require Council approval but these Schedules would allow for flexibility in proposing various dues and benefits concepts for members.

### Special Meeting of Council

CPC authorized a Special Meeting of the Council on April 20, 2020, from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

EDT for voting Councilors to hear from and question the four nominees for ACS President-Elect, 2021.

Following the meeting, Councilors were asked to select two candidates for this office by Council ballot via the web after the meeting with voting taking place from Monday, April 27 through Friday, May 1, 2020.

By web ballot, the Council selected **Mary K. Carroll and Angela K. Wilson as candidates for 2021 President-Elect**. These two candidates, along with any candidates selected via petitions, will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

**The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced the following:**

Selection of the following candidates for Directors-at-Large for 2021-2023 terms: Dawn A. Brooks, Wayne E. Jones, Jr., Kristin M. Omberg, and Carolyn Ribes. These candidates, and any candidates for whom we receive valid nominating petitions by July 15, will be presented this fall to the members of Council as candidates for Directors-at-Large. Ballots will be distributed to the Council on or before October 1, 2020.

A detailed report may be found on the website <https://permianbasinacs.org/>

## Upcoming (???) National and Regional Meetings and Programs

### ACS National Meeting & Exposition – Fall 2020

San Francisco, CA  
August 16-20, 2020  
Theme:

### Southwestern/Southeastern Regional Meeting (SWRM/SERMACS)

New Orleans, LA  
Hilton Riverside Hotel  
October 14-17, 2020

## Permian Basin News

The Permian Basin ACS Local Section organized a chemistry Olympiad for 2020, and six students from Permian High School ECISD participated in the digital local exam on April 19<sup>th</sup>: Manuel Castillo, Sneha Kesavan, Swetha Kesavan, Dhruvkumar Patel, Gio Renacia, and Quan Luong Ton.

Dr. Rebecca Joy, an AP Chemistry teacher at Permian, said, “It is exciting for me to see that they want to participate and challenge themselves this way because not many students are motivated enough to take it on anymore. I look forward to the scores for this round!”

Out of these six students, top scorers Quan Luong Ton and Sneha Kesavan moved on to take

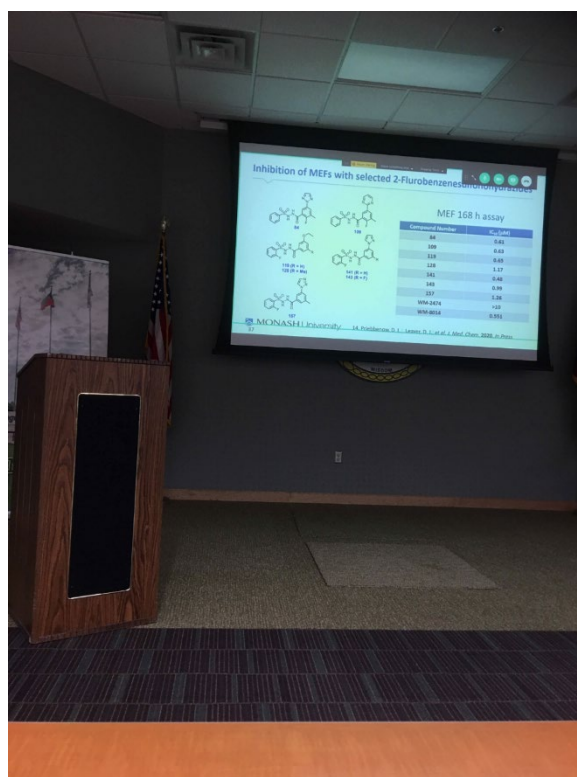
the National Exam part 1 on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The ACS local section is very proud of the achievements of these students and encourages them to participate next year!

USNCO recently announced the finalists who will be moving on to the study camp this summer to prepare for the International Chemistry Olympiad competition.

Dr. Pat Kesavan,  
Local section coordinator of USNCO

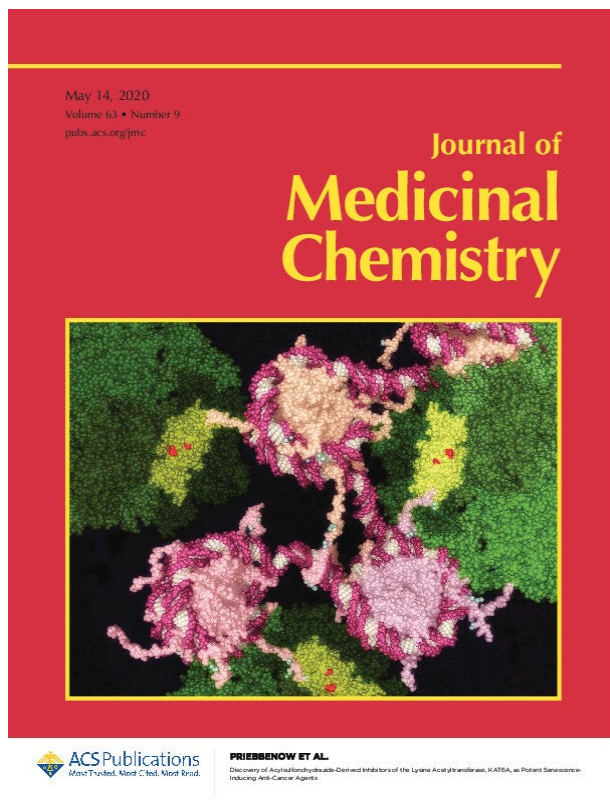
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The speaker for the March 6th First Friday Science Seminar Series at Midland College was Dr. David Lever, Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Sul Ross State University. He spoke on the topic of “Discovery, Development and Optimization of Acylsulfonohydrazide-Derived Lysine Acetyltransferase (KAT6A) Inhibitors as Potent Senescence-Inducing Anti-Cancer Agents.”



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Dr. David J. Leaver (Sul Ross State University) was a co-author on a recent *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* publication (Priebbenow, D. L.; et al. *J. Med. Chem.* **2020**, *63*, 4655-4684) that was recently featured on the front cover of *J. Med. Chem.* on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2020. This work describes in detail the discovery of WM-1119 that is a highly potent inhibitor of the histone acetyltransferase KAT6A, which was successful in arresting the progression of lymphoma in mice. The schematic diagram (designed by Etsuko Uno at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne, Australia) on the cover of *J. Med. Chem.* shows the MYST inhibitor (WM-1119, red) bound to the KAT6A complex (green; MYST domain light green) associated with chromatin (pink).



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

Since the schools in our area haven't had Spring graduation ceremonies, or have had them postponed, we'd like to take some time to recognize the Chemistry graduates from the schools in the Permian Basin section:

### Angelo State University

Gladys Chacon

Kylie Harmon

Kenzi Huseman

Baxter Krug

As we all know, most of the planned activities are canceled for the month of March, April and May 2020. Midland College organized a virtual Earth Day webinar on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and sent out emails of the CCEW newsletter to community.



## Outreach at Mall, Museum and Park - Midland College ACS Student Chapter

Alik Ortiz, Khait Sarapao, Jasmine Pryor, Andrea Avena,  
Ben Durham, Jonathan Markgraf, John Anderson, Pat Kesavan  
Chemistry Department, Midland College, Midland, TX 79705

**On Campus:**

- Mini Friday Talks
- Club Fair
- Leadership Institute
- Christmas Party

Midland College's Chemistry Club influenced the Midland community by educating the public on the principles and importance of Green Chemistry, and how chemistry can be fun for everyone. This was mainly showcased during the Mall Event hosted during the National Chemistry week. This event is held in Midland Park Mall and the demos & hands-on activities are organized according to the NCW theme "Chemistry is Out of this World". Two local TV stations filmed our group in action and two short TV interviews were conducted with Dr. Kesavan regarding our club, ACS, and chemistry in general.

**In the Community:**

- NCW Mall Demonstration
- Spooky Spectacular
- The Petroleum Museum
- Santa Rita Elementary
- Local library
- KMB Trash Pick-up

We thank our Dean Dr. Miranda Poage and ACS for supporting all our activities.

The Sul Ross State University (SRSU) Chemistry Club visited Alpine Christian School on Friday 28th February 2020 as part of its ACS Community Interaction Grant. Approximately twenty 2nd-4th graders participated in making lava lamps and acid-base rockets. The SRSU Chemistry Club also promoted Earth Day and how Chemists Celebrate Earth Week.



## A Chemical Thought

For many centuries chemists labored to change lead into precious gold, and eventually found that precious uranium turned to lead without any human effort at all.

Isaac Asimov

## Chemists Just Want To Have pHun

Yesterday I poured root beer into a square cup. Now, it's beer.

## Permian Basin ACS Local Section Officers 2020

<p><b>Chair: Dr. Pat Kesavan</b>  Midland College  phone: (432) 685-6738  e-mail: <a href="mailto:pkesavan@midland.edu">pkesavan@midland.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Treasurer: Dr. Milka Montes</b>  University of Texas of the Permian Basin  phone: (432) 552-2233  e-mail: <a href="mailto:milkamontes@gmail.com">milkamontes@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Secretary: Mr. Kevin Boudreaux</b>  Angelo State University  phone: (325) 486-6623  e-mail: <a href="mailto:kevin.boudreaux@angelo.edu">kevin.boudreaux@angelo.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Chair-Elect: Dr. John Osterhout</b>  Angelo State University (retired)  phone: (520) 548-7028  e-mail: <a href="mailto:John.Osterhout@angelo.edu">John.Osterhout@angelo.edu</a></p>
<p><b>Councilor: Dr. Kathryn Louie</b>  Angelo State University  phone: (325) 947-1369  e-mail: <a href="mailto:klouie@suddenlink.net">klouie@suddenlink.net</a></p>	<p><b>Alternate Councilor: Dr. John Osterhout</b>  Angelo State University (retired)  phone: (520) 548-7028  e-mail: <a href="mailto:John.Osterhout@angelo.edu">John.Osterhout@angelo.edu</a></p>
<p><b>Past Chair: Dr. John Osterhout</b>  Angelo State University (retired)  phone: (520) 548-7028  e-mail: <a href="mailto:John.Osterhout@angelo.edu">John.Osterhout@angelo.edu</a></p>	

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).