

Newsletter

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ACS Local Section
Permian Basin

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American Chemical Society

Angelo State University | Midland College | Sul Ross State University | The University of Texas Permian Basin

Note from the Chair



Dr. Pat Kesavan
Chair, ACS Permian Basin Local Section
pkesavan@midland.edu
August 21, 2023

Letter from the Chair:

Welcome to Fall 2023!

We are all planning NCW activities through student chapters in various universities in our local section region. I would like to support any collaborative events between the student chapters and local sections. As a faculty advisor for the Midland College ACS student chapter, I greatly appreciate the support from the Permian Basin local section for community outreach activities. Let us plan more outreach events in our society and promote chemistry!

Some avenues you can reach – local museums, schools, and malls. Also, engage the community with hands-on activities. The theme of NCW this year, “The healing power of chemistry,” would fit well with all the advances we have seen in the pharmaceutical industry in curing many diseases.

SWRM meeting is scheduled for Nov 15-18, 2023, at Oklahoma City. Let’s encourage students to present their research at this regional meeting.

As usual, ACS has a wealth of information that you can access:
<https://www.acs.org/education/whatischemistry.html>

Enjoy,

Pat Kesavan



Memoir of John Osterhout



Excerpts from his obituary

John J. Osterhout, Ph.D., 71, of San Angelo, died Saturday, June 10, 2023, at his residence with his wife, Kathryn Louie, Ph.D., by his side.

John was born Dec. 16, 1951, in Ranger, Texas, to John Jacob Osterhout and Ila Mae Hughes. He lived in several East and Central Texas towns before he escaped to college after graduating as valedictorian from Madisonville High School.

John was a 1974 graduate of Rice University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry. In 1981, he earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from The University of Texas at Austin. He also attended Harvard University Graduate School of Education, 2012 Management Development Program - graduate training for middle managers of higher education.

In 2008, he began his career at Angelo State, where he taught general chemistry to freshmen and occasionally biophysics to seniors using a flipped classroom.

Never one to sit still, John served as the Chair of the Permian Basin Local Section of the American Chemical Society and was a photographer (I just came to know)

On his website, johnosterhout.com, he shared his love of books, travel, chemistry, photography, science, and his sense of humor. I'm going to miss the booming voice of John during our zoom meetings. I still recall him calling out "I'm here" during our virtual local section gatherings.

I surely miss a vibrant professor who is so passionate about life!

Sincerely,

Pat Kesavan





Councilor Corner

The Fall 2023 National Meeting in San Francisco was conducted in a hybrid format. The Council Meeting was held in a hybrid manner on August 16, 2023.

Highlights from the 2023 Spring Council Meeting:

1. The fall 2023 meeting was held in a hybrid manner from August 13-17. As of August 16, there were 15,019 registrations (13,363 in-person and 1,656 online).
2. Council elected members to fill positions on several Committees of Council: Council Policy Committee (CPC), Committee on Committees (ConC), and Committee on Nominations and Elections (N&E).
3. Council voted to approve several items listed in the agenda for Council Action.
4. ACS President Judith Giordan introduced and led a special discussion on "ACS Council: Equitable Governance for the Future." She sought Councilor input on ideas to improve representation, broadly defined, on Council and across ACS governance.
5. Chief Executive Officer Albert Horvath honored the memory of the newly-appointed Editor-in-Chief of C&EN, Mohammed Yahia, who passed away on the way to the San Francisco meeting. Our thoughts go out to his wife Ola and their two young children.

Detailed reports may be found on the website <https://permianbasinacs.org/>Detailed reports may be found on the website <https://permianbasinacs.org/>

Kathryn Louie
Past Chair and Councilor, ACS Permian Basin



Upcoming ACS National and Regional Meetings

ACS – Permian Basin Section Young Chemist Travel Grant

Students Travel grants are available to subsidize travel to an ACS meeting to present a paper or poster. Students can get a [copy of the grant application](#) from the ACS Permian Basin website. The application and supporting documents should be sent to Dr. Milka Montes at montes_m@utpb.edu at least two months before the travel.

Southwestern Regional Meeting (SWRM) 2023

Oklahoma City, OK
Omni Oklahoma City Hotel
November 15-18
Theme: Chemistry Energized
[Link](#)



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