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Dear Southwest Regional Meeting Participants:

On behalf of the more than 173,000 global member community of the American Chemical Society, I am delighted to extend my warm personal greetings to all of you attending the 2023 ACS Southwest Regional Meeting (SWRM) in lovely Oklahoma City, OK.

The theme of this meeting “Chemistry Energized” reflects the energy associated with the anticipation of meeting with colleagues face-to-face, the emphasis on exciting recent advances in chemistry-related fields, and the energy focus of the southwest ACS region. During SWRM, there will be a special partnership between both local sections and technical divisions with many co-sponsored and co-organized special symposia. More traditional offerings such as high school and undergraduate programs, awards, poster sessions, exposition, keynote speakers, workshops, social programs (including brewpubs visits) and an awards banquet will also be held.

In addition to the technical programming, there will be special symposia on: Diversity in Chemistry and STEM; Lessons and Inspiration from the History of Chemistry; Best Practices for Successful Small Chemical Businesses; and the Innovative Ways to Convey the Value of Chemistry to the Public, just to name a few.

Should your schedule permit, join us on Tuesday evening at the First Americans Museum for the Diversity Reception from 6:00-9:00 pm. This will reception is in conjunction with the Diversity in Chemistry and STEM special symposium.

A variety of special programs and workshops will be offered. These include the Senior Chemists Lecture and Breakfast featuring Dr. Arianne C. Hunter, NSF Postdoctoral Fellow from Caltech; the Women Chemists Lecture and Luncheon featuring Dr. Kara Bren, Richard S. Eisenberg Professor of Chemistry at the University of Rochester; and the Oklahoma Chemists of the Year Luncheon and Lecture featuring the 2023 Oklahoma Chemist Award recipient, Dr. George Richter-Addo, of the University of Oklahoma. On Saturday, join us at the Presidential Workshop: Trust in Science. This workshop is tailored for ACS members to use elements of humor to listen to and respond in conversations to other people's concerns, thoughts, and issues about a topic in science.

With all these great symposia, workshops, and social events, I want to express my special thanks to the SWRM General Chairs Cheryl Frech and Lloyd Bumm and Program Chair Frank Blum, the many organizers and volunteers, ACS staff, and especially to our hosts at with Oklahoma Local Section for their hard work and dedication to create an intellectually stimulating, diverse and inclusive experience here in Oklahoma City.

Best wishes for a most successful 2023 SWRM!



Judith C. Giordan
President
American Chemical Society