ACS Local Section
Portland
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Portland Section Meeting Notice

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Fighting mycobacterial pathogens with chemical probes

a talk by

Professor Kimberly E. Beatty

Oregon Health & Science University

Thursday November 13, 2025, 6-9pm

Leikam Brewing
5812 E Burnside St
Portland, OR 97215

Dinner Reservations

Reserve your dinner for $25/person ($15 for undergraduate students, high school teachers, unemployed members). $5 added for tickets purchased at the event.

Schedule:

6pm social

6:45 pm buffet dinner

7:45 pm program

Please contact Irving Rettig <irvdrettig@gmail.com> for any questions.

Abstract and bio next page.

Prof. Kimberly E. Beatty, OHSU

Fighting mycobacterial pathogens with chemical probes

The most deadly disease in human history is caused by a bacterium named Mycobacterium tuberculosis. M. tuberculosis infects over 10 million people a year and kills over 1.2 million every year. Treatment is challenging, requiring multiple drugs given for a minimum of 4 months. Improved treatment options are urgently needed, especially for patients with drug-resistant disease. The Beatty Lab at OHSU is addressing this significant unmet need by investigating the use of beta-lactam antibiotics to kill mycobacteria. Our studies rely on activity-based probes, which are modified beta-lactams that label drug targets with a reporter. We are using these probes to identify drug targets, investigate drug susceptibility, and to provide comprehensive evidence in support of using beta-lactams to treat mycobacterial infections.

Bio

The Beatty group applies novel chemical tools and technologies towards illuminating human diseases. When Dr. Beatty started her group at OHSU in 2012, she decided that her focus would be on using innovative and creative approaches to identify and investigate the molecular basis of human diseases, including tuberculosis (TB) and breast cancer. Before joining the faculty at OHSU, Dr. Beatty earned her PhD in chemistry with Professor David Tirrell at Caltech. She completed her postdoc training at UC Berkeley with Professor Carolyn Bertozzi.

Jim Tung at OMSI Science Fair October 4

There was a pretty big crowd at OMSI on Saturday. It smelled pretty nice at the ACS table. Picture by Bernie Carlsen.

Jim and his daughter had attendees intrigued with his chemistry distillation. Photo by Bernie Carlsen