

University of North Texas, Department of Chemistry, 1508 W. Mulberry Street, Denton, TX 76203

## EDUCATION

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- **University of North Texas** Denton, TX  
*Ph.D. Candidate in Physical Chemistry* *August 2017 – Present*
- **Truman State University** Kirksville, MO  
*B.S. in Chemistry (ACS Certified)* *August 2013 – May 2017*  
*B.A. in Psychology* *August 2013 – May 2017*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- **Graduate Research Assistant** Denton, TX  
*University of North Texas* *August 2017 – Present*
  - **Advisor:** Dr. G. Andrés Cisneros
  - Performed molecular dynamics simulations with DNA polymerase  $\kappa$ , TET2, HRP, and RdRp
  - Parameterized non-standard nucleic acids and small ligands
  - Optimized protein complexes using quantum mechanics/molecular mechanics
  - Maintained computational resources (13 workstations and over 150 TB of storage) as systems administrator
- **Undergraduate Research Assistant** Kirksville, MO  
*Truman State University* *November 2015 – May 2017*
  - **Advisor:** Dr. Bill R. Miller III
  - Performed molecular dynamics simulations with APOBEC3B and APOBEC3G
  - Docked ligands to APOBEC3B to screen for potential inhibitors

## PUBLICATIONS

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3. Leddin, E. M.; Cisneros, G. A. Comparison of DNA and RNA Substrate Effects on TET2 Structure. In *Advances in Protein Chemistry and Structural Biology*; Karabencheva-Christova, T., Christov, C. Z., Eds.; Academic Press: 2019, pp 91-112.
2. DeNizio, J. E.; Liu, M. Y.; Leddin, E. M.; Cisneros, G. A.; Kohli, R. M. Selectivity and Promiscuity in TET-mediated oxidation of 5-methylcytosine in DNA and RNA. *Biochemistry* **2019**, *58*, 411-421.
1. Antczak, N. M.; Walker, A. R.; Stern, H. R.; Leddin, E. M.; Palad, C.; Coulther, T. A.; Swett, R.; Cisneros, G. A.; Beuning, P. J. Characterization of nine cancer-associated variants in human Pol  $\kappa$ . *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* **2018**, *31*, 697-711.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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- **First Place Poster in Community Development and Service Projects**, AMSA Convention (2021)
- **First Place Presentation**, University of North Texas Chemistry Department Graduate Seminar Day (2020)
- **Ed and Julia Hodges Memorial Scholarship**, University of North Texas Chemistry Department (2020)
- **First Place Project**, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual oSTEM Conference Hackathon (2019)
- **Honorable Mention from the Graduate Research Fellowship Program**, National Science Foundation (2019)
- **Outstanding Service and Leadership Award**, Truman State University Chemistry Department (2017)
- **Distinguished Service Key**, Alpha Phi Omega - Epsilon Chapter (2017)
- **Gold Sash Award**, Alpha Phi Omega - Epsilon Chapter (2016)
- **President's Volunteer Service Gold Award**, Points of Light Institute (2016)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- **Computer-Based:** Proficient with AMBER20; Avogadro; ChemDraw; Gaussian16; Git version control; GitHub project management; Gnuplot; iBabel; LoggerPro; UCSF Chimera; Visual Molecular Dynamics;  $\text{\LaTeX}$ ; Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint; and Windows, Mac, and Linux Operating Systems. Familiar with CAVER, Gimp, GROMACS, HTML/CSS, ImageJ, Jekyll, LICHEM, PLINK, PyRx, SPSS, TINKER, Python (Matplotlib, MDAnalysis, Numpy, Pandas, ParmEd), R (data.table, tidyverse), and RMarkdown.
- **Lab-Based:** Proficient with gel electrophoresis and titration. Familiar with Fourier-Transform Infrared, Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectroscopy, High Performance Liquid Chromatography,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy, Schlenk Lines, Thin Layer Chromatography, and UV-Vis Spectrometry.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- **Teaching Assistant** Denton, TX  
*University of North Texas* August 2017 – May 2018
  - **General Chemistry Lab Preparation:** Worked on a six-person team to prepare general chemistry experiments and disposed of hazardous waste in accordance with state and federal guidelines
  - **Computational Chemistry Instructional Laboratory:** Answered student computer questions, provided software instruction, and managed printing requests
- **Introduction to Chemistry Preceptor** Kirksville, MO  
*Joseph Baldwin Academy* June 2016 & June 2017
  - Assisted professors with instruction and led nightly study hall for 24 students
  - Enforced Academy regulations with over 200 7th-9th grade students to ensure safety
  - Participated in daily staff meetings and worked in a team environment
- **Biochemistry Teaching Assistant** Kirksville, MO  
*Truman State University* January 2017 – May 2017
  - Prepared experiment materials, including DNA and protein gels and buffer solutions
  - Instructed students in laboratory techniques, including pipetting and running gels
  - Graded laboratory quizzes
- **Academic Trainer** Kirksville, MO  
*STEP Scholars Program* August 2016 – May 2017
  - Assisted students with learning and comprehending new material
  - Tailored instruction to fit individual learning styles
  - Used collaborative learning techniques with students
  - Instructed students in Introduction to Physics and Chemical Principles I
- **Student Advisor/Academic Trainer** Kirksville, MO  
*Summer SPECTRA Scholars Program* May 2015 – July 2015
  - Served as a mentor for 28 incoming undergraduate students
  - Fostered a community by addressing student concerns and promoting academic success
  - Organized and budgeted for eight weekly events
  - Instructed students in Basic Principles of Chemistry, Chemical Principles I, College Algebra, Plane Trigonometry, and Precalculus

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

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13. "Impact of Nucleic Acid Backbone Composition on TET2: A Computational Study." E. M. Leddin, J. E. DeNizio, M. Y. Liu, R. M. Kohli, G. A. Cisneros. **Poster, Sci-Mix.** 259<sup>th</sup> American Chemical Society National Meeting & Exposition, March 24, 2020 (hosted online due to COVID-19).
12. "Impact of Nucleic Acid Backbone Composition on TET2: A Computational Study." E. M. Leddin, J. E. DeNizio, M. Y. Liu, R. M. Kohli, G. A. Cisneros. **Poster.** University of North Texas College of Science Research Day, March 20, 2020; and Royal Society of Chemistry Twitter Poster Conference, March 3, 2020.
11. "Computational investigation of TET2 activity on RNA-containing substrates." E. M. Leddin, G. A. Cisneros. **Presentation.** 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual DFW/ACS Meeting-in-Miniature, April 27, 2019.

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS, CONTINUED

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10. "Computational investigation of TET2 activity on RNA-containing substrates." E. M. Leddin, J. E. DeNizio, M. Y. Liu, R. M. Kohli, G. A. Cisneros. **Poster**. 257<sup>th</sup> American Chemical Society National Meeting & Exposition, April 2, 2019.
9. "Computational investigation of single nucleotide polymorphisms in human DNA Polymerase  $\kappa$ ." E. M. Leddin, A. R. Walker, N. M. Antczak, H. R. Stern, C. Palad, T. A. Coulther, R. J. Swett, P. J. Beuning, G. A. Cisneros. **Poster, Sci-Mix**. 257<sup>th</sup> American Chemical Society National Meeting & Exposition, April 2, 2019.
8. "Computational investigation of TET2 activity on RNA-containing substrates." E. M. Leddin, J. E. DeNizio, M. Y. Liu, R. M. Kohli, G. A. Cisneros. **Poster**. Royal Society of Chemistry Twitter Poster Conference, March 5, 2019.
7. "Investigation of SNPs in DNA Polymerase  $\kappa$ ." E. M. Leddin, G. A. Cisneros. **Presentation**. North Texas and Oklahoma Computational Chemistry Symposium, Denton, TX, January 11, 2019.
6. "Computational investigation of the impact of an RNA base in a TET2-DNA complex." E. M. Leddin, G. A. Cisneros. **Poster**. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual oSTEM Conference, Houston, TX, November 17, 2018; and NSF CAC Fall IAB Meeting, Denton, TX, October 22, 2018.
5. "Virtual screening of potential inhibitors of APOBEC3B: A promising cancer drug target." Z. D. Smith, E. M. Leddin, B. R. Miller III. **Poster**. ACS Midwest Regional Meeting, Lawrence, KS, October 19, 2017; and MERCURY Conference, Greenville, SC, July 21, 2017.
4. "Campus climate for the LGBTQ+ community at Truman State University." E. M. Leddin, T. Palmer. **Poster**. Psychology Capstone Presentation at Truman State University, May 2, 2017.
3. "Computational analysis of the movement and inhibition of APOBEC3B." E. M. Leddin, B. R. Miller III. **Presentation**. Truman State University Student Research Conference, April 20, 2017; and National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Memphis, TN, April 8, 2017.
2. "Do you believe in the power of entropy?" E. M. Leddin, J. M. McCormick. **Presentation**. Truman State University Student Research Conference, April 20, 2017.
1. "Mental health of students and attitudes about University Counseling Services at Truman State University." E. M. Leddin, T. D. Paino. **Poster**. Truman State University Student Research Conference, April 19, 2016.

## SERVICE AND OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS

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14. "Messages from COVID-19: Operating a Crisis Hotline by People in STEMM with Marginalized Identities" E. M. Leddin, S. Huard, A. Bryant, N. Juarez, J. Hong, L. Martinez, K. R. Fox. **Poster**. 26th Annual American Medical Student Association Project, Research, and Experience Exhibition, March 6, 2021.
13. "Following the Yellow-Brick Road to... Graduate School???" E. M. Leddin. **Presentation**. Lincoln-Way West Community High School, New Lenox, IL, March 3, 2021.
12. "We're Out Here THRIVE-ing: Addressing Mental Health in STEMM." E. M. Leddin, S. Huard, A. Bryant, N. Juarez, J. Hong, L. Martinez, K. R. Fox. **Poster**. Royal Society of Chemistry Twitter Poster Conference, March 2, 2021.
11. "Mental Health Interventions for People in STEMM with Marginalized Identities." K. R. Fox, S. Huard, E. M. Leddin, L. Martinez, A. Bryant, N. Juarez. **Poster**. 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society, Online, January 14, 2020.
10. "Scientific Ethics: How Sex Research, Standardized Testing, and Gifted Programs Are All Tied to Eugenics." E. M. Leddin. **Presentation**. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual oSTEM + NOGLSTP's Out to Innovate™ Conference, Online, November 14, 2020.
9. "LGBTQ+ Inclusion Round Table." **Panelist**. Alpha Phi Omega Section G-1 & G-2 Conference, Online, November 8, 2020.
8. "Supporting Trans Students." E. M. Leddin. **Poster**. Royal Society of Chemistry Twitter Poster Conference, March 3, 2020.
7. "Research Skills for the Newbie in the Lab." E. M. Leddin. **Presentation**. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual oSTEM Conference, Detroit, MI, November 16, 2019.
6. "Graduate and Professional School Applications." E. M. Leddin. **Presentation**. oSTEM Meeting, Denton, TX, September 23, 2019; and UNT NSF-REU Program, Denton, TX, July, 17 2019.
5. "Computational Chemistry Bootcamp." E. M. Leddin. **Presentation**. UNT NSF-REU Program, Denton, TX, June 11, 2019.
4. "The LGBTQ+ community in chemistry – new frontiers for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars." **Panelist**. 257<sup>th</sup> American Chemical Society National Meeting & Exposition, Orlando, FL, April 1, 2019.
3. "The Graduate School Experience: What to Expect" **Panelist**. 257<sup>th</sup> American Chemical Society National Meeting & Exposition, Orlando, FL, March 31, 2019.
2. "Creating Inclusive Environments." E. M. Leddin. **Presentation**. Alpha Phi Omega D-3 Sectional Conference, Denton, TX, March 2, 2019.
1. "Conflict Resolution." E. M. Leddin. **Presentation**. Alpha Phi Omega D-3 Sectional Conference, Denton, TX, March 2, 2019; and Alpha Phi Omega Section 41 Conference, Sherman, TX, April 14, 2018.

## ACTIVITIES AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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- **Alpha Chi Sigma** Professional Chemistry Fraternity (2014 – Present)
  - **Chemistry Tutor:** Instructed students in CHEM 100 (Chemistry for Contemporary Living), CHEM 129 (Basic Principles of Chemistry), CHEM 130 (Chemical Principles I), CHEM 131 (Chemical Principles II), CHEM 222 (Introduction to Quantitative Analysis), CHEM 329 (Organic Chemistry I), CHEM 331 (Organic Chemistry II), and CHEM 335 (Biochemistry I: Structure and Function)
- **American Chemical Society** (2013 – Present)
  - **Musical Demo Show Co-Chair:** Coordinated the 2016 Musical Demo Show, an annual event for young children which sets chemical demonstrations to music
- **Alpha Phi Omega** Service Fraternity (2014 – Present)
  - **Regional Conference Public Relations Chair:** Contacted regional members, maintained several social media profiles, and created promotional materials
  - **First Vice President of Large Service:** Planned a spring break trip for 17 people and other large-scale community service events, including and a community-wide spaghetti dinner
  - **Sergeant-at-Arms:** Proposed over 30 approved changes to the organization bylaws and maintained order at meetings
  - **Inter-chapter Relations Chair:** Arranged group travel to the 2016 National Convention and promoted events with other chapters in our section.
- **Civil Air Patrol** (2011 – Present)
- **Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (oSTEM)** (2018 – Present)
  - **Mentoring Volunteer (National):** Tested over 6 mentoring platforms, and met with committee biweekly to outline goals and develop training materials for the program
  - **Crisis Team Member (National):** Facilitated team training on best-practices for text-based crisis intervention and answered text messages for the national oSTEM LGBTQ+ crisis hotline
  - **Chapter President:** Conducted weekly meetings, maintained the organization's email and Twitter accounts, and created advertisements
- **Sigma Xi** Associate Member (2019 – Present)

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Crisis Responder and Outreach Coordinator</b><br/><i>THRIVE Lifeline</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Counseled texters experiencing mental health crises or seeking identity-based support</li><li>◦ Developed policies and training materials for crisis responders</li><li>◦ Maintained the hotline's website and contributed to external resource list</li><li>◦ Created social media posts and engaged with crisis organizations through Twitter</li></ul></li></ul> | Miami, FL (online)<br><i>June 2020 – present</i>    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Crisis Counselor</b><br/><i>Crisis Text Line</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Helped guide texters from place of immediate crisis to a calm state</li><li>◦ Counseled clients experiencing suicidal ideation, depression, stress, abuse, and more</li></ul></li></ul>   | New York, NY (online)<br><i>June 2018 – present</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Crisis Hotline Volunteer</b><br/><i>Victim Support Services</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Answered calls to the crisis hotline and provided clients with referrals for services</li></ul></li></ul>  | Kirkville, MO<br><i>August 2014 – May 2017</i>      |

## SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

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- **Skype-a-Scientist** (2018-present)
- **Letters to a Pre-Scientist** (2019-present)
- **oSTEM Mentorship Program (Mentor)** (2019)
- **Guest Appearance on *My Fave Queer Chemist* Podcast** (2020)
- **Científico Latino's Graduate Student Mentorship Initiative (Mentor)** (2020)
- **UX Tester and Advisor, ACS Publications Name Change Policy Initiative** (2020)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSEWORK

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- **XSEDE HPC Workshop: GPU Programming Using OpenACC**, eXtreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (March 2021)
- **Reclaiming STEM: Diverse and Inclusive Sci-Comm Workshop**, Reclaiming STEM (October 2020)
- **AMSA Reproductive Health Scholars Program**, American Medical Student Association (July 2020)
  - Final project: Queering Reproduction, reproductive healthcare training with a transgender and non-binary focus
- **Mental Health First Aid Certification**, National Council for Behavioral Health (May 2020)
- **XSEDE HPC Workshop MPI**, eXtreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (May 2020)
- **Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)**, LivingWorks (March 2020)
- **Adult and Pediatric AED, CPR, and First Aid Certification**, American Red Cross (September 2019)
- **Software Summer School**, Molecular Sciences Software Institute (July 2019)
- **Graduate Student Teaching Excellence Program**, University of North Texas Center for Learning Enhancement, Assessment, and Redesign (Fall 2018)
- **Teaching Excellence Seminar**, University of North Texas (August 2017)
- **Safe Zone Training**, Truman State University (March 2016)
- **Master Tutoring Workshop**, Truman State University (January 2015)