I was born and raised in Chicago IL, where I attended North Park College. After graduation in 1979, I became a biochemistry graduate student at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1980, I transferred to the chemistry department at MIT, where I graduated with a PhD in 1985. I then did a post-doc in Eckard Münck’s lab at the University of Minnesota. In 1988, I joined the faculty at Texas A&M University. I have always been fascinated by life in general and in understanding natural processes through chemistry. My hobbies are repairing things that break in my house and at my cabin, exercising, and most of all, enjoying my family and friends.