

The Blue Ridge Chemist

Since 1947 the Official Local Section Publication of the
Virginia Blue Ridge Section, American Chemical Society

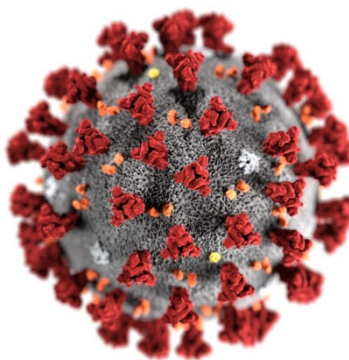
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Radford University Hosts the April Meeting (by Zoom)



Meeting Information

- 706th Meeting of the Virginia Blue Ridge Section, American Chemical Society
- Keynote speaker: Dr. Kimberly Lane, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Radford University
- Presentation: “The Biochemistry of COVID-19”
- **Agenda for Monday, April 5, 2021**
 - Zoom link = <https://radford.zoom.us/j/94717929201>
 - Zoom password = COVID
 - Presentation at 5:30 PM
 - During the presentation, your Zoom microphone will be muted. You may enter questions for the presenter using the Chat feature or wait to the end.

Keynote Speaker – Kim Lane



Kim Lane grew up in Boones Mill, VA, outside of Roanoke. She earned a B.S. in chemistry from Roanoke College in 1998 and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry (with a Structural Biology and Biophysics Training Fellowship) from Duke University in 2005. Kim went on to complete a SPIRE (Seeding Postdoctoral Innovators in Research & Education) post-doctoral fellowship at UNC-Chapel Hill. Kim joined Radford University in 2008, where she teaches general chemistry, biochemistry, and medicinal chemistry and trains undergraduates in her research lab. Her research focuses on protein structure and function, with particular interest in ligand binding and structure-based drug design. Kim's awards include the Radford University College of Science and Technology Outstanding Teaching Award and the Donald N. Dedmon Teaching Professor Award. Kim is married to Keith, a civil engineer, and enjoys hiking, gardening, quilting, and reading in her free time.

The Biochemistry of COVID-19

COVID-19 has become such a large part of our lives, and yet many of us really don't know what it looks like or how it works. This virus belongs to the coronavirus family, along with a number of other viruses that cause SARS, MERS, and some cases of the common cold. These viruses all contain single-stranded RNA wrapped in a coat of proteins and lipids, with characteristic spike proteins protruding from the surface. Join me as I talk about the structure of these viruses, how this structure allows for the recognition and invasion of targeted cells, and how variants of the virus differ in their structure (and resulting infection rates). I will also discuss the types of vaccines that are available against COVID-19 and how they work.



Please note that the annual meeting with awards and poster session, traditional held in April at Radford University, has been cancelled due to the pandemic. However, the May 2021 issue of *The Blue Ridge Chemist* will still be published in mid-April and will contain the names and institutions of our many awardees. – Ed.

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