

Keynote: Scientists Should Write Like Journalists and Talk Like Cavemen

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Associate Professor Ryan C. Fortenberry is in his 5th year at the University of Mississippi (UM) and is the Graduate Program Coordinator for the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry. He was previously at Georgia Southern University for five years and granted tenure & promotion there before joining UM. Ryan earned a BS in Mathematics and a MS in Communication from Mississippi College; received a Ph.D. at Virginia Tech in Theoretical Chemistry; and was a NASA Postdoctoral Program Fellow at the NASA Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California.

Ryan was previously the Chair & Past-Chair of the ACS Astrochemistry Subdivision as well as the Ole Miss Campus Coordinator for the Mississippi Space Grant Consortium. Ryan has nearly 200 peer-reviewed scientific publications, received several research grants, was selected as the Virginia Tech College of Science 2019-2020 Outstanding Recent Alumni Awardee, has been published in Scientific American, and is the author of Complete Science Communication, a text on how to write and talk about science both to expert and non-expert audiences alike. Ryan enjoys the outdoors, travel, and time with family. He has dreams of climbing the 50 state high points; he's currently at 35 (+Puerto Rico).

