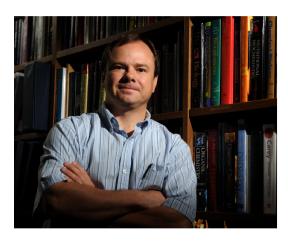
MEET THE GUEST EDITOR

James Cizdziel

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Dr. James Cizdziel is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Mississippi. He received degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo (B.S. in Analytical Chemistry, 1991) and the University of Nevada, Reno (Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Health, Environmental Chemistry Track, 1998). Prior to attending graduate school he was laboratory manager at Buffalo Tungsten Incorporated (1991-1993). His dissertation research, under Dr. Vernon Hodge, and associated journal publications examining attic dust as a historical record of air pollution are recognized as ground-breaking and innovative. He served as a National Research Council Postdoctoral Associate at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Exposure Research Laboratory from 1998-2000. His research there resulted in some of the first papers on the determination of Hg in environmental and biological samples using automated combustionatomic absorption spectrometry. In 2000, he was hired as Senior Scientist at the Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. There he led a team of researchers who, among other things, utilized ICP-MS to measure trace elements in groundwater from near Yucca Mountain and the Nevada Test Site for various modeling studies. While in Las Vegas, he was active in the American Chemical Society, holding positions of Chair and Councilor in the Southern Nevada Section. He also served on the ACS National Committee for Technician Affairs. In 2008, he moved to Oxford, Mississippi to join the faculty at Ole Miss. He has been principal investigator on grants from the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), EPA, and the Department of Energy. Recently, he was awarded an NSF grant to develop an ICP-MS facility for the U.S. Mid-South region. His research interests are in the area of analytical, environmental, and forensic chemistry. He is particularly interested in environmental monitoring and fingerprinting using isotope based methods. He is also interested in the biogeochemical cycling of Hg and supervises a state-of-the-art Hg laboratory. Often what counts in science is novelty. To that end, he enjoys developing new measurement techniques or applying analytical methods in novel ways. For example, he published the first work on determining Pb in blood by laser ablation ICP-MS of filter paper spotted with blood.

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