



**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Fall 2020 Chemistry Seminar Series  
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**Sabbatical Tales: How I Learned Climate Science, Law and Policy,  
Became a Climate Advocate, and Wrote a Book About It All**

ABSTRACT:

Polling data shows that many US citizens are concerned about climate change and would like to contribute to solutions, but feel blocked for a variety of reasons, including the complexity of the issue, the feeling that they do not know what best to do, and a self-identification that they are not "activists". Resources for potential advocates are available all over the Internet, but there is no single-volume, authoritative guide to climate change that is tailored to advocates, and addresses the full range of topics in science, policy, and politics, as well as solutions that range from remaking the electric power system to sequestering more carbon on forests and farms. In this seminar, we will look at the resources for climate advocacy and education available today in the US, and how this volume makes a unique contribution. In this context, we will then briefly examine the state of climate change today, what must be rapidly done to address the problem, and how Portland citizens and students can make a difference.