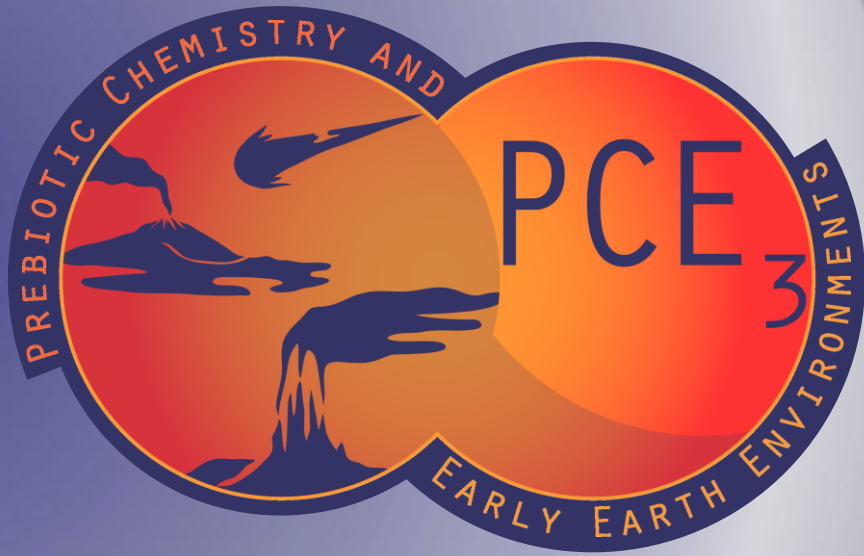


Theme:
Oceans and Origins



PCE₃ Seminar Series

Thurs, June 29th - 5 p.m. EDT
2 p.m. PDT

More information & registration:
prebioticchem.org/seminars



@PCE3_Sci



Jessica Weber

Research Scientist
*NASA JPL, Origins and Habitability
Lab*

"Prebiotic Chemistry to Understand
the Origin of Metabolism"



Katherine Dzurilla

Postdoctoral Researcher
*NASA JPL, Origins and Habitability
Lab*

"Potential for Abiotic Reduction of
Quinones through Mineral
Interactions"

Jessica Weber

Dr. Jessica Weber is a Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) research scientist in the Origins and Habitability Lab (OHL). She earned her Ph.D. in Chemistry from MIT in 2019 with Dr. Tim Jamison and a B.S. in Chemistry from University of Chicago in 2014. Her graduate school research focused on organometallic catalysis and pharmaceutical synthesis. At JPL, Jessica focuses on applying synthetic chemistry techniques to address questions about the origins of life and habitability of the early Earth and other worlds. She experimentally explores mineral-organic interactions and reactivity related to prebiotic chemistry on ocean and terrestrial worlds. Jessica has also been involved in the 2019 Caltech-JPL Venus Seminar Series, Enceladus Vent Explorer (EVE) mission concept, and the EELS Path to Flight working group. Jessica is a founding member of both the Network for Ocean Worlds early career group, Future Leaders of Ocean Worlds (FLOW), and the VEXAG affiliated Venus Early Career group (OVEN).

Katherine Dzurilla

Katherine Dzurilla is a postdoc at JPL working in the Origins and Habitability Lab. After graduating from Oklahoma State University with majors in biochemistry and physics, she completed her Ph.D. at the University of Arkansas. Her Ph.D. thesis focused on the solubility of tholins within Titan lakes, and their potential to form biologically relevant compounds. During her graduate work, she became interested in investigating early biological systems these compounds might exist in and pursued a postdoctoral position that incorporated origin of life studies. Her current work focuses on ocean worlds and their potential to hold biochemical reactions.