

FRANCISCO, JOSEPH

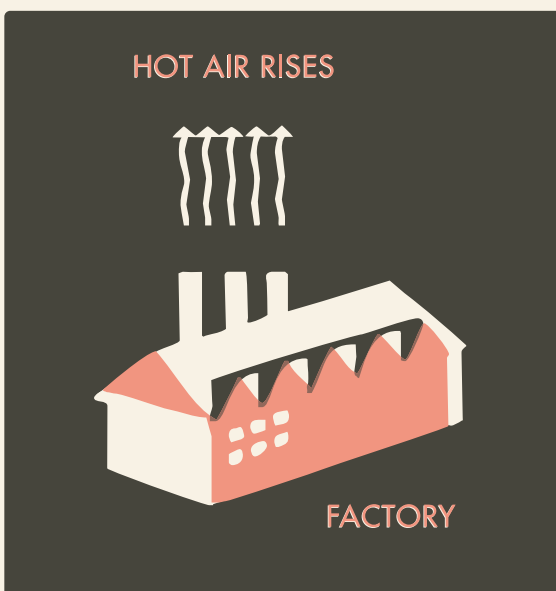
JOSEPH S. FRANCISCO ACS President-Elect, William E. Moore Distinguished Professor of Physical Chemistry Professor, Purdue University

HOMETOWN Beaumont Texas

TSRC Participant, Pinhead Scholar in the Schools, and Pinhead Town Talk Speaker

I KNEW I WANTED TO BE A SCIENTIST WHEN I did undergraduate research as a freshman with Professor Raymond Davis

HIS STORY Joe does science outreach because he personally knows the outcome can be profound. As a junior in high school in Beaumont, Texas, Joe hadn't ever thought about going to college until serendipity brought him face-to-face with a college mathematics professor on the sidewalk in front of his house . . . When in 2006



ATMOSPHERIC CHEMISTRY
IS BETTER THAN SLICED BREAD

“Connecting with the community of Telluride students? It was electric.”

Joe was nominated to give a Pinhead Town Talk to the Telluride community, he accepted readily. His presentation, “Chemistry in Our Own Atmosphere: What It Can Tell Us About Mars” was so engaging and energetic, he was immediately identified as “a catch” for the Pinhead Scholars in the Schools program. In May of 2008, Joe again accepted an invitation to Telluride, but this time Joe’s clear-thinking, affable style enabled hundreds of Telluride’s regional K-12 students to better understand the impact of pollutants on climate change and learn about chemistry of the atmosphere. “My only regret?” he said, “I didn’t reach more students.”



Joseph Francisco

FAVORITE HIKE Bear Creek