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**Name of Nominee:** Sarah A. Styler

I obtained my BSc, MSc, and PhD from the University of Toronto and spent a year as a postdoctoral researcher at the Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research in Leipzig, Germany. In 2015, I joined the University of Alberta as an Assistant Professor of Environmental Chemistry; in Summer 2020, I moved my research program east to McMaster, where I am currently an Assistant Professor of Environmental Chemistry and Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Atmospheric Chemistry. At McMaster, I lead the P.A.R.T.I.C.L.E.S. (pesticides, art, road dust, traffic, interdisciplinary, combustion, light, equity, surfaces) research group, which consists of a stellar group of trainees working together to learn about the air quality, climate, and health impacts of chemical reactions at environmental interfaces.

As an environmental chemist, I unsurprisingly spend a lot of time thinking about the environment. In doing so, I feel strangely nostalgic for the environmental problems of my childhood (acid rain, chlorofluorocarbons, littering), which were much less insidious and much more amenable to focused mitigation strategies than those we face today. In the absence of ‘easy’ problems to solve, and knowing that scientific consensus is a necessary but insufficient condition for substantive progress in addressing complex challenges, I often think about what might constitute a meaningful career in environmental chemistry.

Currently, my team’s research priorities are guided by two basic questions: “Is this interesting?” and “Is this important?” My interest in connecting with the Faculty of Humanities through this role stems in part from my interest in helping students in my faculty to learn about frameworks of knowing and understanding our world that are different from yet just as complex and valuable as the frameworks we employ in the sciences—the kinds of frameworks that can, for example, help us to more critically evaluate the ways in which our work might be (or might not be) important, and for whom.

In terms of my personal interests and experience beyond the traditional laboratory environment: I have worked in heritage science (at Tate in London, UK) and continue to collaborate in this area; I am developing my group’s community-engaged research program through What’s the Grime, a collaboration with Environment Hamilton that aims to map dustfall quantity and composition across lower Hamilton; I’ve participated in a two-week floor loom workshop at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts; and I am midway through a MFA in creative non-fiction at the University of King’s College in Halifax, for which I am writing a memoir focused in part on the intersections between ADHD and academia.