

# GEIGER, FRANZ

**FRANZ GEIGER** Associate Professor,  
Northwestern University

**HOMETOWN** Berlin, Germany

**TSRC** Organizer and Participant, Pinhead Town Talk  
speaker. TSRC Scientist Since 2000

**I KNEW I WANTED TO BE A SCIENTIST WHEN** I was  
in Mexico, where I lived during my year abroad  
after high school. I remember vividly how I



was standing on a  
square in downtown  
Mexico City on the  
first day of the raining  
season, and my skin  
was just being covered  
by soot particles from  
the urban air pollution.

My current atmospheric chemistry program is  
a direct result of that experience.



The San Juan Mountains are Excellent for Hiking

**HIS STORY** After several afternoon hikes, I realized  
that there were about ten faculty members running  
physical chemistry search committees for the  
upcoming junior faculty hiring season. Since my  
talk was (thankfully) scheduled for one of the later  
sessions, I had plenty of time to prepare and take  
in the unique atmosphere and spirit that is so



Franz Geiger

emblematic of the TSRC  
workshops. When it was  
time to give my talk, I  
was fired up, and when  
Dan Neumark asked me  
what other things I  
would like to do with our  
methods, I simply burst  
out, 'Well hire me!' I had  
a wonderful interview  
run during the following

fall and winter with five contacts I made at Victoria  
Buch and Mark Severson's 'Water in Confined  
Geometries' workshop in 2000.

**"I got my dream  
job because of  
TSRC, and I love it."**

**FAVORITE HIKE** I am definitely a Jud Wiebe kinda  
guy. It gives you that beautiful view from the top  
and is the perfect day-two activity to recharge  
the batteries.

**WHERE I STAY WHEN I'M IN TELLURIDE** I haven't  
stayed at the same place twice.