

Carol Parnell Joins Brookhaven As Assistant Lab Director for ES&H

Carol Parnell has been named the Assistant Director for Environment, Safety & Health (ES&H) at BNL, effective February 11.

Overseeing 127 employees and an annual budget of \$20 million, Parnell is responsible for environmental protection and occupational safety and health at the Lab's 5,300-acre site, including compliance with federal, state and local regulations that protect BNL employees, the public, and the environment. Reporting to Parnell are the Environmental & Waste Management Services Division, the Radiological Control Division, and the Safety & Health Services Division.

"Brookhaven Lab has an outstanding program in environment, safety and health, and I plan to build on its numerous accomplishments," said Parnell. "Safety and environmental protection don't stop at the Laboratory's gate. I'd like to engage families and communities for a global commitment to ES&H."

She added, "I've worked on both sides of ES&H issues, as a chemist and as an administrator. I understand the frustration of our colleagues who have to abide by numerous rules in order to



ensure a safe working environment. But I've also had to comfort grieving families who have had to cope with a death or injury of a family member that occurred because of a safety shortcut."

Carol Parnell earned a B.S. in chemistry from Tulane University, New Orleans, in 1979; a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1983; and an M.B.A. from Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University, in 2000. Parnell has held a number of senior executive Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S) positions after working for six years as a chemist at Hercules Incorporated, a specialty chemicals company. She was Compliance Assurance Manager for General Electric's Aerospace Division; Director of EH&S for Blessings Corporation, a plastic film manufacturer; Director of EH&S for Zenith Corporation; and Corporate Director of EH&S for the international printing company, R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company. Prior to joining Brookhaven, Parnell was the Vice President of EH&S for Alcan Global Pharmaceutical Packaging. — Diane Greenberg

BNL Director Sam Aronson Outlines Lab Achievements, Challenges

Brookhaven's diverse science portfolio has served the Laboratory well in recent funding cycles, and is a key element of Lab Director Sam Aronson's long term vision for its future. At his All-Hands meeting for Lab employees on Thursday, February 7, Aronson touched on a wide range of recent science achievements as he discussed the "general landscape of things," including the budget outlook, safety targets and other operational challenges.

Aronson highlighted recent successes in nanoscience and photon sciences, particularly the on-time, on-budget completion of the Center for Functional Nanomaterials (CFN) and the recent award of CD-2 status to the National Synchrotron Light Source II (NSLS-II) by DOE. Calling the two facilities "the engines of our energy R&D,"



Roger Stoutenburgh 00550208

Aronson predicted the approval of full operation for the CFN by the end of the month, and despite a significant slowdown in the staffing plan due to budget constraints, said the Lab's goal is still to receive CD-3 for the NSLS-II by the end of the year.

While the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) had a shorter-than-planned run for the third consecutive year, Aronson called attention to its record performance in luminosity and reliability. He also noted the inclusion of RHIC II

and eRHIC in DOE's Nuclear Physics Long Range Plan. Other areas of interest for BNL include high energy physics, with the start of collisions at CERN this summer; computational sciences, where New York Blue has recently been used in a major weather-forecasting project; life sciences, in which energy and biofuels are key initiatives; and applied science, including research in advanced radiation detectors, climate science, and the end use of biofuels.

Noting some major management personnel changes over the past months, Aronson welcomed Doon Gibbs as Deputy Laboratory Director for Science & Technology, Steven Vigdor as Associate Laboratory Director for Nuclear & Particle Physics, Jim Misewich as Associate Laboratory Director for (continued on page 2)

433rd Brookhaven Lecture: Jason Graetz to Talk on New Approaches to Hydrogen Storage, 2/20



Jason Graetz

Hydrogen, the most abundant element in the universe, burns excellently and cleanly, with only pure water as a by-product. The National Aeronautics & Space Administration has used hydrogen as fuel for years in the space program. So, why not use hydrogen to fuel cars?

The bottleneck of developing hydrogen-fueled vehicles has been identified: the greatest problem is storage. The conventional storage method, compressed hydrogen gas, requires a large tank volume, and the possibility of a tank rupture poses a significant safety risk. Another method, low temperature liquid storage, is expensive and impractical for most automotive applications.

An alternative is to store the hydrogen in the solid state.

This can be accomplished with adsorbents such as activated carbon, where hydrogen is attached to the surface of a solid. Another type of storage uses absorbent metal hydrides, in which the hydrogen is inserted between the atoms in a solid.

To learn about pioneering research being done at BNL in this field, join Jason Graetz of the Energy Sciences & Technology Department at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, February 20, when he will give the 433rd Brookhaven Lecture, on "Fueling Up With Hydrogen: New Approaches to Hydrogen Storage." The talk, which is free and open to the public, will be held in Berkner Hall. Refreshments will be offered before and after the talk. Visitors to the Lab of 16 and over must carry a photo ID.

In his talk, Graetz will describe the new approaches to hydrogen storage being studied by his group at BNL. These include using kinetically stabilized hydrides, bialkalyl alanes and reversible metal-organic hydrides. The researchers are also using novel synthesis approaches, state-of-the-art characterization and first principles modeling, all providing a better fundamental understanding of these interesting and useful new materials.

Jason Graetz joined BNL in December 2003 with a Ph.D. in materials science from the California Institute of Technology.

To accompany the speaker to dinner at an off-site restaurant after the lecture, contact Sue Signorelli, Ext. 4931, signorel@bnl.gov. — Liz Seubert

Goldhaber Fellows To Give Symposium, 2/28

To learn about the research of some of BNL's younger scientists, all are invited to a symposium on Thursday, February 28, 2-5 p.m., in the Hamilton Seminar Room, Bldg. 555, where current BNL Goldhaber Distinguished Fellows will talk about their work and future plans.

Awarded to candidates with exceptional talent and credentials who have a strong desire for independent research at the frontiers of their fields, the Gertrude and Maurice Goldhaber Distinguished Fellowships are now in their seventh year, with funding from Brookhaven Science Associates. Candidates are no more than three years past receipt of their Ph.D. at the time of their application. The intention of the program

is to select individuals who will qualify for scientific staff positions at BNL upon completion of their appointment. Goldhaber appointees work in close collaboration with a member of the BNL Scientific staff who serves as their mentor.

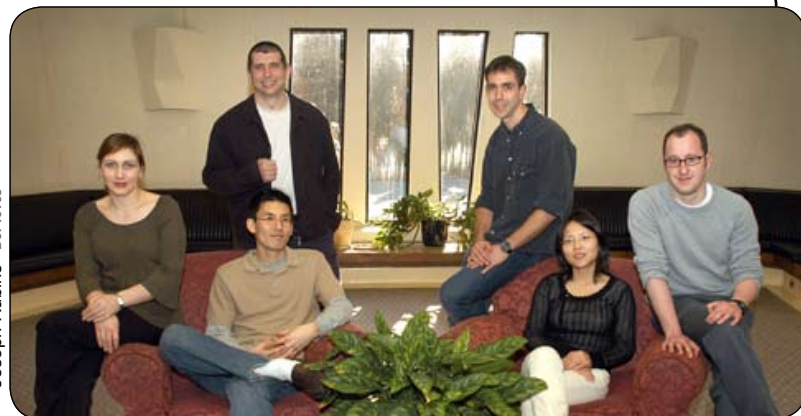
Introducing the speakers:

Alexander Milov, physicist, who joined BNL 5/05, specializes in studies of light mesons decays in heavy ion collisions at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC), detector construction. Mentors: Michael Tannenbaum and Craig Woody
Mathew Maye, materials scientist, who joined BNL 9/05, specializes in expertise in fundamental synthesis, self-assembly, and characterization of novel nanostructures. Mentor: Oleg Gang

Paul Sorensen, physicist, who joined BNL 10/05, specializes in measurements of identified particles in heavy-ion collisions. Mentor: Tim Hallman

Jason Olfert, mechanical engineer, who joined BNL in 9/06, designs, builds and deploys instruments for measuring aerosol properties. Mentor: Jian Wang
Ioana Raluca Gearba, materials scientist, who joined BNL 12/06, studies the role of specific interactions, molecular architecture and lateral chains conformation on mesophase formation and the role of mesophases on crystallization of polymers. Mentor: Ronald Pindak

Jacob Hooker, organic chemist, who joined BNL 6/07, specializes in diverse training in areas ranging from polymer science to protein reaction development to



Joseph Rubino 00710108

Goldhaber Distinguished Fellows are: (from left) Ioanna Gearba, Alexander Milov (back), Chang Yeng Nam, Jacob Hooker, Lijuan Ruan, and Mathew Maye. Not present are: Jason Olfert and Paul Sorensen.

biomolecular nanomaterials and beyond. Mentor: Joanna Fowler
Lijuan Ruan, physicist, who joined BNL 6/07, specializes in measurements of identified particles in heavy-ion collisions, detector construction. Mentor: Zhangbu Xu

Chang-Yong Nam, materials scientist, who joined BNL 6/07, specializes in studies of structure-property relationships in low dimension materials and their applications for novel energy conversion devices. Mentor: Charles Black. — Liz Seubert

