

# Newsletter

Week of March 13, 2006

Vol. 7, No. 6

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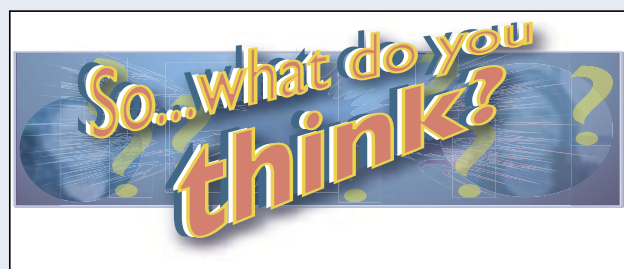


### Peace Meal: Keeping the fun in music




"Why don't you guys try playing at a coffee house?" Marc Clay asked Steve Booth and

Heather Shearer after hearing them play a Nickel Creek song. Over the past four years that suggestion blossomed into a six-piece cover band called Peace Meal. .... Page 8

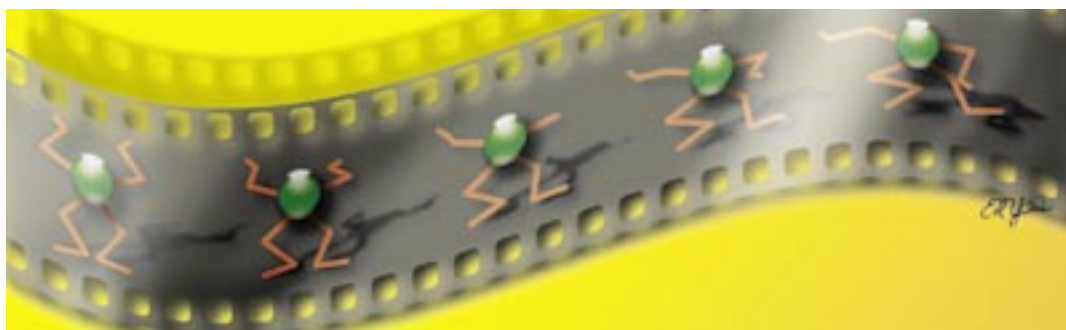


Almost every individual handles his or her stress differently in some way. Do you know the best way to reduce your stress? If so, what do you do? Learn what your co-workers had to say on Page 6.


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## Attosecond pump-probe proposed to explore the dance of electrons

by Todd Hanson

Electrons in atoms move in a choreographed motion on a time scale of attoseconds (one quintillionth, or one billionth of a billionth of a second). To observe this ultrafast motion, physicists at Los Alamos have theoretically demonstrated an attosecond pump-probe technique that captures the steps in this intricate dance by ionizing the atom at selected times. The development of the proposed technique might someday allow scientists to actually see into a world of electron motion.

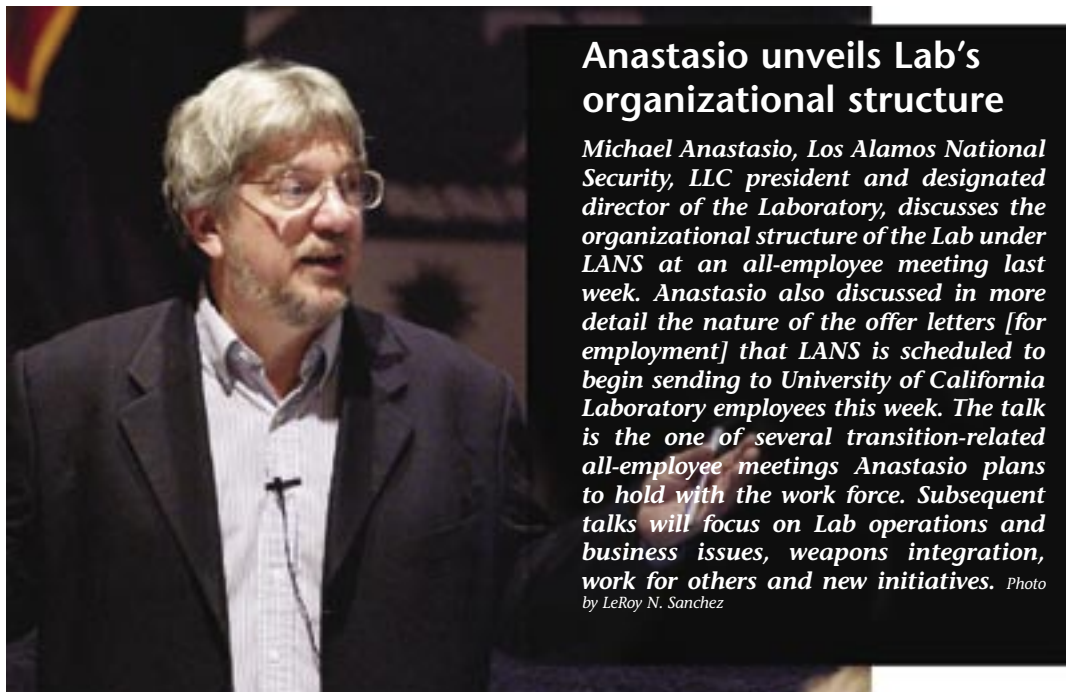
In research published recently in *Physical Review Letters*, Suxing Hu and Lab Fellow Lee Collins, both of Atomic and Optical Theory (T-4), describe their work in modeling the dynamics of an attosecond probe, one of the first steps in building such a device. Based on existing femtosecond (quadrillionths of a second) devices that use ultrashort laser pulses to capture the motion of atoms in molecules, an attosecond pump-probe would use extreme ultraviolet pulses to capture the motion of electrons in atoms.

According to Hu, the principal investigator for the project, "the generation of extremely short EUV pulses has shown great progress in the last few years. The attosecond pump-probe technique described in our paper could provide a substantial advance in the rapidly developing field of 'attosecond science' and could aid physicists, chemists and biologists in examining and manipulating ultrafast motions of electrons in atoms, molecules, clusters and even nanostructures."

Working much like a strobe light that helps capture stop-action photographs of a falling drop of water, a current generation of femtosecond probes use laser pulses to capture the fast motion of atoms during chemical reactions. Using attosecond pulses of extreme ultraviolet radiation, Hu and Collins believe it may be possible to capture the even faster motion of electrons within atoms and molecules.

The potential applications of the proposed technique not only include its use as a scientific tool that would enable scientists to understand ultrafast phenomena, such as electronic transportation in nanomaterials and biological samples, but it also has potential applications for chemists that could allow them to better manipulate chemical reactions in order to design special molecules.

The attosecond research is supported by the Laboratory-Directed Research and Development funding.



### Anastasio unveils Lab's organizational structure

Michael Anastasio, Los Alamos National Security, LLC president and designated director of the Laboratory, discusses the organizational structure of the Lab under LANS at an all-employee meeting last week. Anastasio also discussed in more detail the nature of the offer letters [for employment] that LANS is scheduled to begin sending to University of California Laboratory employees this week. The talk is the one of several transition-related all-employee meetings Anastasio plans to hold with the work force. Subsequent talks will focus on Lab operations and business issues, weapons integration, work for others and new initiatives. Photo

by LeRoy N. Sanchez



## Develop a safe exercise program

An exercise program, if conducted properly, will increase one's energy level, reduce stress, help fight disease and aid in a better night's sleep. Consider the following suggestions from the National Safety Council to help develop a safe exercise program.

- Begin a program by evaluating your current fitness level.
  - If under the age of 35, in good health and relatively active, it may be fairly safe to embark on an exercise program on your own. If over 35 or a smoker, consult a physician before starting a program.
  - Gradually ease into a regimen, particularly if you have not exercised on a regular basis for some time. Set reasonable goals and monitor progress — being careful not to do too much too soon. Listen to your body; it will tell you if you are over-extending yourself.
  - A well-rounded workout should include exercises that address five fitness areas: muscle strength, muscle endurance, flexibility, weight control and cardiovascular endurance.
  - Weight lifting and other resistance exercises help to build muscle strength. Stretching exercises increase flexibility, while aerobic exercises, such as dancing, jogging or swimming, will develop muscle and cardiovascular endurance as well as aid weight loss.
  - Always begin workouts with a warm up and end with a cool down.
- Taking time for exercise is a smart investment in a healthy body and a healthy mind.

## NNSA: LANS total compensation plan is substantially equivalent

The total compensation plan for University of California Laboratory employees who transfer to Los Alamos National Security, LLC, is substantially equivalent to the UC benefits plan, the National Nuclear Security Administration said.

In a news release, NNSA said they made the determination "after careful consideration of the materials submitted by LANS, NNSA's own analyses and comments submitted by employees and others."

The release said NNSA received more than 1,300 comments regarding the compensation plan, about 600 which were related to the substantial equivalency determination and were considered in the process of making the determination. The LANS proposed plan includes a number of changes suggested by employees, according to the release.

"Now that NNSA has determined that the plan as proposed by LANS is substantially equivalent to the university's current plan, LANS can begin mailing job offers to current employees of the university who work at [the Laboratory,]" the release states.

UC Lab employees will have 60 days, or until May 15, to act on the LANS offer letters, which are scheduled to be mailed by March 15.

Los Alamos National Security, LLC, assumes management and operation of the Laboratory on June 1 from UC.

Laboratory employees are encouraged to check the Transition Web page at [transition.lanl.gov](http://transition.lanl.gov) for transition related news and information.

To read the NNSA news release, go to [http://int.lanl.gov/orgs/transition/docs/benefits\\_nnsa.pdf](http://int.lanl.gov/orgs/transition/docs/benefits_nnsa.pdf) online.



### Pathway near Administration Building closing to pedestrian use

A pathway on the west side of the Administration Building adjoining the Nonproliferation and International Security Center and Nicholas Metropolis Computing and Simulation buildings is closing to pedestrian access beginning March 27. The pathway — it previously was a part of Pajarito Road — is being taken out of use as part of the construction of the new National Security Sciences Building and the planned demolition of the present Administration Building at Technical Area 3. An existing sidewalk on Mercury Road nearby will continue to be available for pedestrian use. In addition, access to the Metropolis Center from behind SM-28 (near the Administration Building) will no longer be available to pedestrians. For more information, contact the National Security Sciences Building project office at 7-9737. Photo by Kathy DeLucas

## Los Alamos National Laboratory NewsLetter

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Los Alamos National Laboratory is operated by the University of California for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) of the U.S. Department of Energy and works in partnership with NNSA's Sandia and Lawrence Livermore national laboratories to support NNSA in its mission.

Los Alamos enhances global security by ensuring safety and confidence in the U.S. nuclear stockpile, developing technologies to reduce threats from weapons of mass destruction and improving the environmental and nuclear materials legacy of the Cold War. Los Alamos' capabilities assist the nation in addressing energy, environment, infrastructure and biological security problems.



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## On-line resources for information about the Laboratory's contract transition



[transition.lanl.gov](http://transition.lanl.gov)



[lansllc.com/index.html](http://lansllc.com/index.html)



[www.doeal.gov/LASO](http://www.doeal.gov/LASO)

*Editor's Note: Rich Marquez, leader of the Transition Team, writes a weekly column on the transition project that is posted to the Transition Web site at [transition.lanl.gov](http://transition.lanl.gov). Following is from his last two messages.*



## Contemplating a safe future

Feb. 28, — The National Nuclear Security Administration has closed its comment period regarding the “substantial equivalency” of the benefits plans submitted by Los Alamos National Security, LLC. Transition Team members with NNSA's Los Alamos Site Office reported that they have received hundreds of comments. These comments will be evaluated before NNSA gives its approval of final LANS benefits plans, scheduled to occur by March 7.

In addition to the well-attended benefits plans rollout meetings held at the Laboratory, NNSA hosted several meetings in the regional community. We appreciate the assistance received from local communities in helping to ensure the success of these important meetings.

The next significant event in the transition process for employees will be the receipt of offer letters for LANS employment, which are scheduled to be mailed to University of California Laboratory employees by March 15.

During this period, some employees may be contemplating retirement options. The Human Resources (HR) Division has increased its personnel resources in support of employees who are considering retirement prior to the June 1. Employees wishing to retire by June 1 must complete a four-step process prior to May 31. Information about the four-step process as well as retirement resources available to employees can be found in the Daily Newsbulletin as well as on the Benefits home page online.

We will soon move into the “Places” phase of the transition process, in which many Laboratory organizations will support LANS facility walk-downs during the last week of March and the first part of April.

LANS Transition Leader Tom Gioconda and the LANS Transition Team will soon brief the Executive Board, the Institutional Assurance Board, the Responsible Division Leader Council and All-Managers' meeting on the facility walk-down and condition-assessment process and protocol.

It is of critical importance that we continue to operate safely and in support of our ongoing mission and operational commitments. Employees can and should stop work or notify their supervisors if they feel that any activity — whether directly related to the transition or related to regular operations — is unsafe or being conducted in an unsafe manner. Maintaining the safety of the work force throughout the transition process is paramount and has precedence

over any transition activity. It is important that we look out for one another's well being during this time of distraction.

Employees also can contact members of the Transition Team with questions or concerns they may have.

## A big week for transition

March 7 — This is a big week for the transition period, with key milestones scheduled for the “People” phase of Transition.

### Benefits plan approval

On March 7, the National Nuclear Security Administration plans to issue a Contracting Officer approval of the Los Alamos National Security, LLC benefits plan. As part of that approval process, NNSA also plans to publish a white paper that explains why NNSA deems the LANS benefits plan as “substantially equivalent” to UCRP and the UC benefits plan, including any modifications to the LANS benefit plan that NNSA believes are necessary to make it “substantially equivalent.” That document will be posted on the NNSA transition Web site, and we will make sure the link is on the LANL Transition Web site.

### Lab organization, offer letters

Following this, at 1:15 p.m. on March 9 in the Administration Building Auditorium, Mike Anastasio will hold an all-employees meeting to outline the Lab's future organizational structure under LANS management. Then LANS intends to mail out offer letters to Laboratory employees by March 15.

Employees will then have 60 days, until May 15, to let LANS know whether or not they accept the offer.

In conjunction with the LANS offer letters, UC will send to each employee a detailed guide that will help employees compare the UCRP and benefits features with those of the LANS Plan 1 and Plan 2. This UC benefits guide is being finalized and will be sent out soon from

UCOP/Human Resources.

Let me also address other questions related to employment.

### Employment questions

The Laboratory's Supply Chain Management (SUP) Division, in coordination with LANS management, mailed out letters to Lab subcontractors assigning those subcontracts to LANS and extending those that would have expired May 31.

With respect to Laboratory hiring, after March 15 and through May 31, we will coordinate almost all personnel transactions with LANS prior to formal approval by Lab management. This includes hiring actions, promotions, acting assignments and any other action affecting salary. This is being done to ensure that, when necessary, LANS and the Laboratory can “freeze” the database so that everyone receives the appropriate salary and job assignment. Guidance on this subject will be forthcoming from the Laboratory director.

### Vacation balances

Finally, some of you have asked about vacation accruals in excess of the vacation cap under the prime contract. The current authority to maintain vacation over the cap expires May 31. As detailed in the Daily Newsbulletin, NNSA has approved a buyout of excess vacation accrued above maximum limits, rather than force employees to “use or lose” excess accrued vacation before May 31.

## Making life easier




by Tom Bowles, chief science officer

Life is pretty complicated right now with all the changes that are being planned when Los Alamos National Security, LLC takes over operation of the Laboratory. While those changes won't be enacted until June 1, all of the stress due to uncertainties about the future of the Lab and our own personal futures has made life more difficult. Added to that, there also is additional work that has to be done in the next few months as part of the close-out of the University of California contract.

In the midst of all of this, it probably seems like we [Lab management] are not doing anything to make life easier. However, I want to let everyone know that we still are making progress in fixing problems.

Dave Sharp [deputy chief science officer] and the Fix-It team are working together with quite a few people from both the support and technical sides of the house to make life easier for [Lab] staff. In the last three months, they have fixed 11 problems and currently are working on 37 more.

Those that were fixed include allowing staff to complete mandatory Annual Refresher Training up to one month in advance of the deadline without penalty — the next renewal date still will be one year after the expiration date, rather than one year after when the training was completed; obtaining approval for a foreign national point of contact, who will serve to meet the needs of our foreign nationals in dealing with visas, security and other issues; approval to allow some last-minute changes on 982s for foreign national visits and assignments without having to go through a full resubmission; formation of a training review council to provide a stringent review process for required new training (to ensure quality, effectiveness and appropriateness); resolve discrepancies between the Laboratory's new laser order and OSHA standards; and finding an allowable means to transfer the Descartes Prize funds that the Quantum Cryptography team won last year from a European foundation into the Laboratory. While each is a small step by itself, taken together we are making day-to-day life easier for our staff.



**For Laboratory closures, delays or early dismissal information, call UPDATE at 667-6622 or 1-877-723-4101 (toll free).**



# Lab staffers part of team improving safeguards at Chinese civilian nuclear facilities

by Ed Kellum

Sensitive materials at civilian nuclear facilities in China are being better protected, thanks to the assistance of several Laboratory employees and staff from other Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration national labs.

Six Laboratory employees who traveled to Beijing, China last fall were part of the U.S.-China Joint Integrated Nuclear Materials Management Technology Demonstration Project, created to promote the adoption of "best practice" security methods and technologies at civilian nuclear facilities in China.

Lab employees Anthony Belian, Bill Geist, T.K. Li and Cliff Rudy all of Safeguards

Science and Technology (N-1), and Benny Martinez of Safeguards Systems (N-4) and Noah Pope of Global Threat Reduction (N-GTR) worked with approximately 80 participants from facilities throughout the Chinese civilian complex during a weeklong event designed to train and inform nuclear facility employees about modern safeguards and security practices. Nearly a dozen additional staffers from Nuclear Nonproliferation (N) and the Supply Chain Management (SUP) divisions supported the project from on site.

"Los Alamos participant activities included presentations, demonstration of equipment, technical sessions, presentations to U.S. and Chinese VIP delegations, and leadership of technical round-table

discussions. All of the U.S. delegates, especially our own Los Alamos employees, really did well, and their participation was very well received by both the DOE sponsors and the Chinese attendees," said Pope, the U.S. team project leader.

The Lab collaborated with Lawrence Livermore, Oak Ridge and Sandia national laboratories as well as the China Institute for Atomic Energy and China National Nuclear Corporation to put on the weeklong event.

"The U.S. team would not have been successful without the strong partnership that we formed between the four labs," said Pope.

NNSA Administrator Linton Brooks and China Atomic Energy Authority Chairman Sun Qin, as well as representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Beijing and other Chinese governmental agencies, participated in the opening ceremony.

Following the ceremony, participants engaged in hands-on training seminars and exercises that involved nuclear material control and accounting, establishing physical protection, and international safeguard technologies that provide defense against nuclear material theft, diversion and sabotage.

According to DOE, this marks an important step in continued collaboration between the United States and China in the area of nonproliferation, nuclear security and safeguards. And they called the event "a model for successful cooperative projects."

Plans for future cooperative nuclear material safety efforts include a regional training course on "Facility Systems of Accounting and Control," which Los Alamos will help lead in May in Beijing. In addition, bilateral consultation of best practices for security and nonproliferation-related technical exchanges between DOE and CAEA are planned to continue. A delegation is scheduled to come to Los Alamos and other labs in September for additional training on nondestructive assay and safeguards technologies.



Benny Martinez of Safeguards Systems (N-4) used a simulated can of nuclear materials to demonstrate control and accounting system software and methods for scientists from the China Institute of Atomic Energy in Beijing. Photos courtesy of the Nuclear Nonproliferation (N) Division

## NNSA officials tour Lab OSRP facilities, laud program

Andrew Bieniawski, right, assistant deputy administrator for Global Threat Reduction for the National Nuclear Security Administration, looks over special equipment designed for the Off-Site Source Recovery Project at one of their lockers at Technical Area 46 during a visit to the Laboratory. With Bieniawski is Noah Pope, Los Alamos' program manager for Global Threat Reduction (N-GTR). Bieniawski and Joel Grimm of NNSA toured technical areas 18, 54 and 46 and took part in demonstrations of the Off-Site Source Recovery Program (OSRP) resources at the Lab. They also visited TA-35 for presentations and equipment demonstrations by Safeguards Science and Technology (N-1) for safeguard systems for spent fuel from the BN-350 fast nuclear reactor at Aktau, Kazakhstan. Bieniawski praised the program, noting that the program's budget has increased from \$5 million in fiscal year 2005 to \$12 million in fiscal year 2006. OSRP has recovered more than 12,000 radioactive sources from around the country and a significant expansion into the international scene is underway. Team members are being tasked to gather radioactive sources that originated in the United States but have been deployed elsewhere around the world, back to U.S. safekeeping. Thus far, 68 americium sources from the Sudan and the Ivory Coast have been restored to U.S. control. Photo by Nancy Ambrosiano





# Distinguished patent, license, copyright award winners named

Increasing solar heat gain through windows using electrically activated dyes could decrease energy consumption about 5 percent in the United States. A team of Laboratory staff members who developed a technology that uses this approach received the 2005 Distinguished Patent Award.

**Anthony Burrell** and **Mark McCleskey** of Actinide, Catalysis and Separations Chemistry (C-SIC), **Benjamin Warner**, formerly of C-SIC and Simon Hall, a former visiting scientist, were given the award at Los Alamos' eighth annual Patent and Licensing Awards reception.

In addition, a team of Laboratory staff members who developed a suite of high-nitrogen energetic materials that have both commercial and programmatic applicability received the 2005 Distinguished Licensing Award.

And the 2005 Distinguished Copyright Award winners are a team of 12 Laboratory staff members for their GENetic Imagery Exploitation (Genie) Pro software.

The Distinguished Patent Award honors inventors whose patented invention exhibits outstanding innovation. The award is selected by the Laboratory Fellows and recognizes a premier patent exemplifying significant technical advance, adaptability to public use, and noteworthy value to the mission of the Laboratory. The patent and the inventors recognized for this award reflect the Laboratory's stalwart tradition of superior technical innovation and creativity.

The Distinguished Licensing Award recognizes innovators who proactively engage in commercialization activities at the Laboratory and who have had a positive impact on the Laboratory's licensing



Laboratory Director Bob Kuckuck congratulates Mark McCleskey, left, Anthony Burrell both of Actinide, Catalysis and Separations Chemistry (C-SIC) and Benjamin Warner, formerly of C-SIC at the eighth annual Patent and Licensing Awards reception. The three scientists, along with former visiting scientist Simon Hall received the 2005 Distinguished Patent Award for their "Reversible Electro-optic Device Employing Aprotic Molten Salts and Method." The Distinguished Patent Award honors inventors whose patented invention exhibits outstanding innovation. The award is selected by the Laboratory Fellows and recognizes a premier patent exemplifying significant technical advance, adaptability to public use and noteworthy value to the mission of the Laboratory. The 2005 Distinguished Licensing and Distinguished



**Copyright awards also were announced.** The reception was hosted by the Technology Transfer (TT) Division. Photo by LeRoy N. Sanchez

program. These individuals, by example, demonstrate outstanding success in transferring Laboratory-developed technologies to the public and private sectors.

The Distinguished Copyright Award honors the authors of disclosed copyrighted materials that are considered extraordinary creations. Nominated copyrights for this award demonstrate a breadth of commercial applications, potential to create economic value, and the highest level of technical excellence. In addition, these works represent vital contributions to the Laboratory's mission and provide reciprocal benefit to the Laboratory programs under which they were developed.

More than 240 current and former Laboratory staff members were recognized for income received from technology licensing and patents issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in fiscal year 2005 at the Patent and Licensing Awards reception.

The technology that earned the Distinguished Patent Award, "Reversible Electro-optic Device Employing Aprotic Molten Salts and Method," addresses the fact that a significant portion of the U.S. energy supply is consumed by the heating and cooling of buildings and other structures. From an energy efficiency perspective, windows are the greatest source of energy losses.

The technology uses ionic liquid — solvents with extraordinary electrochemical properties. Metal ions are dissolved into these liquids to form a window, or electroplated from solution to form a mirror. In the dissolved state, visible and near infrared light pass through, allowing the interior of a building to warm. Thus, the device would be used as a window on cold days. On warm days, the metal would be plated to form a mirror to reject excess solar heat. Other applications of this technology

include satellite heat management and the attenuation of radio frequency signals for information security.

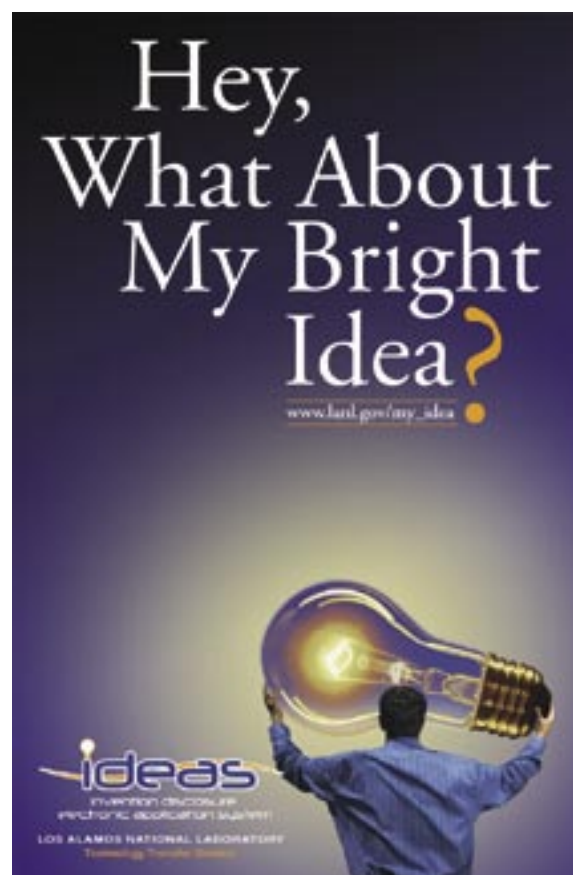
**Mike Hiskey, Darren Naud, David Chavez** and **My Hang Huynh** of Materials Dynamics (DX-2) received the 2005 Distinguished Licensing Award for the high-nitrogen energetic materials, which can be used in applications such as fireworks, explosives and propellants.

Their work has resulted in several collaborative agreements with industry in support of the technology. The team has been effective in educating companies about the commercial applications for their work, which, in many cases, has laid the groundwork for attracting licensees.

Members of the 2005 Distinguished Copyright Award team are **Nancy David, Damian Eads, Chris Jeffery, Curt Novak, Kim Edlund, Mark Galassi, Simon Perkins, Diana Esch-Mosher, Steven Brumby, Neal Harvey, Reid Porter** and **James Theiler** all of the International, Space and Response (ISR) Division.

Their GENetic Imagery Exploitation (Genie) Pro software is a general purpose, interactive, adaptive tool for automatically labeling regions and finding objects in image data. Genie Pro has the potential to allow search-and-rescue teams to quickly locate a downed aircraft lost in an immense mountain range, assist health experts by instantly identifying specific cancer cells among billions of healthy cells, augment security teams by recognizing specific faces in large crowds, or aid firefighters by distinguishing plumes of smoke from clouds of ash or precipitation.

A committee in Technology Transfer (TT) Division selected the Distinguished License and Copyright award winners based on nominations from copyrights received and licensing executives in TT Division.





# So... what do you think?

**Q:** Almost every individual handles his or her stress differently in some way. Do you know the best way to reduce your stress? If so, what do you do?



**Thanh Nguyen**  
of the Office of Counterintelligence (ISEC)

I typically try to do anything that gets me away from thinking about the stress — reading, exercise, traveling — anything to get [stress] off my mind, finding something I enjoy and just doing it.



**Josephine Olivas**  
of the Communications and External Relations (CER) Division

Humor is what keeps me stress-free. It also helps that I love my job and the people I work with, because it allows me to come to work and enjoy what I do and not feel stressed doing it.



**Cindy Dworzak**  
of Institutional Budget (CFO-2)

Well, what I do to relieve my stress is take deep breaths, ride my bike, go to the gym and weave.



**Reyna Sandoval**  
of Workforce Strategy and Development (HR-WSD)

I exercise; that's how I handle my stress. I try to workout several times a week at home.



**Pete Baldonado**  
of Departmental Computing (CCN-1)

Exercise, is what I do to relieve any stress that builds up. Some people might read, spend time with family, but I enjoy exercising at the Wellness Center and at home. Right now, I've been busy training for the 26-mile Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands on March 26.



**Michole Pana**  
of Plasma Physics (X-1)

I like to get away and just play with my 2-year-old son. We enjoy playing children's memory card games. And when I am not at work, I try not to think about it. I just focus on my family, my husband and my son.

## PEOPLE



### Stender leads Lab's ergonomics program



*Kerith Stender*

**Kerith Stender**, a certified professional ergonomist, is the new ergonomics project leader in Institutional Industrial Hygiene and Safety (HSR-5). Stender came to the Laboratory in September 2005 because "managing an ergonomics program was my next career challenge, and I

love the Southwest," Stender said.

Stender has bachelor's and master's degrees in industrial engineering with an emphasis in occupational ergonomics from the University of Nebraska. She has done field research in the construction and aluminum industries and has provided corporate ergonomic support for Intel and 3M corporations. Stender also has served as a consultant for the United States Postal Service and was responsible for the implementation of its ergonomic risk reduction process.

Stender plans on developing and maintaining ergonomic program requirements and resources while providing on-going technical support at the Lab. She also plans to establish a proactive resource system for employees and management to reduce ergonomic-related risk factors.

"Ergonomics isn't just about injury and illness prevention, but also improving productivity and quality at work," said Stender.

### Van de Sompel receives LACASIS award



*Herbert Van de Sompel*

**Herbert Van de Sompel** of the Research Library (STB-RL) received the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society for Information Science and Technology Award in recognition of his significant contributions in library automation, standards and interoperability.

Van de Sompel is currently the team leader of the Digital Library Research and Prototyping Team at the Research Library at Los Alamos. His work includes a major role in authoring the SFX linking server and the related OpenURL Framework standard to help discover services pertaining to scholarly works, tailored to the user's institutional affiliation. Van de Sompel also is responsible for the Open Archives Initiative and Protocol for Metadata Harvesting and the INFO Uniform Resource Identifier Scheme.

The LACASIS award is judged by peers in the information science field and recognizes significant contributions to the field of information science and/or exceptional leadership that inspire others.

"I keep being obsessed with interoperability... I keep believing, as I have for the past years, that we can build a different scholarly communication system that fundamentally takes advantage of the digital, networked environment, instead of just

being superimposed upon it," said Van de Sompel. "I am truly delighted with this award, and really need to thank LACASIS for allowing me to join such an impressive list of prior recipients." Van de Sompel was recognized at an awards ceremony in February.

Van de Sompel has a master's degree in mathematics and computer science, and a doctorate in communication science from Ghent University, Belgium. He has served as head of library automation for Ghent University, as visiting professor of computer science at Cornell University and as director of strategy and programs at the British Library before coming to Los Alamos.

### Lab's Zurek recognized for contributions to quantum theory



*Wojciech Zurek*

**L**aboratory Fellow **Wojciech Zurek** of the Theoretical (T) Division is the recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Research Award in recognition of his contributions to foundations and applications of quantum theory. The Humboldt Award honors achieve-

ments of scientists as well as leading representatives of other creative professions whose contributions are widely recognized by the international community.

Zurek's work includes research on decoherence, astrophysics, study of quantum and classical information and the foundations of statistical and quantum physics. He also is the co-author of a well-known proof (the "no cloning theorem") demonstrating that a single quantum cannot be cloned. He also is credited with developing theory of decoherence and exploring its implications for the transition from quantum to classical as well as for quantum computation. At the Institute of Theoretical Physics (University of California, Santa Barbara) Zurek co-organized Quantum Coherence and Decoherence as well as Quantum Computing and Quantum Chaos programs.

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of Germany grants up to 100 Humboldt Research Awards and candidates must be nominated by leading German scholars. Winners receive research grants of up to 75,000 euros and are invited to carry out collaborative research of their choice with their colleagues in Germany for up to a year. Zurek will be starting his research at the University of Heidelberg, Germany, this month.

Zurek received his doctorate from Austin, Texas and spent two years as a Tolman Fellow at Caltech before coming to the Laboratory as a J. Robert Oppenheimer Fellow in 1984. Zurek was group leader of Theoretical Astrophysics (T-6) from 1991 until 1996, when he was named a Laboratory Fellow. Zurek is a member of the external faculty of the Santa Fe Institute and a visiting professor at UCSB. Zurek serves on the Steering Committee of the Quantum Institute at the Lab. Last year, Zurek was named Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar by the Phi Beta Kappa honor society.



## In Memoriam

### Richard F. Taschek

Richard F. Taschek died Dec. 24, 2005. He was 90.

Taschek came to Los Alamos in 1943 as an associate scientist during Project Y. In the early Lab years, Taschek worked on statistical measurements in the development of the bomb and was present at the Trinity Test. In the 1960s, he was the Physics (P) Division leader and in the 1970s became associate director of research in the Director's Office, where he remained until his retirement in 1979.

Taschek received his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in physics from the University of Wisconsin. He went to Princeton University in 1942, where he was a post-doctorate researcher and instructor in physics for the Army Specialized Training Program.

He is survived by his wife, Inez, four children, sister Elsie and numerous other relatives.

### Allen Edward Dross

Allen E. Dross died Dec. 7, 2005. He was 72.

Dross came to the Laboratory in 1963 as a staff member in the former Chemistry-Metallurgy "Baker" (CMB) Division. At the time of his retirement in 1993, he was working in the former Environmental Management (EM) Division.

Dross received a bachelor's degree in industrial chemistry/chemical engineering from Montana State College. He served in the military for a total of 26 1/2 years, mostly the U.S. Army, and retired in 1999 as a full colonel. Dross received a degree in nuclear effects engineering from the U.S. Navy's Post Graduate School.

He is survived by his wife, Myrna of Los Alamos; daughter Laura Wilson of Tijeras, N.M.; son Douglas of Spokane, Wash.; brother James of Seattle; sister Miriam Elizabeth Hildie, also of Seattle; and numerous nephews and nieces.

### June Worth

June Worth passed away Jan. 15. She was 57.

Worth began working at the Laboratory in 1990 as an administrative secretary in the former HRD Division. At the time of her retirement in 1999, she was working in Staffing (HR-Staff) as a human resources representative.

She is survived by husband, Gary; son Michael Porter; daughter Tamera Porter; and two grandchildren. Worth also is survived by her parents, Charles and Muriel Rowe; brother James Rowe; sisters Marilyn Gambero, Janice Jones, Donna Rowe and Linda Holmes; and four nieces and nephews.

### Fred Stewart

Fred Stewart died Jan. 8. He was 80.

Stewart served in the U.S. Army from April 1943 to April 1946. He began working at the Laboratory in 1949 in the former GMX Division and was an electronic technician in the former Design Engineering (WX) Division at the time of his retirement in 1985.

Stewart studied engineering and drafting at the University of New Mexico.

He is survived by his sister Barbara Judy of Escondido, Calif.; children Steven of Tucson, Ariz., and Ann of Farmington; stepson, Matt of Friday Harbor, Wash.; and grandson Iain of Tucson.



# Enterprise Project 'Release 4' goes live

by James E. Rickman

The Enterprise Project (EP) has gone live with its fourth release, Oracle Financials. With the new release, Oracle's eBusiness Suite becomes the Laboratory's financial system of record and provides the institution with modules that include an integrated general ledger, project accounting, budget entry and forecasting and reimbursable work accounting, among others. The new eBusiness Suite augments Accounts Payable, Human Resources and Procurement modules previously released by EP.

"While we understand this comes during an already busy time, waiting until after June 1 to release Oracle Financials would have resulted in additional costs and would have prolonged the wait for needed enterprise project-management functionality, which is dependent on the implementation of the financial modules," said Heidi Hahn, deputy EP director for change management. "Personnel within [the Chief Financial Officer Division] have been trained to use the new modules, and their release now will help put Los Alamos National Security, LLC in a better position to successfully manage the Laboratory in the future."

The new financial system increases data security and will make it easier for the Laboratory or others to conduct financial audits, Hahn said. Historical data will remain in the legacy Financial Management Information System.

As with any new release, the changeover from the Laboratory's former FMIS to the new Oracle financial system will require a period of adjustment and patience, Hahn said. CFO staff will begin using the new financial tools immediately, but access to the system by the Laboratory population as a whole will not occur until after EP and CFO staff have had a chance to fully ensure data integrity, system performance and user support.

Consequently, Laboratory principal investigators will not immediately have direct access to their financial data. CFO deployed staff are prepared to provide principal investigators and managers with necessary financial data in a timely manner during the switchover period.

"Had we waited to release this business suite until after transition, we would have had the same scenario, because it still would have been necessary to phase in access in order to monitor and tune system performance as more users were added," Hahn said.

Preparation for the release of the Oracle eBusiness Suite was a collaborative effort between CFO, Information Management (IM), Human Resources (HR) and Supply Chain Management (SUP) divisions.

Ned Harris of EP is the point of contact for questions about the new system. Harris can be reached at 5-6122. Employees also can send questions about the new suite to [enterprise@lanl.gov](mailto:enterprise@lanl.gov) by e-mail.

The EP's goal is to build a business architecture that will enable Laboratory personnel at all levels to do their jobs more effectively.

For more information about the Enterprise Project, go to <http://ep.lanl.gov/> online.

To read an all-employee memo on Release 4 from Laboratory Director Robert Kuckuck, go to [http://int.lanl.gov/memos/2006/03/LANL\\_ALL1030.PDF](http://int.lanl.gov/memos/2006/03/LANL_ALL1030.PDF) online.



## February service anniversaries

**Editor's note: Because of a sorting error, incorrect group affiliations were listed with many of the names in the February service anniversaries that published in the Feb. 27 issue of the Los Alamos NewsLetter. Following are the corrected anniversaries.**

### 35 years

J. David Bowman, P-23  
John Middleditch, CCS-3  
Brook Sandford II, N-3

### 30 years

Allan Anderson, DX-DO  
Freddy Garcia, SUP-3  
Lois McFarland, HR-ADA-TS  
John Sandoval, ESA-WR  
Douglas Stavert, ENV-DO  
Rollin Whitman, PADNWP

### 25 years

Leonard Beebe, X-DO  
Judy Buckingham, B-1  
Clara Demaria, S-9  
Deward Efurd, C-INC  
Eugene Garcia, HSR-1  
Frank Garcia, IM-9  
Fermin Gonzales, LANSCE-IC  
M. William Johnson, N-2  
Virginia Rey, HSR-12  
Jacqueline Valdez, SUP-5  
Lucille Westerhold, FM-DX-ESA  
James Whittington II, FM-DX-ESA  
Kenneth Wohletz, EES-11

### 20 years

Michael Borden, LANSCE-MDE  
Kwok-Chi Chan, ISR-6  
Thomas Cote, LANSCE-IC  
Duane Nizio, FM-LANSCE  
Vivian Gonzales, CFO-1  
Richard Hammer, N-2  
Claudia Hernandez, CCN-4  
Alan Hoff, NMT-3  
Kenneth Johnson, LANSCE-ABS  
John Kramer, DX-2  
Michael Madrid, LANSCE-MDE  
Anna Parks, HR-ADA-TS  
Bernardino Romero Jr., S-4  
Elizabeth Ronquillo, NMT-4  
Joseph Zowin, IM-3

### 15 years

Cheryl Ammann, CCN-5  
Gary Baca, C-PCS  
David Ceman, DX-1  
Richard Gustavsen, DX-9  
Michael Houts, D-5  
Denise Liechty, NWIS-DO  
Kay Matsumoto, ESA-WR  
Thomas Robison, C-CSE  
Christine Roybal, MST-DO  
James Theiler, ISR-2

### 10 years

Valerie Anders, IM-8  
Steven Batha, P-24  
Joseph Bradley III, LANSCE-RFE  
Myra Branch, NMT-3  
Stephen Ellis, ESA-WSE  
Gina Fisk, CCS-DO  
Gilbert Garduno, ESA-EDE

Anne Menefee, ADTR  
Milan Njegomir, PM-DS  
Christian Reidys, CCS-5  
Andrea Salazar, CFO-3  
Stephanie Salazar, FM-NMT  
James Stewart, ESA-AET  
John Tapia, P-DO  
Marsha Wenzel, LANSCE-RFE

### 5 years

Marian Anghel, CCS-3  
Genevieve Fernandez, NWIS-TA54W  
Robert Fields III, CCN-7  
Stefanie Herrera, N-2  
Bryan Howard, EES-12  
Alan Hurd, LANSCE-LC  
Qinjun Kang, EES-6  
Zbigniew Karkuszewski, T-13  
Darren Kerbyson, CCS-3  
Robert Krabill, ESA-WSE  
Larry Lynn, N-3  
Yvonne Martinez, DIR  
Angela Martinez, HSR-5  
Vladimir Matias, MST-STC  
Kirsten McCabe, B-1  
Barbara Mcintosh, N-3  
Joshua Miller, CFO-3  
Catherine Porto, HSR-2  
Lindsey Quam, PM-IP  
Jessica Salazar, STB-RL  
Manolito Sanchez, DX-6  
Patrick Shriver, ISR-3  
Robert Singleton, X-7  
Rolando Somma, P-21  
Maria Valero-Aracama, B-1  
Richard Van De Water, P-25





# Peace Meal

## Keeping the fun in music

by Kaiti Ferguson

“Why don’t you guys try playing at a coffee house?” Marc Clay asked Steve Booth and Heather Shearer after hearing them play a Nickel Creek song. Over the past four years that suggestion blossomed into a six-piece cover band called Peace Meal.

Peace Meal consists of a group of people who were, according to lead vocalist Shearer, “cosmically thrown together.” Considering that four of the six members work for the Lab in four very different disciplines, while the other two members also work in differing disciplines, Shearer may have it right.

The band consists of Steve Booth, vocals and guitar, of Stockpile Complex Modeling and Analysis (D-2); Marc Clay, drums, of the Dynamic Experimentation Office of Technical Support (DX-TSO); Jay Justice, bass, of KSL Services; Mollie Spaulding, vocals, of Weapons Manufacturing Technologies (MSM-6); Heather Shearer, lead vocals, who is self-employed; and keyboardist and former Laboratory employee Mark Cummings.

The diversity of the group and its unpredictable direction adds to the fun of Peace Meal. Booth said, the sound of Peace Meal was once described as “classic rock with a folk touch,” but that sound has evolved to include everything from Frank Sinatra and Louis Armstrong to Green Day, the Goo Goo Dolls and everything in between. “We can do a little of everything, but we do [everything] on purpose,” added Clay.

While the band does play covers (a rendition of a previously recorded song), don’t be fooled into considering them just another cover band. “We choose the songs we play because we want them to be [musically] intriguing, interesting and challenging,” said Booth. “We want to play a certain quality of music and combine it with our own talents,” which is why the band rearranges each song they play to fit their abilities, he explained.

Peace Meal is following the “typical progression of American bands” by working with covers and gradually working towards it’s own music, Clay said. However, the foundations of Peace Meal are very different from most American bands. Perhaps the two words that best embody the principles of Peace Meal are family and flexibility, he said.

“As a band we are flexible with band members as much as possible — even at gigs. We try and be flexible with the amount of space we have to work with [at events], with our [band] members and with our music,” Booth said. “We work together ... because of our love for music, and we strive to keep the experience fun. Some of us have full-time jobs, children, and we all have the busy lives of typical modern America. Band responsibilities have to balance with our family and work tasks.”

And as with many bands, Peace Meal has had to deal with the usual torments of creating a band: changing and rearranging band members, creating a realistic practice schedule, blending differing styles and sounds, establishing a reputation, finding venues to play and ultimately moving away from covers towards composing their own. Booth described the constant growth of the band as “riding a wave you can barely control.”

The band’s commitment to the group and individuals’ personal life might be the key to their success because Peace Meal has found a steady stream of work with approximately three gigs every month. However, like all bands, there are a few individuals who have helped Peace Meal get their start.

In particular, the band credits Min Park, restaurant owner and Laboratory employee of Cell Biology, Structural Biology and Flow Cytometry (B-2), as a “key guy” in helping them. Also included in the list are restaurant owner Joan Duran and Kristy Keane of the Los Alamos Main Street program.

Peace Meal has endured its four years of growth spurts and stops because “there always was a part of us that wanted to do it,” Booth said.

Peace Meal regularly plays Friday nights at De Colores, Central Avenue Grill and Las Salsas Restaurant. To learn about upcoming performances, write to Booth at [stvbo@mindspring.com](mailto:stvbo@mindspring.com) by e-mail.



Marc Clay of the Dynamic Experimentation Office of Technical Support (DX-TSO).



Former Lab employee Mark Cummings, left, and former band member, Richard Burkow.



From left to right, Steve Booth of Stockpile Complex Modeling and Analysis (D-2), Heather Shearer, Mollie Spaulding of Weapons Manufacturing Technologies (MSM-6) and Jay Justice of KSL Services. Photos courtesy of Peace Meal