



Los Alamos Postdoc Newsletter

REMINDER!!!

The next GA Meeting is March 12th.

The next Postdoc Social is March 5th. Please see the events calendar.

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Submissions Welcome
lapa_communications@lanl.gov

Visit LAPA's website @
<http://www.lanl.gov/projects/pda/>

Career Fair Planning



We are now in the beginning stages of planning the 2008 career fair and we need your help! If you have been looking for a way to enhance your postdoc experience and get involved with LAPA, this is a great chance to do so. Getting involved can benefit you in several important ways:

- Working on the career fair demonstrates your leadership potential, which is useful in arguing for conversion or finding external employment
- Your visibility to Lab management rises dramatically
- Your visibility to potential employers attending the fair rises dramatically
- Gain perspective on the large-scale functioning of LANL
- All the knowledge you gain by helping to organize the fair is directly transferable to any future professional event you might organize at LANL (e.g. a conference or workshop)
- Your level of commitment can be chosen to suit your interests and availability
- Meet other postdocs; contribute to the vibrancy of LANL's postdoc community

We hope you become involved in this important LANL project. If interested, contact Nenad Velisavljevic, the LAPA career committee chair at nenad@lanl.gov and come to the career committee meeting on March 12 after the LAPA GA meeting. Please think about which of the following roles you might like to get involved in:

- Catering/venue liaison: help find the right location for the fair and organize catering for the event
- Financial: register the fair as an official LANL event, receive and keep track of company registration fees, disburse funds as needed to pay for fair expenses
- Management liaison: inform LANL management of progress in organizing the fair, solicit support (financial, Memos of support, etc.)
- Webmaster: manage fair web page, including online registration for attending companies
- Company liaison(s): contact and invite representatives from potential employers who could attend the fair

Last year, the Los Alamos Postdoc Association (LAPA) organized the first ever LANL postdoc external career fair. This event was a huge success, with nearly 30 potential employers (industry and other national labs) and approximately half the LANL postdoc population attending. We hope to see you on March 12 after the LAPA GA meeting!



2008 Los Alamos Mountaineers Climbing School

The Los Alamos Mountaineers Climbing School is a great way to learn about technical rock climbing and mountaineering. The school should offer a good experience to:

- beginning climbers with no climbing experience
- new climbers who want to gain experience
- climbers who need outdoor experience and instruction
- anyone wanting a chance to tap into the expertise of some of the area's most experienced climbers

More information about the Climbing School can be found at the LA Mountaineers webpage:

<http://lamountaineers.org/zSCHOOL.html>.

To sign up for the 2008 LAM Climbing School, please contact Kei Davis, the Climbing School Director, at (505) 661-0118 or keidavis.lam@gmail.com.

Recent Events

LAPA 1-year
anniversary
celebration

September 12, 2007
MSL Meeting Place



Upcoming Events

GA Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Time: 12:00 - 1:00 PM
Where: Otowi Cafeteria, Siderooms A&B

Postdoc Night

Date: Wednesday, March 5, 2008
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 PM
Where: Central Avenue Grill

Career Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Time: After the GA meeting
Where: Otowi Cafeteria, Siderooms A&B

CV Writing Workshop

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Time: 1 to 3:30
Where: Canyon School - Rm. 164

Interviewing Skills Workshop

Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2008
Time: 1:00 - 3:30 PM
Where: Canyon School - Rm. 165

New Postdoc Orientation

Date: Monday, March 31, 2008
Time: 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Where: Canyon School - Rm. 160

LAPA Committee Reports

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee (PC) met on February 7, 2008 to finalize proposed amendments that pertain to voting membership in the Association and the definition of a quorum.

The PC agreed to strike the following Resolutions:

1. Resolution 2: Motion to Amend Article III, Section 2, Clause A
2. Resolution 3: Motion to Amend Article III, Section 2

The PC agreed to propose the following Resolutions:

1. Resolution 6: Motion to Amend Article VI, Section 5
2. Resolution 7: Motion to Amend Article III, Section 2
3. Resolution 8: Motion to Amend Article VI, Section 1

Communication Committee

- Nothing to report

Finance Committee

- Nothing to report

Social Committee

- Nothing to report

Conversion Committee

- 1.) Conversion seminar 02/12/08: Michael Blair (EES-2), Zach Baker (CCS-1), Joseph Hickey (ES-SE)
 - a. Good attendance (~20 attendees)
 - b. Don't buy decaf for postdocs
- 2.) Future speakers:
 - a. Fran Stephens from C-division (converted to TSM 2006) would like to put together a C-division specific panel of conversion speakers.
 - b. PADWP—Glenn Mara has also expressed interest.
 - c. PADSTE—Terry Wallace (combine with b?)
- 3.) Need new Conversion Committee chair

Career Committee

- Based on the cost for the 2007 career fair we have decided that we will charge \$400/company this year. This is for all companies, independent of the company size or the number of recruiters attending per company. We plan on inviting ~40 companies this time.
- For the dates we have voted for Aug. 25th (1st choice) or Aug. 12th (2nd choice). Final date depends on the availability of the venue location (see next point).
- For the location we are looking at the Los Alamos High School gym and also the Pueblo Complex (1900 Dia-



mond Dr., Los Alamos) gym. Roshan, Nate, and Dhriti are checking what is available on the two proposed event dates. Dhriti has also reserved Fuller Lodge for both dates as a backup!

- Nate Mack will be in contact with the LANL management for approval letters.
- Gus – looking at the possibility of web registration for companies.
- Roshan, Jennifer Belyea, Mary Anne With and Nenad met with Diego Ortiz from Accounting regarding the financial aspects of career fair.

- Email sent to postdocs for company input (~10 companies submitted so far).
- In discussion with the social committee regarding a pizza social – can be used for career committee to inform postdocs about the career fair and get volunteers.
- Last, we decided to meet once a month (for now). Meetings will be held after the GA meeting from 1 to 2 pm at the same location.

General Assembly Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the LAPA General Assembly was held on Wednesday, February 13th, 2008 at 12:07 PM in siderooms A&B of Otowi. LAPA President Nate Mack was the presiding officer, and upon calling the meeting to order announced that a quorum was present. The agenda was amended to include under New Business:

1. An announcement by Mary Anne With for a meeting to discuss what LAPA would like out of an Alumni Database.
2. A discussion about what should be done about the postponed social, due to Lala's being closed due to employees having the flu.

The amended agenda was then approved without objection. The minutes from the January 9th, 2008 General Assembly Meeting, which were published in the January Newsletter were approved without objection.

Committee reports were given by Nenad Velisavljevic (chair, Career Committee), Nate Mara (chair, Conversion Committee) and Jessica Houston (chair, Policy Committee). The committee chairs provided corrections and updates for their respective committee webpages, that the Secretary will update.

Three motions to amend the bylaws were provided to the Secretary at this meeting:

Motion to Amend Article VI, Section 5 in Regards to the Definition of a Quorum

Whereas, the Los Alamos Postdoc Association has had trouble in obtaining a quorum at its monthly General Assembly meetings;

Resolved by the Los Alamos Postdoc Association, That the following words in Article IV, Section 5 be stricken and replaced:

“a majority of the active Voting Members”
with

“seven General Members, at least two of whom shall be executive officers.”

Motion to Amend Articles III, IV, V, and VI in Regards to the role of Voting Members

Whereas, the Los Alamos Postdoc Association seeks increased participation at General Assembly meetings;
Resolved by the Los Alamos Postdoc Association, That all of the words in Article III, Section 2, Clauses A, B, and C be stricken and replaced with:

“Section 2. Active Member Status. General Members attain Active Status by participating on committees, holding committee chairs, being elected officers, or attending three General Assembly meetings in the previous six months”
That the following words in the second and third sentence of the first paragraph of Article III, Section 1 be replaced with:

“All General Members are invited to attend, vote, and speak at all General Assembly meetings as well as vote for the Executive Officers of the Association.”

That the following words in Article III, Section 3 be stricken and replaced: “Voting” with “General”

That the following words in Article IV, Section 1 be stricken and replaced: “Voting” with “General”

That the third sentence of Article V, Section 2 be stricken and replaced with:

“The report will include completed business, ongoing business, plans for the pursuant six-months, requested action items, and addenda as needed.”

That the last sentence of Article V, Section 3 be stricken and replaced with:

“Additionally, the Secretary shall be responsible for tracking General Assembly meeting attendance, for distributing the bylaws to all new members of the General Assembly,

and assuming the duties of the Vice-President in his or her temporary absence.”

That the following words in Article VI, Section 3 be stricken and replaced: “Voting” with “General”

Motion to Amend Article VI, Section 1 in Regards to the Role of the President at the Biannual Meeting

Whereas, the Los Alamos Postdoc Association bylaws do not presently endorse and recognize a formal process by which the President presents bi-annual goals to the Association;

Resolved by the Los Alamos Postdoc Association, That the following words be added after the last sentence of Article VI, Section 1:

“During the first General Assembly meeting presided over by the newly elected officers, the president shall state LAPA’s strategic goals for the following six months.”

The motion made at the January 9th, 2008 General Assembly meeting, *Motion to Amend Article V, Section 3 and Article VII, Section 4 in Regards to the position of the Los Alamos Postdoc Association Webmaster*, was passed with a vote of 12 to 0 to become LAPA Resolution 8.

The motion made at the December 12th, 2007 GA meeting, *Motion to Amend Article II in Regards to defin-*

ing the acronym LANL throughout the bylaws, and passed without objection to become LAPA Resolution 6 at the January 9th, 2008 General Assembly meeting was passed as a bylaw amendment with a vote of 12 to 0.

The motion made at the December 12, 2007 GA Meeting, *Motion to Amend the Bylaws Title, Article I, and Article II in Regards to referring to the Los Alamos Postdoctoral Association as the Los Alamos Postdoc Association*, and passed without objection to become LAPA Resolution 7 at the January 9th, 2008 General Assembly meeting was passed as a bylaw amendment with a vote of 12 to 0.

Mary Anne With is scheduling a meeting to discuss what LAPA would like from an Alumni Database. A motion was made and unanimously approved to create a Special Committee: NPA Meeting Committee, chaired by Jessica Houston, to plan LAPA’s attendance of the National Postdoc Association’s annual meeting. A motion was made and unanimously approved to add the two postponed resolutions (2 - Motion to Amend Article III, Section 2, Clause A in Regards to the Number of Allowed Unexcused Absences and 3 - Motion to Amend Article III, Section 2 in Regards to the Participation of Voting Members in Standing Committees) to New Business. These two resolutions were each voted down 12 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 PM.

Postdoc Profiles

Name: Thibault Cantat

Group: MPA-10/T-12

Ph.D. Institution: École Polytechnique, France

Research Interests: Experimental and theoretical study of organometallic compounds.

Hobbies or interests: Traveling, hiking, reading



Name: Claudio Mazzoleni

Group: ISR-2

Ph.D. Institution: University of Nevada, Reno

Research Interests: Experimental atmospheric science, aerosol and climate

Hobbies or interests: Hiking, rock climbing, skiing, home improvement, reading, cooking, spending quality time with my wife



Postdoc Program Office Announcements

Call for nominations for the Leon Heller Postdoc Publication Prize in Theoretical Physics - Deadline is 5 pm, Tuesday, March 11th. More information [here](#).

Call for proposals submission for the Intelligence Community (IC) Postdoc Research Fellowship Program - Deadline is noon, Wednesday, March 5th. More information [here](#).

New Postdocs for January 2008

Robert Applegate, B-9
 Rose Cory, EES-2
 Leticia Cueller-Hengartner, D-6/
 CCS-3
 Fang Fang, C-NR
 Donny Magana, MPA-CINT/C-PCS
 Partha Mukherjee, EES-6
 Devesh Ranjan, P-23
 Gang Wu, MPA-11
 Eric Yearley, LANSCE-LC
 Mikhail Zhernenkov, LANSCE-LC

Conversions for January 2008: Congratulations!

Michael Blair, EES-2

Calendar of Events

| March 2008 | | | | | | |
|------------|--------|---------|---|----------|--------|----------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Postdoc Night! 5:30 pm Central Avenue Grill | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 LAPA GA Meeting 12:00 pm Interviewing Class 1:00-3:30 PM | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

Los Alamos Postdoc Newsletter

LAPA Officers

President:
 Nate Mack

Vice-President:
 Dhriti Bhattacharyya

Secretary:
 Gus Keksis

Treasurer:
 Kevin Houston

Committee Chairs

Policy:
 Jessica Houston

Communication:
 Chandra Savage Marsden

Finance:
 Laura Stonehill

Social:
 Zoë Fisher

Conversion:
 Nate Mara

Career:
 Nenad Velisavljevic

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