

Los Alamos Postdoc Newsletter

REMINDER!!!
The next GA
Meeting is April 9th.

The next Postdoc Social
is April 2th. Please see
the events calendar.

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Submissions Welcome
lpa_communications@lanl.gov

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

Officer Nominations

At the next General Assembly Meeting on April 9th, 2008 LAPA will solicit nominations for officers (6 month terms). Then the week before the May 14th, 2008 Biannual meeting, voting will be open to all postdocs and the results will be presented at the Biannual meeting. The four officers' job descriptions are given below:

President: The President will preside over the General Assembly, set the meeting agenda, determine if a quorum is present, call the meeting to order, bring all legitimate business before the General Assembly, recognize members who wish to speak, insure that the bylaws of the Association are followed, and conclude the meeting by declaring it adjourned when voted by the members. The President shall serve as the liaison to other organizations and Laboratory Management.

Vice-President: The Vice-President will assume all of the duties of the President or Secretary in their temporary absence as well as chair the Executive Committee. The Vice-President summarizes the activities and plans of the Association in a report to the General Assembly during the Biannual Meetings. The report includes completed business, ongoing business, plans for the pursuant six months, requested action items, and updated roster of the Voting Membership and addenda as needed.

Secretary: The Secretary will send meeting notices and agendas via the LAPA listserv, and take the minutes of the General Assembly and Special Meetings. Meeting minutes shall be distributed via the LAPA listserv and posted on the LAPA website. The secretary shall read aloud all documents for approval by the General Assembly. Additionally the Secretary shall be responsible for tracking General Assembly meeting attendance, for communicating with members regarding unexcused absences and Voting Status, 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.

Treasurer: The Treasurer will administer LAPA cost codes and accounts, keep accounts of the Association's financial dealings, work with the Finance Committee to create a budget, and pursue funds available to LAPA.



Committee Spotlight: Conversion Committee

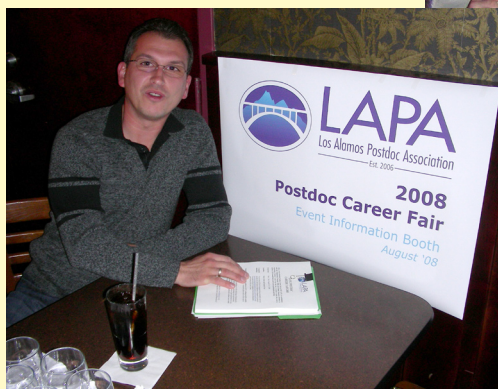
The Conversion Committee works to demystify the postdoc to Technical Staff Member (TSM) conversion process through the collective experiences of postdocs, recently converted postdocs, TSMs, and Management.

The Committee organizes presentations by former postdocs and management, which is a great way to get recognition outside of your group. The Committee is currently looking for a new chair, so if you'd like to volunteer and start raising your profile at the Lab, contact any of the current LAPA officers.

Recent Events

LAPA March
Social

March 5, 2008
at Quark



Upcoming Events

GA Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2008
Time: 12:00 - 1:00 PM
Where: Otowi Cafeteria, Siderooms A&B

Postdoc Night

Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2008
Time: 5:30 - 8:30 PM
Where: TBD

Weekly 2008 Career Fair Planning Meetings

Wednesdays at 8 am at Canyon School, Rm. 147 except on the 2nd Weds. of the month when the meeting is right after the LAPA GA meeting. Contact lapa-career@lanl.gov for more information

Career Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2008
Time: After the GA meeting
Where: Otowi Cafeteria, Siderooms A&B

Interviewing Skills Workshop

Date and room have changed!
Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2008
Time: 1:00 - 3:30 PM
Where: Canyon School - Rm. 172

New Postdoc Orientation

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

LAPA Committee Reports

Special Committee on National Postdoc Association National Meeting

(1) A solicitation email was sent to all postdocs to advertise the NPA meeting and notify about the travel award deadline.

(2) One postdoc from LANL expressed interested in submitting an application for the award.

(3) The LAPA president shall use LAPA funds to attend the conference.

(4) After determining the funding supply subsequent to the LAPA president costing his trip, the committee will determine if other LANL postdocs can attend.

Policy Committee

- Nothing to report

Communication Committee

- The Committee met on 2/27/08 to finalize the Postdoc Orientation presentation slides, and the presentation is now in a final draft form.
- Orientation sessions have been scheduled for March 31 (Oct – Dec. hires), May 5 (Jan. & Feb. hires), and June 30 (Mar. –May hires). Future sessions will be on a quarterly basis. The presentations will be at Canyon School, Rm. 160, starting at 12 noon. There will be

food served, probably pizza, although this is negotiable.

- The welcome letter and LAPA poster sent out to new hires have been updated, and the poster is in a final draft form. We will hold off getting a large version printed until the pending bylaw amendments are dealt with.

Finance Committee

- Nothing to report

Social Committee

- Nothing to report

Conversion Committee

- Nothing to report

Career Committee

- For the career fair we have decided on the location - Study Center and Research Park, and the welcome social will be at Fuller Lodge.
 - Currently we are in the process of inviting companies.
 - Next meeting - today after the GA meeting at 1pm.



General Assembly Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Los Alamos Postdoc Association General Assembly was held on Wednesday, March 12th, 2008 at 12:15 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 not present. The agenda was adopted without objection. The minutes from the February 13th, 2008 General Assembly Meeting, which were published in the February newsletter were approved without objection. A new voting member, Robert Applegate, was recognized by the Secretary.

Committee reports were given by Jessica Houston (chair, Special Committee for the National Postdoc Association Meeting), Chandra Savage Marsden (chair, Communications Committee), and August Keksis for the Career Committee (Nenad Velisavljevic, chair).

A motion was made and approved that since there was not a quorum present to move the items under Special

Orders to the next GA meeting on April 9th, 2008. A motion was made and approved to task the committee chairs to look at the updated committee webpages to make sure everything is correct. There was a brief discussion of the Alumni database. There will be a meeting sometime in the future to work out the details of the database. A motion was made and approved to task the Social Committee to determine the possible alternative locations or having LAPA subsidize appetizers, after discussion with the Finance Committee on how much LAPA can afford to spend on the monthly socials.

There were three announcements:

1. Please send in your postdoc profiles for the LAPA newsletter to lapa_communications@lanl.gov
2. The Conversion Committee is looking for a new chair
3. The Career Committee is having a meeting after the GA Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.

Things To Do Around Los Alamos

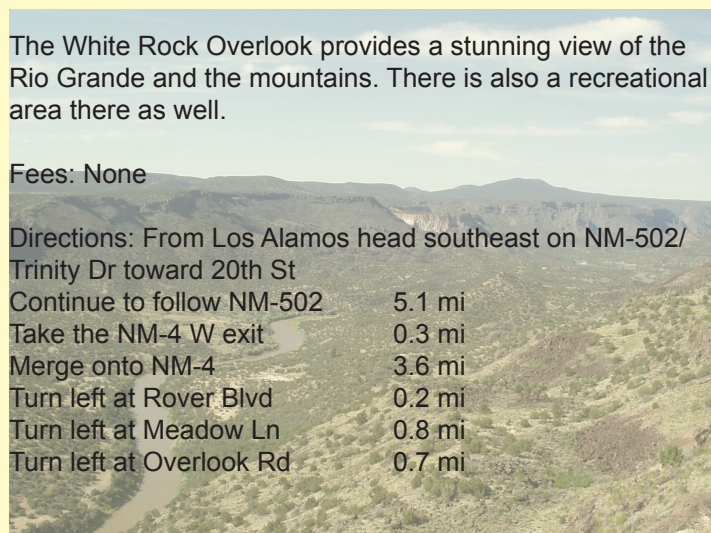
There are many wonderful hikes, museums, galleries and recreational areas around Los Alamos. If you have a place you would like to share with your fellow postdocs please send a description to lapa_communications@lanl.gov.

White Rock Overlook

The White Rock Overlook provides a stunning view of the Rio Grande and the mountains. There is also a recreational area there as well.

Fees: None

Directions: From Los Alamos head southeast on NM-502/ Trinity Dr toward 20th St
Continue to follow NM-502 5.1 mi
Take the NM-4 W exit 0.3 mi
Merge onto NM-4 3.6 mi
Turn left at Rover Blvd 0.2 mi
Turn left at Meadow Ln 0.8 mi
Turn left at Overlook Rd 0.7 mi

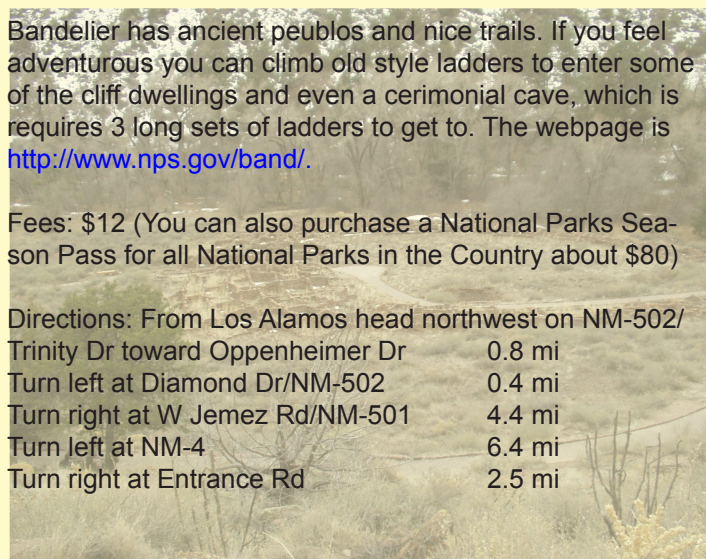


Bandelier National Monument

Bandelier has ancient pueblos and nice trails. If you feel adventurous you can climb old style ladders to enter some of the cliff dwellings and even a ceremonial cave, which is requires 3 long sets of ladders to get to. The webpage is <http://www.nps.gov/band/>.

Fees: \$12 (You can also purchase a National Parks Season Pass for all National Parks in the Country about \$80)

Directions: From Los Alamos head northwest on NM-502/
Trinity Dr toward Oppenheimer Dr 0.8 mi
Turn left at Diamond Dr/NM-502 0.4 mi
Turn right at W Jemez Rd/NM-501 4.4 mi
Turn left at NM-4 6.4 mi
Turn right at Entrance Rd 2.5 mi



Postdoc Profiles

Name: Robert Applegate

Group: B-9

Ph.D. Institution: Colorado School of Mines

Research Interests: Using physics for biology applications, specifically for acoustic and optical manipulation and interrogation of cells.

Hobbies or interests: I like to do anything, really. Climbing, hiking, lacrosse, taking advantage of the free circa 1960s wellness center, getting involved with politics, as well as sitting around watching my stories on the picture box. The Church of Steve Perry... I won't stop believing.



Name: Ben-Wei Zhang

Group: T-16

Ph.D. Institution: Central China Normal University

Research Interests: Relativistic heavy-ion collisions, quark matter.

Hobbies or interests: Reading, swimming



Name: Devesh Ranjan

Group: P-23

Ph.D. Institution: Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison

Research Interests: High speed flows, shock-tube applications, and compressible fluid dynamics

Hobbies or interests: Hiking, cooking, watching TV, playing cricket, ping-pong.



Name: Dmitry Shchegolkov

Group: ISR-6

Ph.D. Institution: Russian Academy of Sciences

Research Interests: Radiophysics, quasi-optics, metamaterials, passive microwave flux control devices.

Hobbies or interests: Bicycles, cars, computers, music, macramé, chess, fishing, mushrooms, traveling, shopping.



Name: Petra Huentemeyer

Group: P-23

Ph.D. Institution: University of Hamburg

Research Interests: Astroparticle physics, gamma rays and cosmic rays, particle physics

Hobbies or interests: Hiking, biking, movies and music, traveling, staying informed about politics.



Postdoc Program Office Announcements

The Interviewing Skills workshop, originally scheduled for April 2nd, has been moved to April 8th. The time is still 1:00 - 3:30 PM, but the location is now Rm. 172 in Canyon School.

Our first Postdoc Orientation will be held on Monday, March 31st at 12 noon in Canyon School, Rm. 160. This session is for postdocs hired in October-December of last year, the next one will be May 5th for January & February hires. Keep an eye on the newsletter for future dates!

New Postdocs for January 2008

Misa Cowee	ISR-1
Svetlana Kilina	T-12
Quinn Marksteiner	ISR-6
Richard Renneke	ISR-6
James Reynolds	X-3/X-2
Dmitry Shchegolkov	ISR-6
Robert Thomson	MPA-10
Ben-Wei Zhang	T-16/P-25

Conversions for January 2008: Congratulations!

Tarik Saleh	MST-16
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Calendar of Events

April 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Postdoc Night! 5:30 pm Location TBA	3	4	5
6	7	8 Interviewing Class 1:00-3:30 PM Canyon School Rm. 172	9 LAPA GA Meeting 12:00 pm Otowi A & B	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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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Online Issues available
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