

**Los Alamos
 Postdoc
 Newsletter**

REMINDER!!!

The next GA Meeting is December 12

The next Postdoc Social is December 5. 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/>

Fall '07 Elections

On November 7th 2007, voting ballots were officially opened to the general LANL Postdoc community for the 3rd bi-annual election of LAPA officers. At the general assembly meeting the following week, winners of the election were announced. The new incoming officers are as follows:

- LAPA President - Nate Mack
- LAPA Vice President - Dhriti Bhattacharyya
- LAPA Secretary - Gus Keksis
- LAPA Treasurer - Kevin Houston

It is a pleasure to welcome these new incoming officers as well as thank the outgoing officers for their dedication and hard work. According to the LAPA bylaws, the incoming officers will assume their positions at the end of the next general assembly meeting (December 12, 2007). All postdocs are encouraged to come out and meet the new officers as well as get involved in some of the various aspects of LAPA. Hope to see you there!

Message From The President-elect



I wanted to take the time to thank those of you who supported my nomination for presidency. Although many candidates were running unopposed, these elections are an essential part of LAPA in that they control how the organization will be run and provide a smooth transition to the next generation of postdocs here at LANL. This election was unique in that we had our first write in officer; Dhriti Bhattacharyya was elected to Vice President by popular demand and will be a fine addition to the LAPA officers. Moreover, I would like to thank Gus Keksis for serving as Secretary and Kevin Houston for continuing his term as Treasurer. Kevin's experience as a LAPA officer will prove to be a significant resource for the new incoming officers.

In the upcoming term, I hope to continue the fine leadership examples that have preceded me as well as work with the



other new officers to help make LAPA a fundamental component of the postdoc experience here at LANL. Most important in this effort, we are going to be beginning the planning stages for the next LANL career fair (to be held next fall) wherein we will need as much postdoc input as possible. The past career fair was a shining success and is an excellent networking opportunity for postdocs here at LANL to make contacts outside of the lab. If you are interested in contributing to this endeavor, please attend any one of the LAPA events (general assembly meeting, social night, committee meetings, etc.) and volunteer your services!

Again, I would like to thank you all for supporting my nomination as well as all of the other officer nominations, and hope to meet everyone at the upcoming general assembly meetings.

Nate Mack



Recent Events

LAPA/LASA
Halloween Party

10/26/07
5:30 - 8:30 PM

Lala's Cocina/VFW



Upcoming Events

GA Meeting

Date: December 12
Time: 12:00-1:00
Where: Otowi Cafeteria, Siderooms A&B

LAPA Policy Committee Meeting

Date: December 17
Time: 4:00 - 6:00
Where: HRL Building Library (TA-43, Bldg. 1)

Postdoc Night

Date: December 5
Time: 5:30-8:30
Where: La La's Cocina (on Trinity across from Sonic)

Winter Break

Date: 12/24 - 1/1/08

LAPA Committee Reports

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee (PC) met on October 25, 2007 to discuss the following topics:

1. Review of the bylaws to ensure continued relevance to LAPA
2. Discuss meeting about Employee Concerns

Topic 1:

The PC was in agreement that the following items should be taken into consideration by the General Assembly (GA):

- a. Clarify LANL in the bylaws. The acronym should be spelled out (Los Alamos National Laboratory) the first time it is used in the bylaws

The PC will submit in writing to the GA a proposed amendment to the bylaws regarding this topic.

- b. Clarify Postdoctoral vs. Postdoc. As a GA, the Association, LAPA is recognized as the Postdoc association; thus in the bylaws "Postdoc" should be used instead of "Postdoctoral".

The PC will submit in writing to the GA a proposed amendment to the bylaws regarding this topic.

- c. Clarify and/or redefine LAPA membership. The PC will be discussing molding the bylaws to encourage LAPA participation. A new interpretation includes

and is not limited to the following items: "liberalizing" membership, definition of a quorum, necessity of voting membership, and an overall non-strict and open interpretation of the bylaws.

The PC will be meeting regarding this topic: PLEASE EMAIL LAPA_POLICY@LANL.GOV to join discussion and suggest a meeting time in December!!!

Topic 2:

The PC will initiate an "employee concerns" meeting. The meeting will be on JANUARY 17, 2008 at 4pm; location TBD. MARK YOUR CALENDAR! This will be open to all and advertised to the postdoc community in December to elicit participation.

Reminders about the "employee concerns" meeting:

The PC emphasizes that the purpose of the meeting is not to solve LANL postdoctoral problems. Rather, the PC was tasked to meet twice a year (described in bylaw Amendment 1) to elicit topics from LANL postdocs who have issues they feel LAPA can address in some capacity. For example, LAPA can help mobilize postdocs who would like to address and or change the status quo of social functions, career planning, etc.



Communication Committee

- Nothing to report.

Finance Committee

- Nothing to report

Social Committee

- Nothing to report.

Conversion Committee

- Nothing to report.

Career Committee

- Nothing to report.

Committee Spotlight: Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is composed of the Chairs of all the other Standing Committees (Executive, Policy, Communication, Social, Conversion, and Career). The Finance Committee works with the Treasurer to put together the LAPA budget, which is presented at the Biannual Meeting. The Committee is also responsible for auditing the Treasurer's records. Although this is a Standing Committee created in the bylaws, unlike other committees it is not open to general membership. However, if you're interested in chairing a committee, contact one of the officers.

General Assembly Meeting Minutes

The Fall LAPA Biannual Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at 12:13 PM in Siderooms A & B of the Otowi Cafeteria. LAPA President Michael Demkowicz was the presiding officer. The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent, and the minutes were approved without corrections.

The results of the LAPA Officer elections were announced. Nate Mack was elected President, Dhriti Bhattacharyya was elected Vice-President, Gus Keksis was elected Secretary, and Kevin Houston was re-elected as Treasurer.

The Vice-President's report was presented by the

LAPA President in the Vice-President (Roshan Shrestha)'s absence. In addition, the President gave a report. A Committee report was given by Jessica Houston (chair, Policy Committee).

A motion was approved by a vote of 6-5 to table all remaining business until the next meeting. An additional motion was approved by unanimous consent to move the announcements before New Business. In New Business, there was a discussion of ways to improve attendance and participation at LAPA functions.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 PM.

Postdoc Profiles

Name: Jessica Houston

Group: B-9

Ph.D. Institution: Texas A & M University

Research Interests: Frequency-domain flow cytometry, fluorescence lifetime measurements, NIR imaging with ICCDs.

Hobbies or interests: Reading to and playing with my 1-year-old, running, drinking beer, being with family, hiking, shopping, going to baseball games.



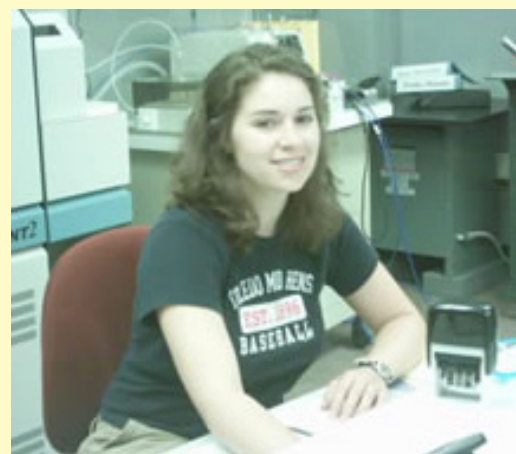
Name: Kathryn (Katie) Matthews

Group: C-NR

Ph.D. Institution: University of Pennsylvania

Research Interests: Marine Geochemistry (trace metals, coral paleoceanography); U-series Isotopics (via laser ablation ICP-MS)

Hobbies or interests: Hiking, downhill skiing, SCUBA diving, and bad television.



We're running out of friends and neighbors to profile! Would you like to be in the next issue? Send a photo and responses to the questions to: lapa_communications@lanl.gov

Your
Photo
Here!

Postdoc Program Office Announcements

We would like to welcome the following postdocs who hired on in October:

Amy Bauer, T-14
 Krzysztof Belcynyski, CCS-2/ISR-1
 Thibault Cantat, MPA-10/T-12
 Alison Costello, EES-6
 Victor Gehman, P-23
 Doh Lee, C-PCS
 Wei Liu, T-6/P-24
 Per Magnelind, P-21
 Thomas Masser, CCS-2
 Kathryn Matthews, C-NR
 Chun-Wei Pao, T-12

Changhyun Ryu, P-21

Postdoc Conversions for October - Congratulations!

Jeff Pietryga, C-PCS
 Momo Vuyisich, B-7
 Vadim Zotev, P-21

The deadline has been extended until December 6th at noon for submitting a nomination for the Postdoc Distinguished Performance Awards. The call can be accessed at <http://int.lanl.gov/science/postdocs/index.shtml>

Calendar of Events

December 2007						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 Postdoc Night! 5:30 pm La La's Cocina	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 LAPA GA Meeting 12:00 pm Otowi Side-rooms A & B	13	14	15
16	17 Policy Comm. Meeting 4:00 pm HRL Library	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Winter Break						

Los Alamos Postdoc Newsletter

LAPA Officers

President:
Michael Demkowicz

Vice-President:
Roshan Shrestha

Secretary:
Chandra Savage Marsden

Treasurer:
Kevin Houston

Committee Chairs

Policy:
Jessica Houston

Communication:
Nate Mack

Finance:
Laura Stonehill

Social:
Zoë Fisher

Conversion:
Nate Mara

Career:
Roshan Shrestha (acting)

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Online Issues available
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