

NewsLetter

Week of March 17, 2003

Vol. 4, No. 6

On the way to erasing that failing grade

Study of Business Practices and Procedures on Schedule

"Call a spade a *bloody shovel*," says any get-to-the-point-fast Briton. In line with this advice, Interim Laboratory Director Pete Nanos didn't mince any words when he told an all-hands audience in February, "We got an 'F' on our report card."

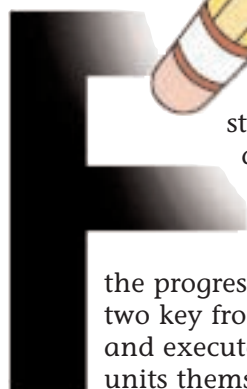
The fact in that statement surprised no one, in light of the recent allegations about the Lab and the rush of outside auditors to Los Alamos. And Nanos' conclusion was equally unvarnished: "There will be no second chance. So, our performance in the execution of our business must be top drawer."

It's no secret that the Lab's value to the nation is the quality of its science and its sound stewardship of the nation's nuclear stockpile. "That's why it's critical to fix the business parts that are broken," Nanos said.

With an eye on both tactical and strategic objectives, Associate Director of Administration Rich Marquez chartered a Business Process Improvement team to take on the business of fixing our "business." The team, headed by acting Laboratory Controller Jay Johnson of the Business Operations (BUS) Division and Tim Tuttle, business improvement project leader (BUS-DO), has made substantial headway in completing that task. Four months is a tough deadline to meet, Tuttle and Johnson admitted, but cooperation from division and line units, as well as BUS Division staff, has been superb, they added.

The team is guided by a steering committee headed by Carol Burns, Chemistry (C) Division deputy leader. As well as being an oversight committee, its members also bring to the assessment process the experience and viewpoint of line-level management. Weekly meetings keep the team up to speed on the progress being made.

"In light of the circumstances facing the Lab," Johnson said, "It's not enough to say we've fixed any problem procedure, practice or other vulnerability we find. We are clearly responsible for



demonstrating performance." Monthly project reviews keep the team, steering committee and Department of Energy and University of California representatives up to speed on

the progress being made along two key fronts: procedures owned and executed by BUS Division units themselves and those created by BUS Division but executed at the line level.

Marquez initiated the effort to incorporate formal project management techniques for the Business Process Improvement Project. "We're managing this effort as a formal project with an in-depth project schedule," said Marquez. "We have to meet the milestones on time, and we have to be able to demonstrate actual performance, both internally and to our customers. UC's resolve and support has been extremely gratifying. The addition of Jim Lopez, as acting chief financial officer, has been an invaluable help," he added.

Business procedures

For payroll processing, revenue reconciliation and other procedures owned and executed by BUS Division, the team developed 124 self-assessments to identify potential high-risk vulnerabilities. Progress in completing the self assessments has been

Steering committee members

Carol Burns, chair (C-DO)
 Jim Angelo (PS-DO)
 Audrey Archuleta (LANSCE-4)
 John Bretzke (SNS-DO)
 Helga Christopherson (HR-DO)
 Steve Girrens (ESA-WR)
 Rich Marquez (ADA)
 Rob Ortiz (SSS-VESB)
 Susan Seestrom (P-DO)
 Donna Smith (NMT-15)
 Jill Trewhella (B-DO)
 Bill Wadt (QIO)

swift. By the end of February, the team had completed all 124 assessments. These assessments also provide a highly useful tool to apply to the Lab's Enterprise Project initiative — a four-year reengineering effort to deliver business solutions based on best practices found in industry and government.

Ahead on another goal, Materials Management (BUS-4) has completed a review of all 440 package drop-off points. The team is now evaluating any corrective actions that may be needed for vulnerabilities from theft or from other sources, such as the weather.


Line-level execution

Of those business procedures sent to line organizations for execution, Johnson said consistency in budgeting has been one of the most difficult for managers to achieve. Part of the problem is that many business practices are awkward. Often, managers of different programs develop different rules because of the "nature of the beast," he added.

"There may have been 20 to 30 different ways of looking at division budgets across the Lab," Johnson noted. "But we're identifying the weak spots so the team can develop and implement plans that will be uniformly useful and uniformly applied," he said.

Property inventory controls make up a key focus area. Here, the team is out front of the schedule — the wall-to-wall inventory was 60-percent completed by late February. "That we're so far ahead is a real tribute to division and group leaders who've risen to the challenge Interim Director Pete Nanos laid before them in January and to the Lab's

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Interim Laboratory Director Pete Nanos presents ...

State of the Laboratory

March 25 • 10 a.m. to noon
Administration Building Auditorium

Open to badgeholders

Broadcast live on LABNET Channel 9 and available online through the LANL Media Theater (www.lanl.gov/media)

Inside this issue ...

Tension between atomic secrecy and scholarship continues, says Lab historian



The secrecy created by the inventors of the atom bomb and later written into law by Congress continues to fascinate and frustrate historians, according to Laboratory archivist Roger Meade of Information and Records Management (IM-5). . . . Page 3

No easy solutions to address parking at TA-3



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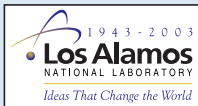
Laboratory researcher receives national award



Joe Tiee of Physical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (C-PCS) has been named 2003 Asian American Engineer of the Year by the Chinese Institute of Engineers. . . . Page 6

The Laboratory's 60th Anniversary

On April 7, the Laboratory kicks off the celebration of its 60th anniversary.



History shows that the formal contract between the federal government and the University of California establishing the Laboratory was signed on April 20, 1943. . . . Page 8

Los Alamos NewsLetter

The *Los Alamos Newsletter*, the Laboratory bi-weekly publication for employees and retirees, is published by the Public Affairs Office in the Communications and External Relations (CER) Division. The staff is located in the IT Corp. Building at 135 B Central Park Square and can be reached by e-mail at newsbulletin@lanl.gov, by fax at 5-5552, by regular Lab mail at Mail Stop C177 or by calling the individual telephone numbers listed below.

Editor:

Jacqueline Paris-Chitanvis, 5-7779

Associate editor:

Judy Goldie, 5-0297

Managing editor:

Denise Bjarke, 7-3565

Graphic designer:

Edwin Vigil, 5-9205

Contributing photographers:

LeRoy N. Sanchez, 5-5009

Contributing writers:

Jim Danneskiold, 6-1640

Bill Dupuy, 5-9179

Michael Carlson, 5-9178

Judy Goldie, 5-0297

Todd Hanson, 5-2085

Kevin Roark, 5-9202

Steve Sandoval, 5-9206

Linn Tytler, 7-7000

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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FROM THE TOP

The following is a statement from the University of California following Bruce Darling's testimony to the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. Darling is UC senior vice president for university affairs and interim vice president for laboratory management.

Message to employees of the UC-managed national laboratories



On Wednesday, Feb. 26, the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held the first of two expected hearings on the business and administrative operations of Los Alamos National Laboratory. Bruce Darling, University of California senior vice president for university affairs and interim vice president for laboratory management, represented the university at the hearing.

Darling told the committee that UC is aggressively implementing the changes necessary to strengthen financial controls and improve the governance of the Laboratory. He summarized the leadership changes, internal and external audits, revamped governance structures, and improved audit and accountability processes that UC has implemented at Los Alamos.

Committee members asked a range of questions, largely focusing on the purchases of various items at the Laboratory, management responses to employees who questioned those purchases and UC's actions to rectify the problems. In response, Darling stated his intention to pursue "vigorously and immediately" any new information from the hearing; to implement reforms at the Laboratory in a sustained way with "rigor, discipline and relentlessness"; and to restore full confidence in UC management.

Darling also emphasized the importance of the science and security missions of the UC-managed national laboratories — particularly at this critical time in world events — and expressed regret that the business and administrative problems at Los Alamos have detracted from the high-quality work of the Laboratory's scientists, engineers, technicians and support personnel.

"Managing the national security laboratories for the last 60 years has been an honor and an awesome responsibility, and we will address any challenges that might detract from our ability to fulfill our obligations to the American people," Darling told the committee.

The text of Senior Vice President Darling's testimony is available on the Web at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/losalamos/. A new edition of the UC-produced "Lab Update" newsletter for the laboratory community also is posted there.



Former DOE Secretary supports UC retaining contract

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, D-N.M., left, endorsed retaining the University of California as manager of the Laboratory. Richardson announced his support for retaining UC at a news conference February in the Governor's Conference Room at the State Capitol in Santa Fe. As Department of Energy Secretary in the administration of President Clinton, Richardson extended UC's contract to operate the Laboratory. Richardson also said he will write to DOE Secretary Spencer Abraham to express his recommendations for UC continuing to manage Los Alamos. Interim Laboratory Director Pete Nanos, seated right at table, thanked the governor and leaders from nearby communities for their support of the Laboratory. Noting the "extraordinarily successful 60-year-long partnership" between UC and the federal government, Richardson said that once broken, this partnership "would be nearly impossible to reconstitute." While acknowledging problems with the Lab's business practices, Richardson also said, "Those problems should not distract us from focusing on the fact that the key reason for the Lab's superb capability in science and technology has been its ability to attract and retain an extremely capable scientific work force at Los Alamos ... The Laboratory also has enormous economic significance to Northern New Mexico. ... Recent strong statements of support for the university from Lab employees and many groups and communities in New Mexico demonstrate this." Richardson said, as part of his endorsement, he will ask UC to form a research consortium with the University of New Mexico, New Mexico State and New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The consortium, Richardson said, would augment the work of the state's two national laboratories. Photo by LeRoy N. Sanchez

Tension between atomic secrecy and scholarship continues, says Lab historian

by Jim Danneskiold

The secrecy created by the inventors of the atom bomb and later written into law by Congress continues to fascinate and frustrate historians, according to Laboratory archivist Roger Meade of Information and Records Management (IM-5).

The 60-year history of this tension — and today's renewed precautions against aiding terrorists by releasing technical information about weapons of mass destruction — was the subject of a talk Meade gave last month at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Denver.

"The quest for classified records stimulates the imagination of historians who assume that the most interesting facts are hidden under the guise of secrecy," Meade said.

Many historians and journalists are unaware that the process of declassifying historic records began shortly after the Manhattan Project completed its work and has continued in waves up to the present day.

The creators of the first bomb initially required secrecy because they feared that information about their research might help Germany develop an atom bomb. The success of Soviet espionage at Los Alamos during and just after World War II drove home the need for stricter and codified secrecy, as well as security clearances for those who worked there.

The 1945 publication of the official history of the Manhattan Project, known as the Smyth Report, established limits on what could be said about the wartime work and became a best seller, in large part because the Soviet Union bought an estimated 1,000 copies. The report was followed by Atomic Energy Commission efforts, led by senior scientists, to promote publication of individual research.

"There have been several large-scale declassification efforts over the years, based chiefly on the assumption that if the government puts enough information into the public domain, researchers will have enough material to satisfy their interests and they will accept that their government



Roger Meade

believes in openness," Meade said.

Meade terms these efforts by the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Energy, "supply-side" declassification.

"Supply-side can only go so far to satisfy the historians, journalists and students, because the good stuff never will get declassified," Meade said. "Supply-side efforts only provide marginal improvement in the relationship between the government and the research community."

In fact, historians showed little interest in the history of Los Alamos until the early 1970s, Meade said. Then, three societal issues created a major shift in scholarship, and began a significant, sustained tension between historians and journalists and the government's systems for protecting classified technical information. The Cold War arms race and its specter of nuclear apocalypse made ordinary citizens more interested

in atomic weapons, and the Vietnam War and Watergate created a general distrust of government and a belief in the evils of secrecy, he said.

"Despite the fact that huge numbers of documents had been declassified, scholars grew increasingly frustrated and even militant in their attempts to gain access to technical information that clearly must remain secret," Meade said.

Two recent targeted declassification efforts at Los Alamos — the Human Studies project of 1994-95 and a current dose reconstruction project by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — have received much public and media attention. However, the vast majority of the documents identified through these exhaustive and costly searches had been declassified and released years earlier, Meade said.

Such projects have the similar, admirable goal of ensuring a comprehensive knowledge of the impacts of government work on worker and public health, but as long as even one record remains classified, researchers will complain that the whole truth is hidden, Meade continued.

Even the Freedom of Information Act, designed to provide a "demand-side" method of access to government information, is universally disliked. Locating records, multiple classification reviews and removing classified phrases or pages can take years. Scholars and journalists dislike the long delays and the fact that the FOIA creates a level playing field where all document requests receive equal, if slow attention; government institutions dislike the FOIA because of its enormous costs, which aren't reimbursed by Congress.

"Although we are trained as historians and work as advocates for historical scholarship, we face the very real threat of prison if we fail to meet our basic obligation of protecting classified records," Meade said. "Scholars almost never ask what public interest would be served if the technical details of nuclear weapons were published, nor do they debate how terrorists or rogue states might make use of those details."

Meade holds out little hope that the tension between secrecy and scholarship will ease but recommends the government continue to treat declassification thoughtfully and deliberately, given the nature of the technical information that is classified.

On the way ...

continued from Page 1

property personnel, who are leading this effort for the Laboratory," Johnson said.

In addition, by the end of February, all 24 divisions had completed a time-and-effort survey.

Strong group-leader stewardship also will be critical to the team's goal of solving higher-risk, purchase-card issues by the end of March. Not many questionable purchase-card costs have been found so far, Johnson noted. What has been uncovered is the need for an updated approach to purchase-card training for users together with a system that is more customer friendly and has better controls.

The team also recognizes the burden on group leaders that has been created by the various monthly reporting systems — budget, time and effort, local-vendor-agreement purchases, etc. In the works, Johnson said, is a streamlined, easier-to-use monthly stewardship report that should take group leaders no more than an hour and a half to review. Distributed business teams are working with customers

to develop effective yet "user friendly" reports. Importantly, the format will do more than merely report; it will demonstrate management involvement and oversight.

Burns echoed acknowledgment of the quality of group-leader contributions. "They've done an outstanding job of boiling down line-level issues into a cogent set of recommendations for the team to evaluate."

Upcoming deadlines

By April 1, all internal assessment and external reviews are scheduled to be completed. (Lab procurement, property, accounting, budgeting, systems, shipping and receiving staff have completed the internal assessments).

April 30 is the date for all high-risk vulnerabilities — and the action plans to remove them — to be done.

As for the team's overall objective, is it a grade of "B" or "A." A perfect score would be ideal, Tuttle and Johnson said. "But whatever the final score turns out to be, everyone at Los Alamos owes it to the Lab and its supporters to exchange that 'F' for a grade that is not only 'passing' but decent." they added.

No easy solutions to address parking at TA-3

by Kevin Roark

The old adage, "It's going to get worse before it gets better," is a good fit for the present parking situation at Technical Area 3.

The good news is that it is going to get better, but not anytime soon. The bad news is that in the coming months there will be a variety of changes to the parking situation at TA-3,

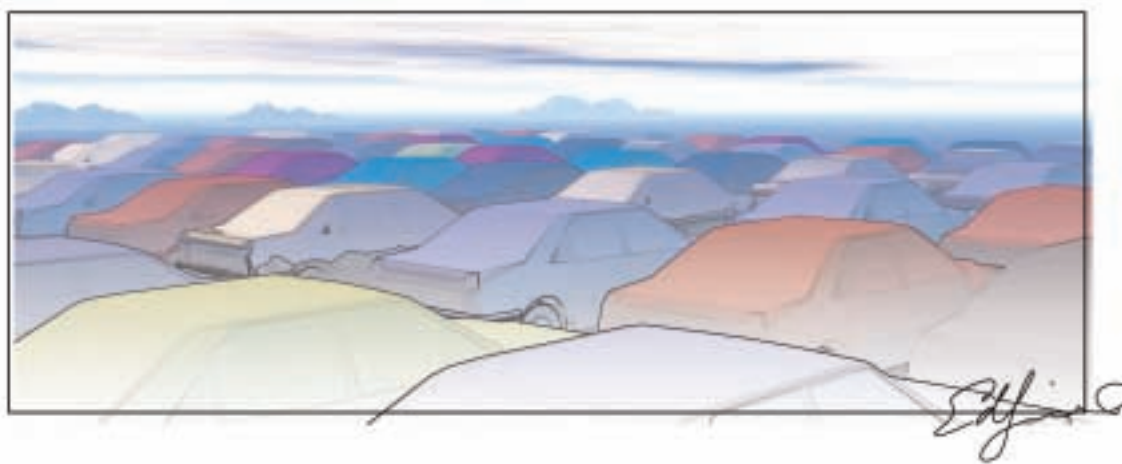
meaning some lots will be eliminated and others will be created and the high-occupancy-vehicle (HOV) permitting system will change.

"Our infrastructure improvements have seriously impacted our parking situation in a negative way," said Jim Holt, associate director for operations. "First and foremost in everyone's mind should be safety in our parking lots. Exercising caution, slowing down and being extra aware of pedestrians is absolutely essential in our current parking situation."

"We know there's a problem, and we have a plan to solve the problem, but that plan takes a considerable amount of time to accomplish and not all of it is currently funded. Patience and perseverance on the part of all employees will win the day in the short-term, and one day, parking will no longer be an issue."

In the near-term, ADO is expecting an increase in demand for parking caused by the opening of the Nonproliferation and International Security Center and its next-door neighbor, the Decision Applications (D) Division building. This increase is coupled with a general decrease in parking supply as the result of a number of construction projects, including the bio-safety level (BSL-3) facility, the Materials Science and Technology (MST) Division Office building, the Safeguards and Security (S) Division security support building and the Occupational Medicine (HSR-2) medical clinic.

Some of the parking space losses will be offset by a new, limited parking lease with the Los Alamos Research Park; a new temporary parking lot on Eniwetok Road; and the exploration of other options, such as an addition to the current parking lot at SM-38, the KSL



building west of Otowi Building. But the overall effect will be a net loss of approximately 400 parking spaces in the short-term.

"Believe it or not, we have not technically reached a point where there are more cars than parking spaces," said Tony Stanford, Facility and Waste Operations (FWO) Division leader. "But

parking is going to be less convenient for sometime to come. So, we're encouraging car pooling and use of the shuttle bus system, and we're watching closely the regional transportation ideas that include a re-start of the Santa Fe to Los Alamos transit system and a possible Española to Los Alamos transit system by our new support services subcontractor, KSL."

In the long-term, a new parking structure is slated to be completed in 2004 behind the SM-31 warehouse, and a second, larger parking structure is part of the National Security Science Building project, the Administration Building replacement that is scheduled for a 2006 completion. Further evaluations are under way for additional parking structures nearby TA-3, long-term needs assessments for TA-55 that include parking and the integration of parking and security requirements with the proposed bypass perimeter road project.

The online Daily Newsbulletin at www.lanl.gov/newsbulletin periodically will publish periodic stories on the parking issues at TA-3 and other Lab locations, including details on the changes to the HOV program and specifics about parking lots that will close and where replacement parking will be located.

The Daily Newsbulletin publishes a Commuter's Corner at www.lanl.gov/orgs/pa/newsbulletin/rideshare.shtml, which provides information on ride share, van- and car-pool opportunities and existing Laboratory parking-shuttle routes.

For more information about parking at TA-3 and surrounding areas, contact Support Services Contract Management (FWO-SSCM) at 5-5825.

Lab gets new health-care facilitator

by Steve Sandoval

Pamela Koby is the Laboratory's new health-care facilitator, a position created to help University of

California Lab employees and retirees understand and obtain the full benefits and services available to them from UC-sponsored health plans.

Koby works out of Benefits and Employment Services (HR-B) on the second floor of the Otowi Building at Technical Area 3. Koby has worked part-time in HR-B since 1997 and has additional experience in human resources and accounting.

The Lab joins other UC campuses in having a full-time health-care facilitator. The health-care facilitator program was designed to expand medical-plan customer service. The program serves retirees and employees, and their enrolled family members, by providing confidential, one-on-one assistance in resolving medical-plan issues.

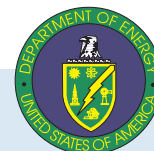
Koby said "the health-care facilitator is here to assist plan members who have questions about health-care coverage or need assistance in understanding how Medicare benefits coordinate with UC-sponsored medical plans." She added that the health-care facilitator also is available to intervene on behalf of the employee, annuitant or enrolled family member and help with problem resolution. The position of health-care facilitator was piloted at UC campuses before being adopted UC-wide.

HR-B has created a Web page with additional information on the Lab's health-care facilitator. It can be found at dev-g.lanl.gov/worklife/benefits/health/healthcarefacilitator/index.shtml online.

For more information, contact Koby at 5-2062 or write to pkoby@lanl.gov by e-mail.



Pamela Koby



NEWS FROM DOE

Secretary makes deputy chief of staff appointments

Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham announced the appointments of Paul Morrell as deputy chief of staff for strategic planning and John Shaw as deputy chief of staff for operations and White House liaison to assume the former responsibilities of Joseph McMonigle, who became chief of staff in December.

Shaw will serve as the department's primary liaison with the White House and other Cabinet agencies. His duties also will include coordinating with program offices on secretarial initiatives and policy implementation, overseeing day-to-day operations and advising the departments' leadership on personnel and organizational issues. Before his appointment, Shaw served as principal deputy assistant secretary for environment and health.

Morrell will play a major role in the implementation of the secretary's policy initiatives across the department, in addition to overseeing public affairs and strategic planning. He also will provide advice to the secretary on a broad range of topics including legislative, budget, management and communications issues. Before joining the administration, Morrell was chief of staff to former House of Representatives Majority Leader Dick Armye, R-Texas.



Tony Burrell



Jacek Dziewinski



George Havrilla



Ben Warner



Lakshman Prasad



Alexei Skourikhine



Louis Rosocha

Five Laboratory inventions receive technology maturation funds

by Todd Hanson

Five monetary awards have been given to Laboratory technical staff members through a new technology-maturation funding program designed to give Laboratory inventors a boost in moving their inventions from the benchtop to the marketplace.

The first five awardees in the program are the following:

Tony Burrell of the Chemistry (C) Division for the development of electrochromic auto-darkening car mirrors.

Jacek Dziewinski of the Risk Reduction and Environmental Stewardship (RRES) Division for the removal of nitrate pollutants from water.

George Havrilla and **Ben Warner** of C Division for the development of micro X-ray, fluorescence-based instruments for drug discovery.

Lakshman Prasad and **Alexei Skourikhine** of the Nonproliferation and International Security (NIS) Division for the development of image-recognition software for advanced, vehicle navigation systems.

Louis Rosocha of the Physics (P) Division for the development of plasma processing of pollutants in exhaust streams.

The Technology Maturation Fund supports technologies perceived to have high, but unproven, commercial potential. The intent is to move promising technologies to proof-of-concept or prototype stage so companies will license them or investors will fund a startup to commercialize them. Funds come from a combination of licensing/royalty revenues and monies earmarked for this purpose under Appendix M of the Laboratory's prime contract.

Laboratory researchers submit competitive proposals on a monthly basis to receive awards in the range of \$10,000 to \$50,000 to achieve specific milestones oriented toward commercialization of their technology. Although modest in size, the awards are expected to have a relatively large impact on the Laboratory's commercialization efforts, according to Mike Connolly of the Industrial Business Development (IBD) Division.

"We target inventions in which a small investment is expected to create significant returns in terms of licensing revenue and regional/national economic impact," said Connolly. "The program [is] similar to a venture capital fund, except we invest in our own technologies rather than startup companies. This is a relatively unique concept — similar programs exist at only a handful of other universities and research institutions nationwide."

The fund accepted its first contingent of proposals in December. All 15 proposals were reviewed and applicants were provided detailed feedback. Seven were selected for interviews with the selection panel and five were selected for funding. Proposals for new

projects will continue to be accepted on a monthly basis, said Connolly.

The New Mexico business community is applauding the program. "[Los Alamos'] Technology Maturation Fund is an extremely innovative approach to matching the vast technology assets within New Mexico to real marketplace needs," said Randy Burge, director of the Office of Science and Technology in the state Economic Development Department. "This could provide a critical missing element in facilitating technology startups in this state. Government sponsors of research at the Laboratory usually do not provide funding for technology maturation and the resulting technologies have often been too early stage to attract venture investors."

The Technology Maturation Fund is one of many innovative programs developed by the Laboratory to support its goals of technology commercialization and regional economic development. The Industrial Business Development (IBD) Division serves as the conduit for Laboratory collaborations with private industry. In this capacity, IBD promotes the commercialization of Laboratory technologies for the benefit of the nation and its citizens. Specific functions within IBD include technology licensing, cooperative research and development agreements and special assistance for Laboratory employees interested in starting a business based on their Lab inventions.

The new program differs from the Technology Commercialization and Maturation Program, which provided regional high-tech, for-profit companies with an opportunity to vie for subcontracts that help recipients further the development and commercialization of their companies' best technologies.

For more information about IBD services, including details on the Technology Maturation Fund, go to the IBD Web site at www.lanl.gov/partnerships online.



TO YOUR HEALTH

National Poison

Prevention Week

March 16 through 22

In case of accidental poisoning, act fast

To prevent accidental poisoning

- always read warning labels on pesticides, household cleaners and other products that could be poisonous. Follow instructions for use and storage.

- flush unused medications down the toilet and rinse the containers before discarding them.

- have the phone number of your local poison-control center prominently posted near the telephone. It's also a good idea to post the numbers of the nearest hospital emergency room.

- keep a 1-ounce bottle of syrup of ipecac handy, in case the poison-control center or your physician tells you to use it to induce vomiting.

If your child accidentally swallows or inhales poison, or spills poison on the skin or eyes, don't panic. Instead call the poison-control center (or hospital or physician). Explain the problem and identify the cause. Remain calm and quickly follow the instructions you're given. Most accidental poisonings can be handled at home.

Source: American Institute of Preventive Medicine



Needed: Small appliances

Small appliances — broken or unbroken — are needed for several upcoming elementary school "Science Nights." Each student is asked to disassemble an appliance or electronic device, then place the disassembled parts in four different piles: metal, plastic, ceramic or other. The goal of the experiment is to introduce students to the wide variety of materials used in manufactured goods.

If you have something to donate, call Diane Albert at 660-8924 or send an e-mail to dalbert@losalamos.com to arrange a pickup location and time.



McCumber named CER Division leader

David McCumber has been named Communications and External Relations (CER) Division leader.

Most recently, McCumber served as chief of staff and general counsel to former New Mexico

David McCumber

Gov. Gary Johnson. He was responsible for, among other things, the personnel and budget operations of the Office of the Governor, state budget planning, legislative negotiations and policy development.

"David has a demonstrated track record of recognizing and resolving complex issues, which will prove a real asset to Los Alamos during this period of focus on our business and administrative practices," said Rich Marquez, associate director for administration. "Just as importantly, he brings valuable skills to help coordinate our governmental relations, community affairs and public affairs efforts during this critical time."

McCumber is a graduate of Wheaton College and Baylor University School of Law.

Hargis new deputy for RRES

Kenneth Hargis has been named deputy division leader of the Risk Reduction and Environmental Stewardship (RRES) Division. He had been an acting deputy division leader since RRES' formation in April 2002.

Hargis has been employed with the Laboratory since



Kenneth Hargis

1980. He has served in a variety of positions at the Lab, including deputy group leader for Industrial Hygiene, group leader for Environmental Protection and program manager for the Waste Management Program.

Hargis also was acting deputy division leader in the former Environmental and Waste Technology Division.

He earned a bachelor of science degree in biology with a minor in chemistry from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in 1970, a master's degree in environmental health sciences from Harvard University in 1975 and a master's degree in management from the University of New Mexico in 1989.

Before gaining employment at the Lab, Hargis worked for what is now known as the New Mexico Environment Department where he served as the chief of the Air Quality and Radiation Protection bureaus in addition to several other positions.

Strevell takes helm as PM Division leader

Mike Strevell has joined the Laboratory to lead the Project Management (PM) Division.

Strevell, a certified project management professional and a registered professional engineer, came to Los Alamos from Motorola Semiconductor Products in Austin, Texas, where he was the director of their Program Management Office. Before that he was a professor of electrical engineering and project management at the U.S. Air Force Academy and is a graduate of the academy. He has both a master's and a doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Texas. He also holds a master's degree in industrial engineering and management. During his Air Force career he served as a B-52 pilot and was certified by the Department of Defense at the



Mike Strevell

highest level of project management.

"I'm excited about the opportunities for the division," said Strevell. "It is our mission to expand the role of project management from the staff's successes in construction management, to improve the execution of the major science and technology projects at the Lab."

PM division's 150 staffers employ skills ranging from project estimating and scheduling to senior project managers who have led projects with budgets of more than \$100 million.

Fallin to head Public Affairs

James Fallin is the new director of the Public Affairs Office (CER-20).

A native New Mexican, Fallin spent much of his professional career in the United States Navy, including serving as press secretary and spokesman both for the White House and Pentagon as well as for multinational media operations established to support several international humanitarian missions.

"Through his experiences in the Navy, Jim has developed a clear understanding of the need to balance security against the public's right to know, as well as how to coordinate with multiple levels of authority," said Interim Laboratory Director Pete Nanos.

Fallin, a graduate of the University of New Mexico and the Naval War College, was deputy director and media-relations manager for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Waste Programs Division.



James Fallin

Robertson is new chair of SPAC

Bill Robertson is the new chair of the Student Programs Advisory Council. He replaces Dave Hobart of Actinide Analytical Science (C-AAC), whose one-year term expired in January.

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Laboratory researcher receives national award

Joe Tiew of Physical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (C-PCS) has been named 2003 Asian American Engineer of the Year by the Chinese Institute of Engineers.

Tiew, a research scientist/engineer, was recognized last month at CIE/USA's award banquet. The award was conferred on Tiew based on education; professional achievements, including publications, papers, patents and honors; technical organization memberships and activities; and community service.

"I am very honored and humbled to receive this award considering the many very capable Asian American engineers who work at the Lab and at other institutions around the country. I am sure that they are just as deserving and perhaps more deserving," said Tiew. "I would like to thank people I have worked with at the Laboratory and the Laboratory for the support over the years. Working at Los Alamos National Laboratory has presented me with the kind of intellectual challenges and opportunities that I wouldn't have encountered otherwise."

Tiew currently oversees a remote-sensing team that comprises five technical staff members with extensive experience and backgrounds in government research and development; experimentation, data analysis and modeling in the field of laser and optical engineering; remote spectral sensing; physical chemistry; photophysics; and applied spectroscopy. There also are three highly qualified technicians in the team with diverse capabilities in laser/optics, mechanical fabrication, digital electronic interface,

data acquisition/processing and field operation.

The team serves a variety of customers, including the departments of Energy and Defense; Environmental Protection Agency; other federal agencies; and industrial partners with emphasis on solving important issues of current national needs, specifically, in the area of weapons of mass destruction nonproliferation, emergency response to hazardous environment and military defense and homeland security applications.

Tiew has published more than 80 technical papers related to these fields. Tiew has received four Distinguished Performance awards and one R&D 100 award for work involving light detection and ranging, or LIDAR.

A technical staff member at the Lab since 1979, Tiew earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and a doctoral degree in quantum electronics/electrical engineering from the University of Southern California.



Joe Tiew



March employee service anniversaries

35 years

Charles Cranfill, X-3
Michael Henke, RRES-R

30 years

Frank Archuleta, C-ADI
Grace Gomez, BUS-5
John McClelland, ADWP
James L. Smith, MST-6
Margaret Sanchez, RRES-WDS
Kimberly Thomas, C-DO
Mary Trujillo, S-5

25 years

Joseph Abdallah, T-4
Frank Ameduri, NIS-1
Linda Archuleta, BUS-1
Patricia Blount, S-1
W. Scott Baldrige, EES-11
Dale Counce, EES-6
John Dallman, DX-DO
Robert Deupree, DX-5
F. Lyle Kerstiens, FWO-IIM
Leo Maes, FWO-DECS
Anthony Martinez, NMT-11
Yolanda Martinez, NIS-8
Andrew Obst, P-23
Diana Ortiz, MST-6
Johannes Peterson, CCN-7
William Priedhorsky, NIS-DO
Dennis Roybal, ADA

20 years

Donna Berg, STB-RL
George Brooks Jr., C-ACS
Nancy Brown, B-1
Mary Campbell, B-5
Charles Farrar, ESA-WR
Christine Jolly, X-1
Valerie Lopez, D-DO
Orlinda Ortiz-Roybal, BUS-2
Roger Osantowski, ESA-WMM
Dipen Sinha, MST-11
Esther Trujillo, D-4
Gerald Weber, CCN-2

15 years

Lenna Andrews, CCN-2
Robert Ayars, CCN-7
Craig Bachmeier, IFC
Patricia Granich, PM-DS
Hemendra Kalia, EES-7
John Vananne, DX-5
Paul Wiemann, LANSCE-12

10 years

Davis Christensen, FWO-SWO
Wynn Christensen, ESA-AET
Beverly Faulkner, IM-2
Cathleen Grastataro, ESA-TSE
Kenneth Mullen, RRES-WQH
Laura Ortega, RRES-CH
Anthony Stanford, FWO-DO
Sharon Woodruff, B-1
Vincent Worland, FWO-WFM

5 years

Bryan Bennett, MST-8
Johnny Chavez, ESA-WMM
Venkateswara Dasari, D-DO
Robert Dodge, NMT-7
Judy Gallegos, MST-DO
Mark Gardner, SNS-DO
Brian Halladay, FWO-DECS
Jerry Johnson, IM-5
Terry Ladwig, CCN-2
Mary Ann Lynch, CCS-2
David Mann, NMT-6
Adam Martinez, NIS-4
John Matonic, NMT-9
Stuart McKernan, NMT-14
Julia Minton-Hughes, FWO-SWO
Lezlie Morris, HSR-2
Joseph O'Toole, ESA-EM
Sandra Powell, ESA-WMM
Mary Remerowski, NMT-9
Kathleen Rokop, HR-D-WEM
Jose Taccetti, P-24
Phillip Torrez, LANSCE-5
Kevin Vixie, X-8
Joseph Waynert, ESA-AET
Honglin Zhang, X-5
John Zondlo, HR-TD



This month in history ...

March

1751 — Though this year, March 25 is the beginning of the new year in Great Britain and its North American colonies. After this year, they adopt the Gregorian calendar and the new year is changed to Jan. 1.

1858 — The first pencil with an eraser top is patented by Hyman Lipman.

1939 — Enrico Fermi and Herbert Anderson find that there are about two neutrons produced for every one consumed in fission. *

1942 — S-1 (dedicated to the full-scale research development of fission weapons) program leaders discuss priorities. James Conant urges proceeding with all options for producing fissionable material simultaneously: gaseous diffusion, centrifuges, electromagnetic separation and plutonium breeding using both graphite and heavy-water reactors. He argues that redundant development will reduce the time to successful production to the shortest possible time, regardless of cost. *

1943 — By this time, J. Robert Oppenheimer, assembles the beginnings of a staff for the Laboratory. Edward Condon, who had directed the Westinghouse Research Laboratory, had agreed to serve as his assistant, supplying industrial expertise (as well as a background in quantum mechanics) to complement Oppenheimer's academic experience. Others were experimental physicist Robert Bacher and theorist Hans Bethe of Cornell University, University of California physics professor Edwin McMillan, John Manley and Robert Serber of the University of Illinois, Washington University theorist Edward Teller and University of Chicago experimentalist Samuel Allison. *

1943 — Los Alamos' purchasing office is organized to ensure University of California control and protect the secrecy of the new project at Los Alamos. Material for the Laboratory is routed through UC's purchasing office in Los Angeles, which ships it on to Los Alamos.

1944 — Drop tests of dummy atomic bombs begin from specially modified B-29s.*

1958 — The United State's Vanguard satellite establishes "pear shape" of Earth. It is the first solar-powered satellite.

1960 — The first patent for light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation, or laser, is granted to Arthur Schawlow and Charles Townes.

1983 — A search-and-rescue satellite (SARSAT) is launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., to aid in locating ships and aircraft in distress.

1995 — Twelve people are killed and 5,000 are injured in a nerve-gas attack on the Tokyo subway system.

1999 — A truck containing TRUPACT-II containers heads out to the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) near Carlsbad.

And this from the March 1964 Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory's "The Atom":

It's only six months old, but the LASL scientific museum has already become a major attraction in Los Alamos. Since it opened last August in Room 136 in AP Building, across the street from The Lodge, the exhibit has had more than 4,000 visitors. They have come from nearly every state and from 24 foreign countries.

After 3/12 years of building and testing, the world's largest tandem Van De Graaff accelerator has found a home at Los Alamos.

*Carey Sublette, "Chronology for the Origin of Atomic Weapons" from http://www.childrenofthemanhattanproject.org/MP_Misc/atomic_timeline_1.htm

Robertson ...

continued from 6

A project leader in Enterprise Support and Computer Education (IM-2), Robertson said his goals are to strengthen the relationship between mentors and students by improving mentor training, student working conditions and the process by which students are hired.

He came to the Lab as a summer employee in 1994, doing water-quality testing for the Science Education and Outreach Office. Robertson was a participant in the Teacher Research Associates program. Robertson then converted to a contract-employee that fall and became employed by the UC in 1998.

Robertson, who works in computer education, provides training at the Lab for Web development and advanced technical computing.

He currently instructs a Web-site management course in the computer science department at the College of Santa Fe and has taught classes at the University of New Mexico in Los Alamos.

Robertson has a doctoral degree in multicultural-teacher and -childhood education from University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. His dissertation thesis was on the critical thinking curriculum model, an approach he developed with Richard Alexander (STB-EPO) while working in science education. He said he has a longstanding commitment to students and educational programs at the Laboratory.

He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Duke University in 1985, a bachelor's of science in zoology from Northern Arizona University in 1987 and a master's of education from the University of Colorado in 1992.



Bill Robertson

The Laboratory's 60th Anniversary: Festivities ahead

On April 7, Los Alamos National Laboratory kicks off the celebration of its 60th anniversary. History shows that the formal contract between the federal government and the University of California establishing the Laboratory was signed on April 20, 1943. However, some historians mark the beginning of the Laboratory by the initial informal meeting of the scientific committee headed by the Lab's first director, J. Robert Oppenheimer, on March 6, 1943.

The occasion of the Lab's 60th anniversary can be viewed as a time of great opportunity, just as it was six decades ago when the Laboratory was formed amid the turbulence and uncertainty of World War II.

To celebrate the 60th milestone, planned events will provide occasions to reflect on our past, recognize the accomplishments of Lab employees and appreciate the communities that surround the Laboratory. The events also will provide special focus on the future through science lectures, conferences and workshops.

Kick-off activities on April 7 start with a special "Anniversary Address" by Interim Laboratory Director Pete Nanos discussing the Lab's past and future.

Following Nanos' address will be a forum of past Laboratory directors: Harold Agnew, Don Kerr, Sig Hecker and John Browne. Together with current Director Nanos, each will give his view on the principle scientific accomplishments and challenges faced as a Laboratory director.

That afternoon, the second annual presentation of the Los Alamos National Laboratory Medal will take place. This year's ceremony will honor Laboratory Senior Fellow Emeritus George Cowan and Laboratory Fellow Louis Rosen.

On the evening of April 8, in coordination with the Lab's 60th anniversary celebration, the Los Alamos Historical Society will sponsor a dinner honoring Laboratory directors and their respective spouses. This dinner was originally scheduled for May 2000 and was canceled because of the Cerro Grande Fire.

Later that evening, the Laboratory directors will speak at a special forum in the Duane Smith Auditorium in Los Alamos. Watch for announcements from the Los Alamos Historical Society about tickets.

Other anniversary events during April include a special colloquium for the approximately 1,000 new Lab employees hired over the past year.

On April 22, the Laboratory and the University of California will host an Anniversary Recognition Ceremony. Special guests will include U.S. Sens. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M.; other members of Congress; state and local officials; leaders from the Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration; and other friends of the Laboratory. Related events begin with a groundbreaking for the National Security Science Building (NSSB), which will replace the current Administration Building in Technical Area 3. Following will be dedications of two major, new facilities, the Nonproliferation and International Security



Ideas That Change the World

Center (NISC) and the Dual-Axis Radiographic Hydrotest (DARHT) facility.

The 60th celebration will continue throughout the summer and wind up in September with the publication of a special issue of Los Alamos Science.

The various events and activities will be listed on the 60th anniversary Web site at sixty.lanl.gov online. Information about dates, times, locations and event descriptions will be updated from time to time.

Anyone interested in these events and activities are encouraged to check the Web site throughout the spring and summer.

"Plan to join the Laboratory family and our communities in celebration during the coming weeks and months," encouraged committee co-chairman Dennis Erickson.

Members of the 60th Anniversary Committee

Co-Chairs:

Dennis Erickson (ADWP)
Jared Dreicer (NIS-3)
Debby Thompson (D-DO)

Members:

Nikki Cooper (STB-DSTBP)
Julia Crespin (BUS-2)
Jim Danneskiold (CER-20)
Robert Ecke (MST-10)
Joyce Guzik (X-2)
Dave Hobart (C-AAC)
John Isaacson (RRES-ECO)
Mauri Katz (LANSCE-DO)
Ping Lee (DIR)

Johnnie Martinez (CER-30)
Roger Meade (IM-5)
David Montoya (ESA-WSE)
Russ Olson (P-22)
Chuck Pacheco (UC-NMM)
Brent Park (D-7)
Min Park (B-2)
Randy Parks (IFC)
Debbie Pirkel (EES-DO)
John Rhoades (CER-32)
Marcene Roybal (S-2)
Shirley Roybal (CER-20)
Kit Ruminer (IM-1)
John Sisneros (FWO-SEM)
Karl Staudhammer (NMT-DO)

Rick Ulibarri (CER-1)
Andy White (CCS-DO)

Advisors:

John Bartlit (HSR-DO)
John Browne (DIR)
Sig Hecker (MST-DO)
Tom Hiron (RRES-DO)
John Hopkins (ADWP)
Jim Louck (T-7)
Pete Miller (DIR)
Cec Olivas (ADWP)
Betty Romero (DOE/NNSA-LASO)
Hans Ruppel (CCN-DO)

Calendar of April events

Check Web site for times (sixty.lanl.gov)

- April 7 — Anniversary address, Pete Nanos, Administration Building Auditorium, badgeholders only
- April 7 — Laboratory directors forum, Administration Building Auditorium, badgeholders only
- April 7 — Los Alamos Medal Awards Ceremony, Administration Building Auditorium, badgeholders and guests
- April 8 — Dinner for Laboratory directors and spouses, hosted by the Los Alamos Historical Society, Betty Ehart Senior Center, tickets required
- April 8 — Laboratory directors program, hosted by the Los Alamos Historical Society, Duane Smith Auditorium, tickets required
- April 15 — New employees colloquium, Administration Building Auditorium, by invitation
- April 22 — Anniversary recognition ceremony, Administration Building Auditorium, invited dignitaries and badgeholders only
- April 22 — Groundbreaking for National Security Science Building (NSSB)
- April 22 — Dedication of the Nonproliferation and International Security Center (NISC) and Dual-Axis Radiographic Hydrotest (DARHT) facility
- April 23 — Science mini-series day, Study Center, badgeholders only
- April 23 — Inaugural heritage lecture, Study Center, badgeholders only
- April 23 — "Global Climate: Water, Drought and New Mexico," Hilton Hotel, Santa Fe, open to the public
- April 23 — "Gene Manipulation and Human Welfare," University of New Mexico, Los Alamos, open to the public
- April 24 through May 2 — Strategic Studies Conference, "National Security, Science and Technology: Issues for Nuclear and Conventional Forces," Study Center, badgeholders only, registration required
- April 29 — Frontiers of Science Lecture, "Black Holes and Collapsed Stars," Duane Smith Auditorium, open to the public
- April 29 — Defense transformation workshop, Physics Building Auditorium, badgeholders only
- April 30 — Frontiers of Science Lecture, "Black Holes and Collapsed Stars," James S. Little Theatre, Santa Fe, open to the public

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