

LAWRENCE LIVERMORE REPORT

A weekly collection of scientific and technological achievements from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory: April 27-May 4, 2009.

Lawrence Livermore wants you



Bill Bruner, LLNL Director of Government and External Relations, prepares to sign an agreement with the U.S. Army Reserve while Maj. Gen. Mari Eder looks on.

Lawrence Livermore has signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the U.S. Army Reserve to participate in the Northern California Employer Partnership Initiative. A signing ceremony took place late last month at Camp Parks in Dublin, Calif.

The Employer Partnership Initiative was launched in April 2008 to formalize the relationship between the Army Reserve and the private sector, both of whom share the common goals of strengthening the community, supporting Army Reserve soldiers and families and maintaining a strong economy.

"The Army Reserve looks for exemplary employer partners. LLNL has a great reputation, as being a great place to work and as an employer who will take care of soldiers and their families," said Richard (Phil) Stage, program support manager for the Employer Partnership Initiative.

The program is equally beneficial to communities, corporations and companies that participate, as well as soldiers in the Army Reserve, Stage explained. Partnering employers, such as LLNL, are given assured access to skilled and qualified soldiers serving in various capacities. Soldiers benefit from increased job opportunities and greater stability, resulting in continuity in their civilian careers and lives.

To read more, go to

https://publicaffairs.llnl.gov/news/news_releases/2009/NR-09-04-07.html

NIF's Gina Bonanno inducted into Hall of Fame



Gina Bonanno

It's not easy for a woman to succeed in the field of laser physics. But Alameda County's Women's Hall of Fame is sure that the career of LLNL's Gina Bonanno is a successful one.

In late April, Bonanno was inducted into the county's Women's Hall of Fame as the top nominee in the science category. Bonanno has been a trailblazer at the National Ignition Facility (NIF) for the past nine years. As one of only a handful of women senior managers at NIF, she has a variety of responsibilities in the areas of strategic and workforce planning, financial management and institutional reporting.

She is a NIF program manager, and since 2005 has headed NIF's National Ignition Campaign (NIC), the \$1.6 billion program that sets the stage for the first set of fusion experiments on NIF beginning in 2010.

"I'm really very honored to be inducted along with so many accomplished women this year, and proud to represent the Laboratory," Bonanno said. "The Lab has provided the opportunity for me to work on exciting and challenging projects, and I'm constantly inspired by the dedicated and extraordinarily talented people I get to work with every day."

To read more, go to

https://publicaffairs.llnl.gov/news/news_releases/2009/NR-09-04-06.html

Livermore team completes successful mission to Bikini Atoll



Field mission team on Bikini Atoll. Photo by Sherwood Tibon.

Scientists from Lawrence Livermore Lab conducted a successful 10-day mini-mission to Bikini Atoll to investigate radiological conditions of old concrete test bunkers.

Terry Hamilton and his field team performed external gamma radiation surveys of nine separate bunker locations, and collected a range of samples for detailed analysis in the United States.

Preliminary data suggests that the bunkers are not "leaking radiation" as allegedly reported but do represent a general hazard because of spalling of concrete and the possibility that people entering the bunkers may be hit or trapped by falling pieces of debris. DOE representative William Jackson, and the atoll leadership have been informed about conditions inside the bunkers.

The mission to Bikini Atoll was conducted aboard the Marshallese vessel Jeljelat Ae.

Paul Ehlenbach named general counsel



Paul Ehlenbach

After a national search, the Lab has selected Paul Ehlenbach, a seasoned attorney with extensive experience in government contracts, corporate governance, litigation and compliance, to serve as the Laboratory's new general counsel. The announcement was made by LLNL Director George Miller.

"Paul brings more than 25 years of law practice and leadership experience to this position, garnered from diverse assignments, including stints as a senior corporate manager, private law firm partner and federal government attorney," Miller said. "Especially significant is his deep knowledge of federal contracting and his legal expertise in the other areas relevant to supporting this Laboratory's national security mission, protecting and leveraging its intellectual property and facilitating regulatory compliance and ethical conduct."

As general counsel and a member of the Laboratory's senior management team, Ehlenbach will lead the legal staff responsible for advising and representing the Laboratory on all legal matters arising from management and operation of a large R&D facility. Key responsibilities include advising Laboratory senior management on a broad range of legal issues; managing litigation arising from management and operation of the Laboratory; analyzing pending legislation and rulemaking affecting the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Nuclear Security Administration and national laboratories; and reviewing and interpreting federal and state statutes and regulations, among other duties.

For more, go to https://publicaffairs.llnl.gov/news/news_releases/2009/NR-09-04-08.html

Steven Wuthrich appointed ESH&Q acting director



Steven Wuthrich

Steven Wuthrich has been appointed to the position of acting director, Environment, Safety, Health and Quality (ESH&Q). In this capacity, Wuthrich will succeed Allen Macenski, who stepped down to take a position with one of LLNS' parent companies, Bechtel Corporation.

"I have the utmost confidence that Steve will provide valuable and solid leadership to the Laboratory as the acting ESH&Q Director," Director George Miller said. "He is a 30-year Bechtel employee who spent six years working on various projects at LLNL prior to joining the Laboratory at contract transition and has a keen understanding of the Lab's programs, support services and culture."

For further information, see

https://newsline.llnl.gov/_rev02/articles/2009/may/05.01.09-wuthrich.php

Lawrence Scholar selected as one of the top student presenters



Dylan Rood, a Lawrence Scholar at the Lab's Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry, was selected as a top student presenter at the most recent Seismological Society of America meeting.

This is an honor based on a standard of excellence that goes to only 10 percent to 15 percent of all student presenters each year. The award will be recognized in an upcoming issue of *Seismological Research Letters*.

He was selected for his oral presentation titled "Dating Offset Alluvial Fans Along the San Andreas Fault in the Santa Cruz Mountains using LiDAR and Be-10 Geochronology."

Rood and his colleagues used LiDAR-based geomorphic mapping and cosmogenic Be-10 surface exposure dating to investigate features offset across the San Andreas Fault (SAF) at Sanborn Park in the southern Santa Cruz Mountains. This site lies along the peninsula segment of the SAF, where the slip rate is poorly known and earthquake hazard is high due to its proximity to the urban areas of the San Francisco Bay region.

Laboratory takes precautionary measures against H1N1 virus



Although no known cases of H1N1 virus have directly affected the Laboratory, as a precautionary measure the Pandemic Influenza Response Team (PIRT) was activated on April 29 to more accurately and efficiently assess the changing status of the situation and migration of the virus, as well as to better protect the health and safety of Laboratory workers and visitors. The Laboratory also has placed restrictions on travel to Mexico. These actions are similar to actions taken by federal, state and local authorities in response to the H1N1 virus.

The symptoms of the H1N1 virus in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have reported diarrhea and vomiting associated with the virus. Like seasonal flu, the H1N1 virus may cause a worsening of underlying chronic medical conditions.

The Lab's response team's first priority is to identify and implement some simple strategies that minimize the risks to you, and your family. There are a few things you can do now that will help minimize the risk of infection.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue away after you use it.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid contact with people who appear to be sick.
- Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food.
- The single most important infection prevention tool is to regularly and thoroughly wash your hands. A good scrub under hot water with soap is

very effective. If you use an alcohol based wash, remember to use enough so your hands are wet for 30 seconds.

-- If you do get sick, do not come into work. Limiting your exposure to healthy individuals is a key objective in curtailing a potential spread.

Latest *Newsline* available



Newsline provides the latest Lab research and operations news. See the most recent issue at https://newsline.llnl.gov/_rev02/index.php

Photo of the week



Come and oscillate with me: Ernesto Padilla and Don Browning, left to right seated, and Gaylen Ebert, standing, attend to the control console of the Master Oscillator Room at the National Ignition Facility. The Master Oscillator Room is where the initial pulse is generated for the 192 beams of NIF. NIF will officially open at the end of this month.

LLNL is managed by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration.

LLNL applies and advances science and technology to help ensure national security and global stability. Through multi-disciplinary research and development, with particular expertise in high-energy-density physics, laser science, high-performance computing and science/engineering at the nanometer/subpicosecond scale, LLNL innovations improve security, meet energy and environmental needs and strengthen U.S. economic competitiveness. The Laboratory also partners with other research institutions, universities and industry to bring the full weight of the nation's science and technology community to bear on solving problems of national importance.

To send input to the Livermore Lab Report, send e-mail <mailto:labreport@llnl.gov>.

The Livermore Lab Report archive is available at:
https://publicaffairs.llnl.gov/news/lab_report/2009index.html