

ENERGY AND PHOTON SCIENCES DIRECTORATE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 8, 2020

Volume 1, Issue 2

MEET OUR NEW COLLEAGUES:

Donald Abel, NSLS-II
Abigail Giles, NSLS-II
Matthew Greenberg, NSLS-II
Guobin Hu, NSLS-II
Yichen Jia, CFN
Juan Jimenez, Chemistry
Sharwari Joshi, NSLS-II
Zhongtian Mao, Chemistry
Jennifer Sears, CMPSD



Jim Misewich

A MESSAGE FROM JIM

COVID-19 and the impact on work and home has lasted longer than perhaps many of us anticipated or imagined. We are operating in a new normal that has affected all areas of our life. Now is not the time to grow lax in our behavior in spite of the enormous mental energy it takes to stay the course. Those of us with young children feel the affect daily while we try to provide life as close to normal as we can and ease the fears that should not be part of the childhood experience. Those with aging loved ones, particularly when they reside in assisted living/nursing homes, know the devastation of seeing this time of life so distorted from what we hoped and imagined. On the other side, those of us lucky enough to work from home may welcome cutting our tie to the car, and we may all have a much greater appreciation of teachers. We have all probably learned something about electronic work that we can use when we return to the workplace. What is true, though, is maneuvering through life these days is very stressful. I can only ask that we be kind and emotionally generous to each other. I am trying my best to respond with kindness when my inclination may be to be sharp and to listen when my first reaction may be to speak. I cannot say my door is not open because none of our doors are open at this time. However, my email is available to all at BNL and I welcome your comments and concerns. Now is the time to communicate.

In addition to the new Interdisciplinary Science Department (IS), led by Esther Takeuchi, Emilio Mendez has stepped down as Chair of the Energy Science and Technology Department (EST) and Alex Harris has agreed to be the Interim Chair of EST. Emilio, after serving as the Director of the Center for Functional Nanomaterials and then as Chair of the EST, has decided to go back to Stony Brook University Physics Department. We thank him for his extraordinary service to the EPSD. BNL, through scientists in the Chemistry Division, is a partner in the newly funded Solar Fuels Hub based at the University of North Carolina. Finally, led by BNL, the Co-design Center for Quantum Advantage seeks to reach quantum advantage, where a quantum computer outperforms a classical one on a useful task in scientific computations, by simultaneously designing hardware and software.

“Now is the time to communicate.....”

IN THE DIRECTORATE

The EPSD Peer Counselors are members of the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (IDE) Council and welcome conversations about any workplace concerns with EPSD employees and guests. Be assured that confidentiality is an utmost priority within the constraints of the law and Lab policy. We have a process for anonymous messages to the IDE Council and ALD on the IDE website.

BNL employees are required to have one IDE goal on your performance appraisal goalsetting document. To help, we have a web page with suggested goals. Any goal that you find compelling and is related to I&D is acceptable if your supervisor agrees; creativity in the current environment is particularly needed.

Ethical Parameters for Electronic Meetings and How to Make a Zoom Background

We are all communicating via Zoom or various other electronic methods (BlueJeans, Teams, etc.) from a variety of locations. Blurring the line between office and home allows people a window into our personal lives, may assume increased availability and raises questions of etiquette and ethics. Here is a summary of some rules of etiquette that OEM distributed to summer students:

1. Leave the keyboard alone. If you are using your internal audio, everyone can hear you type.
2. Dress appropriately.
3. Be aware of your surroundings, use a background if appropriate.
4. Mute your microphone when you're not talking!
5. Speak up. People will appreciate being able to hear you without having to strain their ears or turn their volume all the way up.
6. No food allowed if your audio or video will be on.
7. Stay seated and stay present.

It is possible to set a background for your calls to ensure greater privacy. [Here are the instructions](#). I encourage you to use this.

Think Before You Send "Reply All"

There are times when it is appropriate to be inclusive and transparent in responding to an e-mail with "reply all". But frequently, an unthinking "reply all" inappropriately sends annoying spam to many innocent cc'd colleagues. So, be sure you know who you are sending your reply to before choosing "reply all".

Spotlight Awards - Honor the Extraordinary Efforts of your Colleagues

The Spotlight Award recognizes extraordinary effort by eligible employees in response to departmental or divisional needs over the course of weeks or months.

All non-bargaining, nonmanagerial employees and employees represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union (IBEW) are eligible for this award.

Supervisors must submit the nominations; they welcome recommendations by employees about personnel performances on projects. Allocations of the total funds for the awards come at the beginning of the fiscal year and awards may be granted at any time during a fiscal year as long as funds remain.

We are listing all awardees for the past fiscal year in this newsletter. Quarterly reminders for Spotlight nominations will be sent to the directorate and in subsequent newsletters we will list the awardees for that quarter.

Please join me in congratulating our colleagues that have received Spotlight Awards this past year. I am sure they would be delighted to talk with you about the work that led to the award:

Daniel Allen (NSLS-II); Babak Andi (NSLS-II); Mercy Baez (NSLS-II); James Biancarosa (NSLS-II); Gretchen Cisco (NSLS-II); Mircea Cotlet (CFN); Lorraine Davis (CFN); Thomas Dilgen (NSLS-II); Gregory Doerk (CFN); Alissa Donato (NSLS-II); Charles Gardner (NSLS-II); William Gash (NSLS-II); Joseph Gormley (NSLS-II); Christopher Guerrero (NSLS-II); John Hammond (NSLS-II); David Harder (NSLS-II); Yong Hu (NSLS-II); Sooyeon Hwang (CFN); Jason Kahn (CFN); Kim Kisslinger (CFN); Steven LaMarra (NSLS-II); Thomas Langdon (NSLS-II); John Lara (NSLS-II); Ming Lu (CFN); Richard Lyon (NSLS-II); Philip Marino (NSLS-II); Nathanael Maytan (NSLS-II); Keith McDonald (NSLS-II); Thomas Miller (NSLS-II); Dmytro Nykpanchuk (CFN); Timothy Oldham (NSLS-II); Joseph Papu (NSLS-II); Leonard Pharr (NSLS-II); Maksim Rakitin (NSLS-II); Kristen Rubino (NSLS-II); Anthony Santiago (NSLS-II); Andrew Sauerwald (NSLS-II); Stephen Sauter (NSLS-II); Robert Scheuerer (NSLS-II); Grace Shea-McCarthy (NSLS-II); Robert Sikora (NSLS-II); John Sinsheimer (NSLS-II); Alexandre Sitnikov (NSLS-II); Richard Skelaney (NSLS-II); Jean Smiles (NSLS-II); Reid Smith (NSLS-II); Bayan Sobhani (NSLS-II); Aaron Stein (CFN); John Trunk (NSLS-II); Brian Walsh (NSLS-II); Jakub Wlodek (NSLS-II); Weihe Xu (NSLS-II); Denise Yazak (NSLS-II).

Help us Welcome our New Colleagues to EPSD:

Once again, we are introducing our newly hired colleagues to you. If you find common interests or places where you can assist, please do. Join with me in welcoming them to the directorate:

Donald Abel, Electro-Mechanical Technician

Supervisor: John Trunk

Email: dabel@bnl.gov

Start Date: 8/3/2020

Abigail Giles, Scientific Software Engineer

Supervisor: Stuart Campell

Email: agiles@bnl.gov

Start Date: 8/3/2020

Preferred Pronoun: She/Her

Interests: Graduated from St. Joseph's College in January 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in Math and Computer Science. Had two SULI internships at the NSLS-II and dance is something I enjoy outside of work. I look forward to working with everyone.

Matthew Greenberg, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Al Guided Nanosynthesis

Supervisor: Sanjit Ghose

Email: mgreenberg@bnl.gov

Start Date: 8/31/2020

Guobin Hu, Scientist, Cryo-EM

Supervisor: Liquo Wan

Email: ghu@bnl.gov

Start Date: 8/3/2020

Yichen Jian, Research Associate, Materials Science

Supervisor: Mingzhao Liu

Email: Yichen.jian@yale.edu

Start Date: 10/5/2020

Preferred Pronoun: He/Him/his

Interests: Born in Yangzhou, China. Went to Nanjing University for undergrad and did Ph.D. at Yale University. When not at work enjoys exploring the great outdoors.



Juan Jimenez, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Chemistry

Supervisor: Sanjaya Senanayake

Email: jjimenez@bnl.gov

Start Date: 8/2/2020

Preferred Pronoun: He/him/his

Interests: Running, cooking, and finding good food. Long Island native (Elmont); lived in Columbia, SC for five years during graduate school at the University of South Carolina. Coming back to Long Island is a great extra for me! I am very interested in Japanese culture/cuisine; I lived and worked in Japan for six months on the northern island of Hokkaido in the city of Sapporo, Japan.



Zhontian Mao, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Chemistry

Supervisor: Jingguang Chen

Email: zmao@bnl.gov

Start Date: 9/14/2020

Preferred Pronoun: He

Interests: I just finished my Ph.D. study at the University of Washington, focusing on the interaction between nanoparticles and support materials. Delicious food is my favorite.



Sharwari-Ramesh Joshi, Core Controls Student Assistant

Supervisor: Anton Derbenev

Email: sjoshi@bnl.gov

Start Date: 8/24/2020

Preferred Pronoun: She/her

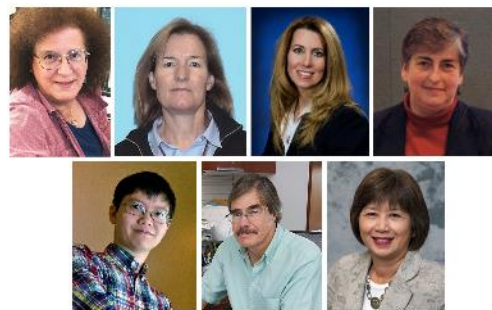
Interests: I am a Computer Engineering Master's student. Apart from academics, I love to read, and my favorite series is Harry Potter.

Jennifer Sears, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Resonant Inelastic X-ray Scattering (RIXS)

Supervisor: Mark Dean

Email: jsears@bnl.gov

Start Date: 9/8/2020



Members of the EPS IDE Council (clockwise from top): Diane Cabelli, Michael Cowell, Betsy Hanson, Vivian Stojanoff, Grace Webster, John Tranquada and Jing Tao

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