

Two Announcements to the LANSCE User Group from your Executive Committee

- Workshop on New Experimental Capabilities, January 8-10, 2012, at LANSCE
- Annual Election of Executive Committee Members

For more detailed information please check the LANSCE User Group page:
<http://lansce.lanl.gov/users/lug.shtml>.

Workshop on New Experimental Capabilities at LANSCE, January 8-10, 2012.

Meetings at LANSCE, foreign nationals without access on those dates must register by November 4, 2011 to obtain onsite access. Online registration is available:

<http://lansce.lanl.gov/users/lug/lugregistration.shtml>

Open to users and potential users of all LANSCE facilities

The Office of Defense Programs of the National Nuclear Security Administration as part of its development of a long term strategy for constructing new experimental capabilities to meet NNSA missions in the 21st century has sent out a call to the NNSA laboratories soliciting proposals for major facilities > \$100M. In response, LANSCE will be requesting a pulse stacker with an optimized target and a new, superconducting accelerator with 3 GeV proton energy and five times the current of the existing one. The pulse stacker on the proton storage ring will increase the current by two orders of magnitude and simultaneously enhance the energy resolution to make LANSCE the most intense epithermal facility in the world for high-resolution neutron energy measurements at WNR. The new accelerator will improve the spatial and temporal resolution and the penetrability of the proton beam to provide experimental data from materials dynamics tests that will validate the ability of newly developed constitutive models to accurately predict microscopic (10 micron) to macroscopic (10 cm) materials performance at pRad. In addition, Lujan Neutron Scattering Center will be hosting workshop sessions on New Directions in Local Structure and Neutron Radiography.

The purpose of the workshop is to solicit input from the user community, specifically on what opportunities might be created by these proposed upgrades and what instrumentation and staff would be required to realize this new scientific potential. This information will become part of the final proposal. All members of the LANSCE User Group, particularly those with expertise and projects in these areas, are encouraged to participate. In the spirit of the meeting we will also hold a session on additional LANSCE improvements.

For more specific information on the Local Structure and Radiography contact Jim Rhyne (rhyne@lanl.gov), for Nuclear Sciences contact Steve Wender (wender@lanl.gov), and Frank Merrill (fmerrill@lanl.gov) for Materials Dynamics.

Annual Election of LANSCE User Group Executive Committee Members

The LANSCE User Group (LUG) Executive Committee (EC) plays a vital role in the success of the scientific program at LANSCE by keeping LANSCE informed of User interests and needs and providing a window to the Users to LANSCE operations and policies. In these roles the EC provides direct user input to LANSCE management on matters ranging from day-to-day facility operations to future facility upgrades. Since the purpose of User Facilities, although sponsored by the Office of Science or the NNSA and managed by their host organization, is to provide experimental capabilities for Users, the LUG as the primary customer and the EC as its representative carry substantial weight in these matters. The EC also represents the User Group to the outside world: Executive Committee members are frequently invited to interact with LANSCE and Los Alamos management, attend meetings with LANSCE sponsors, and participate in other policy and advocacy activities such as those performed by the National User Facility Organization.

The Executive Committee is comprised of a chair, the ex officio chair, a vice chair, and ten regular members representing the different facilities and specific user subgroups, such as industry and students. The vice chair is elected by the EC and ascends to the chair position the following year. The EC members are elected by the entire LUG membership to serve formerly two and currently three year terms. Terms of the regular members are staggered to assure continuity in the Executive Committee. A LUG member becomes a candidate for an open EC position by being nominated – self-nominations are completely acceptable – and subsequently endorsed by two additional members. Send nominations and endorsements by email to the current chair (Steven Conradson, conradson@lanl.gov).

As a member of LUG, we request your assistance in this process by nominating and endorsing candidates to serve on the EC. This year, because we are in the transition from both two to three years terms and from topical to a facilities oriented distribution of the EC, we are seeking three candidates for regular EC positions to represent the Lujan Neutron Scattering Center. Because of this transition the candidate receiving the third largest number of votes will join the EC for only a two year term beginning in January 2012. In addition, we also seek a graduate student or post-doctoral scientist for a one year term.

Nominations will be accepted starting immediately and going through Monday, November 21, 2011. Candidates must submit a brief biographical sketch and statement of interests that will be posted. Please send your nominations and endorsements to conradson@lanl.gov. The ballot with the final slate of candidates will be placed on the LUG pages of the LANSCE web site (<http://lansce.lanl.gov/users/lug.shtml>) by November 25, 2011 and voting will occur through 19 December, 2011. There will also be an amendment to the charter of this ballot, designating that all LANSCE users automatically become LUG members for two years with the choice to opt out and that other interested people can join the LUG by registering via the website: <http://lansce.lanl.gov/users/lug/lugregistration.shtml>