

**COUNCIL OF UC STAFF ASSEMBLIES**  
**QUARTERLY MEETING AT Los Alamos National Laboratory**  
**March 7-8, 2002**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA) third quarterly meeting of 2001-2002 was hosted for the first time by Los Alamos National Laboratory representatives.

The Council is an advisory body made up of staff delegates from each of the ten campuses, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Office of the President. CUCSA meets on a quarterly basis, rotating among campuses and laboratories, to discuss issues of importance to staff and to provide feedback to the Office of the President and the UC Regents on these issues.

**Thursday, March 7**

**Carol Miller, CUCSA Chair**, convened the meeting in the Bradbury Science Museum and later in the J. Oppenheimer Study Center by welcoming the CUCSA delegates and the LANL guests. She conveyed that this was indeed an historic event to be at LANL. Chair Miller introduced all guests speaking at the meeting. **Fernando Quintana** gave the host instructions.

All the morning speakers emphasized the importance of strategic recruiting and retaining outstanding employees, the national security work done at the Lab, the science and technology that is the underpinning for all that the Laboratory does. UC's history and current relationship with Los Alamos was a recurring theme that helped put Los Alamos' role in context.

**John Rhoades, Bradbury Science Museum Director**, gave the group a real-time "windshield tour" as they made their way from their Santa Fe hotel and continued the briefing in the museum's theatre where he gave a "live" as well as slide-view and video presentation of the history and mission of the Laboratory.

**Richard Marquez, Associate Director for Administration**, welcomed the council in the J. Robert Oppenheimer Study Center at Technical Area 3. Marquez provided the group with an organizational profile of the Lab, its mission and its relationship to the Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration. He spoke about staff and recruitment issues as well.

**Allan Hartford, program leader for Science and Technology Base Programs**, gave the group an overview of the Lab's science and technology programs and an

insight into the Laboratory's many educational programs from high school co-op to postdoctoral.

**Weapons Physics Directorate Chief of Staff, William "Buck" Thompson** provided information on the Lab's weapons programs and national security efforts by beginning, "Let's talk about bombs." Thompson's overview of stockpile stewardship provided the group with a basic understanding of the dilemma of certifying a nuclear stockpile without testing and the exciting developments in computer science and the modeling used to "test" the thousands of parts contained in a bomb.

**CUCSA Chairperson Carol Miller** encouraged all the speakers to use the council as a resource and noted the extra value that the delegates from Berkeley and Los Alamos national laboratories have contributed to the organization.

**Charles Pacheco, University Relations Office Leader of the UCNNMO Northern New Mexico Office (UCNNMO)**, reporting directly to UC Office of the President, promotes UC presence and communication in the region. He presented an overview of office operations.

**Tom Cordova, Involvement/Outreach Specialist, Community Relations Office** shared LANL's vision: "We serve the nation by developing and applying the best science and technology to make the world a better and safer place. Highlights of LANL's Volunteer Program, Community Technical Assistance Program and efforts of the laboratory's outreach centers were shared.

**Joseph Garcia of Tribal Relations** explained that there were 15 tribes within a 60 mile radius of the laboratory; and that there are 22 tribes and 29 Pueblos in New Mexico. He described the relationship and guiding principles between the tribes with LANL.

**Kurt Schoenberg, Group Leader, Plasma Physics** presented an overview of plasma physics and applications that are made to focused programs. He reiterated the important applications of the program for stockpile stewardship and fusion energy research.

Before adjourning the meeting, CUCSA Chair Miller and Chair-Elect Maggie Souder reported highlights of the Regents meeting held in November.

### **Friday, March 8**

CUCSA Chair, Carol Miller circulated the upcoming Regents Meeting agenda for comment and made additional announcements before CUCSA goals were discussed.

**Regent Velma Montoya** shared her pathway to becoming a regent and discussed several themes—outreach, quality of the University being maintained, growing red tape issues, and administrative issues.

**Lisa Gutierrez, Diversity Leader**, presented information about the diversity program at LANL that strives to integrate all employees as partners. She informed us about the mandate by DOE to provide diversity training to all employees.

**Paul Schwartz, Communications Director for Human Resources and Labor Relations at the UC Office of the President**, provided information on communications initiatives to help constituents both within and outside the University better understand and appreciate the vast array of UC's human resources activities.

June 2002 meeting will be at UC San Diego.