

September 2004



NCCHPS

Mark Your Calendars!

The 2004-2005 NCCHPS technical meeting dates are listed below!

September 30

Francesco's in Oakland

November 4

GENENTECH, Inc.
South San Francisco

January 2005

TBD

March 2005

TBD

April 2005

TBD

May 2005

TBD

Thursday September 30, 2004

@ Francesco's in Oakland

6 pm-Social Hour
7 pm-Dinner
8 pm-Presentation



Speaker: Dr. Amy Sands

Title: How Real is the Radiological Terrorist Threat?

Would a terrorist organization actually take the step of killing 100,000 innocent people and destroying a city? Would it engage in the lesser but still extreme acts of destroying a nuclear installation and causing hundreds of billions of dollars of losses to a modern society or of contaminating historic and/or financial critical sites with radiation?

Although most terrorist groups are not likely to turn to unconventional weapons to cause mass destruction, some may. The available open-source data clearly indicate an increased interest by terrorists in chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) weapons and agents. While there is no doubt that there are now terrorist groups exploring the possible use of dangerous chemical and biological agents, the greatest danger to the public emerges from the increased potential for terrorists to pursue the most horrific types of nuclear terrorism involving nuclear detonations. Moreover, even lower scale, radiological events that did not involve the actual detonation of a nuclear weapon or an IND, could have severe economic and psychological consequences because of public fears concerning radioactivity.

As this presentation will argue, when such interest is combined with the fact of increasing lethality of terrorist incidents and the more virulent, militant, and anti-Western nature of many current terrorists, the possibility of some type of catastrophic nuclear terrorist incident becomes much more probable.

About the Speaker:

In August 2003, Dr. Amy Sands became Dean of the Graduate School of International Policy Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, a school dedicated to providing professional education and training relevant to the field of international relations. Previous to this appointment, she had been the Deputy Director of the Center for Nonproliferation Studies and a Research Professor at the Monterey Institute. Her responsibilities involve strategic oversight and daily management of the Center's projects and activities as well teaching classes on nonproliferation, WMD and terrorism, and verification at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. From August 1994 to June 1996, she was Assistant Director of the Intelligence, Verification, and Information Management Bureau at the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA). Reporting directly to the ACDA Director, she was responsible for managing the development of verification and compliance policy for relevant arms control and nonproliferation activities, for ACDA's computer support and analysis activities, and for liaison with the intelligence community. Upon leaving the government, Dr. Sands received ACDA's Distinguished Honor Award and the On-Site Inspection Agency's Exceptional Civilian Service Medal.

Before joining ACDA, she led the Proliferation Assessments Section of Z Division (Intelligence) at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In this position, she managed the research activities, publications, and numerous sponsors of Z Division's work relating to the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Dr. Sands has taught courses on political development, terrorism, and low-level violence at Boston College and worked as the Country Risk Manager at the Bank of New England before she moved to California for the position at Z Division.

Dr. Sands holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Wisconsin and earned her M.A., M.A.L.D., and Ph.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.



NCCHPS

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NCCHPS President's Column

We look forward to an exciting and successful new Chapter year. New President-Elect Nisy Ipe already has the meetings planned through January. We also welcome our new Treasurer, Rao Gorparthi and Board Member Jim Tripodes. A special thank you goes to Dave Myers and Kathy Shingleton who just went off the Board. They have a great history with the Chapter and provided calm, wise counsel. Julia Ryan stepped in and reassumed the duties of Treasurer when Jim Winstanley retired and her efforts are really appreciated.

At the annual Health Physics Society Meeting in Washington, DC this summer, Chapter Member Ralph Thomas was given the Society's Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award and Members Gary Zeman and Ed Bailey were elected Fellows in the Society. Congratulations to all of them for their well-deserved honors.

We hope you all can join us on September 30th at Francesco's in Oakland to hear Dr. Amy Sands of the Monterey Institute of International Studies talk on *How Real is the Radiological Terrorist Threat?*

Let us know how we can be of service to you.

John Ahlquist
President, NCCHPS

Welcome To Our Newest Chapter Members

Please join me in welcoming our newest chapter members: Gregg Cohn, David Kestell, Jan Kirkley, and Craig Stone. Greg Cohn is employed at the University of California, Berkeley, but his home address is in St. Petersburg, Florida. David Kestell recently joined the operational health physics staff at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Jan Kirkley is a long-time employee of Stanford University and past member of the chapter who graciously agreed to help me keep our records straight by re-applying for membership! Finally, Craig Stone joins us as an employee of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The board of directors of the Northern California Chapter of the Health Physics Society (NCCHPS) approved their membership at its May 20, 2004, meeting. Please welcome these new members when you meet them at an upcoming dinner meeting.

* Linnea Wahl
* Secretary, NCCHPS

NCCCHPS



A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY PRESIDENT

On behalf of Health Physics Society (HPS) President Ray Guilmette, the HPS Secretariat is sending the following two informational messages to all HPS members in California. These messages describe State Legislative issues that should be of interest to HPS members in California and is being provided so you can act on it locally, if you decide you would like to. The HPS is sending this as a member service to help increase the awareness of state issues of interest. The HPS has not taken, and is not espousing, any particular position on these issues. President Guilmette would like to thank Jim Tripodes for bringing these issues to his attention. If you would like more information on these issues, including suggestions on what you can do to address them, please contact Jim Tripodes, tripodes2@lnl.gov.

The Governor is seeking comments on all of the CPR Commission's recommendations before proposing his reorganization plan to the Legislature. Comments can be submitted electronically via <http://www.report.cpr.ca.gov/feedback/>. To stimulate interest, public hearings are being held during August and September. The full schedule for these hearings is available at <http://cpr.ca.gov/updates/archives/update56.shtml>. As they are developed, agendas for all hearings are posted on the CPR Web site. If you are interested in attending, a discussion of "Resource Conservation and Environmental Protection" recommendations (including the one regarding the radioactive materials regulatory program) is currently scheduled for September 17th in Fresno.

CALIFORNIA REORGANIZATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS REGULATORY PROGRAM

The California Performance Review (CPR) Commission recently presented its report, "Prescription for Change," to Governor Schwarzenegger for restructuring the State government to improve its effectiveness and accountability. The full report is available via <http://www.cpr.ca.gov>. This report includes more than 1000 recommendations, including one to transfer the entire radioactive materials regulatory program from the current Department of Health Services to a new Environmental Protection Department (EPD). This subject is included in a recommendation to consolidate all waste management programs. If this recommendation is implemented, it could have significant impacts upon how California carries out its responsibilities as a NRC Agreement State. More details on this specific recommendation are available at <http://www.report.cpr.ca.gov/cprprt/issrec/res/res03.htm> and the proposal for a new EPD is available at <http://www.report.cpr.ca.gov/cprprt/frmfunc/ch6.htm>.

PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS FOR DRINKING WATER

The California Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has proposed public health goals (PHGs) for 226Ra, 228Ra, 90Sr, and 3H in drinking water that are dramatically lower than the current maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). The proposed values are summarized as follows:

- ◇ for 226Ra, the proposed PHG is 0.068 pCi/L (the current MCL is 5 pCi/L)
- ◇ for 228Ra, the proposed PHG is 0.019 pCi/L (the current MCL is 5 pCi/L)
- ◇ for 90Sr, the proposed PHG is 0.35 pCi/L (the current MCL is 8 pCi/L); and
- ◇ for 3H, the proposed PHG is 400 pCi/L (the current MCL is 20,000 pCi/L)

If the proposed PHGs are adopted, the impact will be significant. The California Department of Health Services will be obligated to respond with new MCLs that are as close to the PHGs as is technologically and economically feasible. Thus, lower PHGs could have significant impacts upon facilities with environmental protection programs that are committed to comply with MCLs. In addition, as MCLs are typically used as the basis for environmental clean-up standards, facilities involved in such efforts will be required to remediate to ever-lower concentrations with no demonstrable benefit to the public.

The proposed PHGs and their technical bases are presented in three draft reports. OEHHA is seeking comments on these documents. Although the official deadline for comments was August 18th, the agency still expects to receive comments from the public, and an additional opportunity will be provided for comments on the revised reports. The solicitation of comments, announcement of the workshop, and links to the draft reports are all available at <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/water/phg/radiophg1.html>.

MOYER FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

At the HPS Annual Meeting this summer, Jonathan Saleeby was selected as the Moyer Fellow for 2004. Jonathan received his Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Charleston, and is now enrolled in the Ph. D. program at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. His program of study is in the field of physics, with a radiological sciences option.

We congratulate Jonathan on receiving this fellowship, which is the Society's most prestigious student award. The members of this chapter should also be congratulated for their continued financial support of this chapter activity. It is noteworthy, we think, that this marks the 21st year that this award has been made.

In other matters, the chapter's board of directors has agreed to increase our contribution for the Moyer Fellowship from \$3000 to \$3500 per year. This increase recognizes the increasing cost of graduate study, as well as the generosity of all of you who have made contributions to the fund.

A Special Thanks to Our September Dinner Meeting Sponsors!

The logo for Landauer, featuring the word "LANDAUER" in a bold, blue, serif font with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right.

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Landauer is the leading provider of analytical services to determine personnel exposure to occupational and environmental radiation hazards in the workplace and at home. Since 1954, the company has provided radiation dosimetry services to hospitals, medical and dental offices, university and national laboratories, nuclear power plants and the industries, in which radiation poses a potential threat to employees.

The service includes the manufacture of various types of radiation detection monitors, the distribution and collection of monitors to and from the clients and the analysis, reporting and record keeping of exposure findings. The company also has established itself as an important provider of radon gas detection services. The company's RadTrak alpha track radon detection system has set the industry standard for quality in radon gas monitoring. For additional details, visit our website.

The logo for Canberra, featuring a blue stylized 'A' shape to the left of the word "Canberra" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below "Canberra" is the text "A Packard BioScience Company" in a smaller font.

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Canberra is a leading supplier of nuclear measurement systems and instrumentation. Canberra provides both laboratory and field instrumentation for the purpose of quantification and qualification of all types of radiation. Canberra offers services, out of our Livermore California Field Office, in addition to instrumentation.

Canberra has established a Homeland Security Division, providing a range of products designed specifically for these requirements. These include the InSpector-1000, a hand held "Radiation Identifier," capable of storing over 300 Spectra. This unique unit will provide Dose Rate, Source Locator information, and Nuclide Identification. Multiple Nuclide Libraries are provided with the InSpector-1000 with Software to permit the user to setup his own Nuclide Library subsets included. The InSpector-1000 will meet the soon to be defined ANSI Standard N42.34.

Canberra's newest instruments include the uniSPEC (a USB tube base MCA supported by the Genie-2000 Software Version 3.0), the NET.mca (ideally suited for network use in a Client / Server configuration), and the modular RadSentry (providing both pedestrian and vehicle monitoring capability). Canberra has recently expanded the Health Physics Instrumentation group, adding both instruments and personnel.

NCCHPS



The NCCHPS November 2004 Meeting!!

Date: Thursday November 4, 2004
Location: GENENTECH, Inc.
South San Francisco, CA
Speaker: Dr. Dan Strellis
Title: Protecting our Borders while Entrusting Radiation Safety

Health Physics Society Meetings



2005 Midyear Topical Meeting
February 13-16, 2005, New Orleans, LA



Join your colleagues in exciting New Orleans, Louisiana, for the 38th HPS Midyear Topical Meeting held at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans. This exciting venue has 1,300 hotel rooms, is located just one block from the French Quarter, and is within walking distance to all the main attractions. All rooms have high-speed Internet connections as do the meeting spaces. Stay tuned as we develop an exciting Night Out. The Technical Tour features a behind-the-scenes look at one of the largest ports in the world: The New Orleans Port Authority.

Enjoy this superb meeting venue full of culture, heritage, and delicious food. Charles Kuralt summed up the city beautifully when he wrote: "Unique is a word that cannot be qualified. It does not mean rare or uncommon; it means alone in the universe. By the standards of grammar and by the grace of God, New Orleans is *the* unique American place...."

The Health Physics Society invites members and other interested parties to participate. The technical program for our meeting begins with a Plenary Session on Monday morning followed by technical presentations Monday afternoon through Wednesday afternoon. The format will include both oral and poster sessions. Authors of posters will stand by their posters at designated times and have the opportunity to share their work one-on-one with participants.

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NCCHPS

WWW. NCCHPS. ORG

Mailing Label

You can register for dinner ONLINE at www.ncchps.org!!

The Menu:

- 1) Fresh fillet of Pacific Red Snapper
 - 2) Pot Roast of Beef
 - 3) Eggplant Parmegiana
- Fresh Vegetables, Rolls & Butter

Schedule:

- 6 pm-Social Hour
No Host Bar
7 pm-Dinner
8 pm-Speaker

The Next Meeting!!

**Date: Thursday
September 30, 2004**

**Location: Francesco's
8520 Pardee Drive at
Hegenberger Road,
Oakland CA 94621**

Speaker: Dr. Amy Sands

**Title: How Real is the
Radiological Terrorist
Threat?**

**Registration Deadline:
Thursday, Sept. 23, 2004
\$25 Pre-registration
\$30 At The Door**

**Try Online Registration OR
Please contact:
Rao Goriparthi
raorso@gene.com
650-225-2959**

**The next deadline for
newsletter input is :
Friday October 8, 2004
To the newsletter editor:
Rachel Zeman
zeman1@lInl.gov
925-423-3094**