

The following news briefs are sent to you by the National Synchrotron Light Source at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York [nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov](http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov)

## Science Highlight: Scientists Provide Evidence that Life on Earth May Have Come from Comets

Contact: Lindsay Keller ([Lindsay.p.keller@jsc.nasa.gov](mailto:Lindsay.p.keller@jsc.nasa.gov)) or George Flynn ([george.flynn@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:george.flynn@plattsburgh.edu))

Scientists have provided new evidence for the existence of iron sulfide - iron combined with sulfur - in comets, which are large chunks of ice and rock that have remained nearly unchanged since the beginning of the solar system. The catalytic behavior of iron sulfides is involved in the formation of hydrocarbons - key building blocks of life - so this discovery reinforces the idea that seeds of life may have come to Earth from comets. The results of the study are described in the May 9, 2002, issue of Nature. For more on this work, see:

[nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/sci&tech/science/2002/cosmicdust.htm](http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/sci&tech/science/2002/cosmicdust.htm)

## UEC & Town Meetings Scheduled for July 24, 2002

Contact: Leemor Joshua-Tor ([leemor@cshl.org](mailto:leemor@cshl.org))

The next NSLS Town Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 24th from 1-3 pm in the NSLS Seminar Room. All are invited to address any issues or concerns. Please contact the UEC Chair, Leemor Joshua-Tor, if you like an item added to the agenda. The next NSLS Users' Executive Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday, July 24th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the NSLS Conference Room A.

## Hands-On Short Course in EXAFS Data Collection and Analysis: September 23-25, 2002

Contact: Bruce Ravel ([ravel@phys.washington.edu](mailto:ravel@phys.washington.edu)) or Simon Bare ([srbare@uop.com](mailto:srbare@uop.com))

A hands-on short course in EXAFS data collection and analysis will be held at the NSLS from September 23-25. This workshop will provide a broad introduction to the collection and analysis of EXAFS data and is aimed at new synchrotron users and young scientists. The three-day course includes classroom lectures given by leading experts, hands-on data collection at NSLS beamlines, and instruction in the use of data analysis software. The lectures will cover topics ranging from the basic physics of x-ray absorption, sample preparation and data collection, and basic principles of data analysis. Participants will collect real data during the beamline practicals and learn to analyze that data during the computer training. For more information, see:

[http://www.x-11.bnl.gov/exafs\\_workshop.htm](http://www.x-11.bnl.gov/exafs_workshop.htm)

## Reminder: Complete your NSLS Safety Training Online

Contact: Mary Anne Corwin ([corwin@bnl.gov](mailto:corwin@bnl.gov))

As announced over the last year, User Administration and the NSLS Training Coordinator have made it easier for new users and those whose training has expired to complete their training online prior to arrival at BNL, saving considerable valuable time and allowing users to get onto the experimental floor quickly. More than 1100 users have taken advantage of the online system since it became available in April of last year. We encourage all our users to try out this system. Complete the two modules as requested at:

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/users/registration/Default.htm>

## Free Shopping Shuttle and Bicycles for Users and BNL On-Site Residents

A free shopping shuttle, courtesy of Brookhaven Science Associates, is now available. Every Wednesday and Saturday, the shuttle makes multiple trips between BNL and the Southport Shopping Center during the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday and 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon on Saturday. For more information and store listings, see:

[http://fsd84.bis.bnl.gov/staffservices/menu/transportation/shoppin\\_gshuttle.htm](http://fsd84.bis.bnl.gov/staffservices/menu/transportation/shoppin_gshuttle.htm)

## Request a 2001 NSLS Activity Report

The 2001 NSLS Activity Report is now available in print and on the web. To view the online version, go to:

[http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/pubs/actrpt/2001/title\\_page.pdf](http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/pubs/actrpt/2001/title_page.pdf)

If you would like to receive a printed copy, you can request one online at:

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/pubs/actrpt/default.htm>

## The July NSLS Newsletter is now online

The July 2002 issue of the NSLS Newsletter is now available online and in print. To receive a printed copy, please email Nancye Wright at [wright1@bnl.gov](mailto:wright1@bnl.gov). To view and download the online version, go to:

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/pubs/newsletters/02-july.pdf>

## Job Opportunities at the NSLS

A number of scientific and technical job opportunities are available now at the NSLS. See the NSLS web site for details:

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/org/Admin/jobs.htm>

## User Obligations and Reminders

**Pre-Registration:** All users must pre-register for each visit.  
<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/dbforms/user-regis.asp>

**Foreign Nationals:** All foreign nationals must submit Form BNL-473. Those without active appointments must arrive Monday-Friday by 3 p.m. (no weekends/holidays).

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/users/procedures/foreign.htm>

**Training:** All users who require training/retraining must arrive Monday-Friday by 3 p.m. (no weekends/holidays).

**Publication References:** Users (except proprietary) are obligated to submit references for all published work.

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/pubs/pubrefs/Default.htm>

**Abstracts:** Users are obligated to submit abstracts.

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/pubs/abstracts/submit.asp>

**End of Run Form:** All users are asked to complete the End of Run survey at the end of each experimental run.

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/dbforms/end-of-run.asp>

NSLS e-News is an electronic newsletter from the Information and Outreach Office at the National Synchrotron Light Source, Brookhaven National Laboratory. Feel free to forward this e-News to a colleague. To subscribe or unsubscribe to this list, see:

<http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/announcements/listservers.htm#nsls-news>

If you would like to suggest a news item, please send a message to [nslsinfo@bnl.gov](mailto:nslsinfo@bnl.gov).

The current and past issues of the NSLS e-News are available on the web at:

[nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/announcements/nslsonlinenews.htm](http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/announcements/nslsonlinenews.htm)

Editors: Lisa Miller ([lmiller@bnl.gov](mailto:lmiller@bnl.gov)) and Patrice Pages ([pages@bnl.gov](mailto:pages@bnl.gov))

This work was supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Division of Materials Sciences and Division of Chemical Sciences, under Contract No. DE-AC02-98CH10886

---

### NSLS Information and Outreach Office

National Synchrotron Light Source, Brookhaven National Laboratory

P. O. Box 5000, Bldg. 725B

Upton, New York 11973-5000

(631) 344-5132 [nslsinfo@bnl.gov](mailto:nslsinfo@bnl.gov)