

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

## Science Highlight: New Insights into Transcription Initiation in Bacteria

Contact: Seth Darst ([darst@mail.rockefeller.edu](mailto:darst@mail.rockefeller.edu))

Every cell in a living being contains an instruction manual, the genome, encoded in the form of messages called genes within a double helical molecule made of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). This information is read and interpreted in two steps, called transcription, in which the DNA is converted into ribonucleic acid (RNA), and translation, in which the RNA is converted into proteins, used by cells to function properly. Scientists from Rockefeller University have provided structural insights into the key machinery for controlling the initiation of transcription in bacteria. For more on this work, see:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/science/2003/04-Darst.htm>

## Representatives of DOE Light Sources Meet with Elected Officials in Washington, DC

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

For the third consecutive year, a delegation of scientists representing the four U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) synchrotron light sources organized a successful lobbying trip to Washington, DC on April 7 and 8, 2003.

The visit was organized and coordinated by Leemor Joshua-Tor, the chair of the NSLS Users' Executive Committee (UEC). The delegation was comprised primarily of the chair and vice-chair of the UECs of the Advanced Light Source, the Advanced Photon Source, the NSLS, and the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory. Accompanying the delegation was Pat Fulton, Science Lobbyist for Stanford University.

"The goal of these visits is to increase the visibility of the synchrotrons and the Department of Energy's Office of Science who funds them," Joshua-Tor says. "The Office of Science budget has remained essentially flat in recent years, forcing Light Source funding to remain flat as well, although the number of light source users nearly doubled." For more details on the visit, please see:

[nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/sci&tech/news/2003/04-capitolhill.htm](http://nslsweb.nsls.bnl.gov/nsls/sci&tech/news/2003/04-capitolhill.htm)

## Two users have research privileges revoked

Contact: Bob Casey ([casey1@bnl.gov](mailto:casey1@bnl.gov))

Two users had their research privileges at BNL revoked for 6 months for failing to comply with entry requirements to the NSLS experimental floor. In this incident, a beamline user was

advised that her training had expired and that entry to the beamline was forbidden until she had requalified on her NSLS facility specific and GERT training. Despite this instruction and subsequent additional warnings, she entered the experimental area without taking the training and without a radiation dosimeter on three separate occasions. For more information on this incident, see the report filed with the DOE Office of Enforcement:

## Register online for the 2003 NSLS Users' Meeting: May 19-21, 2003

Contact: Tony Lanzirotti ([lanzirotti@bnl.gov](mailto:lanzirotti@bnl.gov))

This year's meeting will be held May 19-21 at BNL. This spring promises to be an exciting one at the NSLS and it's vitally important to both the NSLS and the User Community that turnout for these meetings be high. We'll have the typical array of high caliber workshops this year and hope to have some very exciting scientific discussions as well for the Main Meeting on Tuesday. Speakers will include Phaedon Avouris from IBM, Jianwei (John) Miao from SSRL, Alain Gibaud from Université du Maine, Ian Robinson from the University of Illinois, and Christoph Rose-Petruck from Brown University, among others.

We realize that it can be economically difficult at times to come to these meetings and we're very sensitive to that. To make this easier we've drastically cut the costs for attending the meeting this year, particularly for students and post-docs. Professionals will be charged \$150 if they sign up for 1 workshop and \$225 for the meeting plus all workshops. We also have the option this year to attend just the main meeting on Tuesday for \$50 (and that includes lunch!), a bargain to be sure. The Banquet will cost \$35. For students and post-docs, \$75 will get them the meeting and unlimited workshops and \$25 if they just want to attend the Main Meeting on Tuesday and \$15 if they want to attend the Banquet. Remember that registration must be submitted and Payment in full must be received no later than April 30 to avoid a late fee.

For complete details on the meeting, see:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/news/2003/06-UsersMtg.htm>

## Vote online for Users' Executive Committee (UEC) Members: Open until May 20, 2003

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

It's that time of year again -- Vote for Users' Executive Committee (UEC) members!

The UEC represents the scientific user community at the NSLS. The UEC interacts with NSLS Administration, BNL, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the public in matters of user community issues, facility operation, policies, improvements.

General members are elected for a term of two (2) years. The nominating committee has prepared a slate of candidates who have agreed to run for election. Three (3) general member candidates will be elected by a majority vote. Election results will be announced at the afternoon session of the main meeting at the NSLS Annual Users' Meeting on May 20th, 2003. You must be an active NSLS user in order to vote. The voting deadline is noon, May 20th, 2003. To vote online, please go to:

<http://www.nslsuec.org/elections/uec-vote.asp>

### Vote online for Special Interest Groups (SpIGs) to the UEC: Open until April 30, 2003

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

It's that time of year again -- Vote for the representative of your Special Interest Group (SPIG)!

Your SpIG represents your interest group on the Users' Executive Committee and is your link to addressing user needs at the NSLS. With important issues facing NSLS and the increasing pro-active nature of the UEC, your SPIG representative can make a difference.

Please take the time to cast your vote online at the link below. The voting deadline is April 30, 2003. Please note: You must be an active NSLS user to vote. Unfortunately a sign of the times we live in. For complete details on the meeting, see:

<http://www.nslsuec.org/elections/spig-vote.asp>

### Call for Proposals: Center for Functional Nanomaterials, Brookhaven National Laboratory

Contact: Liz Flynn ([CFNuser@bnl.gov](mailto:CFNuser@bnl.gov))

The Brookhaven National Laboratory Center for Functional Nanomaterials (CFN) is now soliciting proposals for initial operation in September 2003. The CFN provides researchers with a suite of state-of-the-art capabilities to fabricate and study nanoscale materials. Detailed information on the CFN (including scientific theme areas and facilities' descriptions) and guidelines on submitting a proposal can be found at: the Lab's scientific departments and divisions, as well as to Laboratory management.

<http://www.cfn.bnl.gov>

Deadlines for proposals are:

\* May 31, 2003 for users interested in any access to beamlines at the NSLS.

\* June 30, 2003 for users interested in facilities other than at the NSLS.

Interested researchers are invited to learn more about the CFN, meet with CFN scientists and discuss their proposal ideas at a CFN Informational Meeting that will be part of the National

Synchrotron Light Source Users' Meeting. Nanoscience presentations and the CFN meeting will be on May 20. One-day registration (\$50) is available. Information and registration for the NSLS User meeting can be found at:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/news/2003/06-UsersMtg.htm>

### 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://www.nsls.bnl.gov/organization/Admin/jobs.htm>

### User Obligations and Reminders

**Pre-Registration:** All users must pre-register for each visit.  
<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/users/newusers/>

**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://www.nsls.bnl.gov/users/newusers/>

**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://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/publications/references/>

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

[www.nsls.bnl.gov/users/procedures/end\\_of\\_run/end-of-run.asp](http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/users/procedures/end_of_run/end-of-run.asp)

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[www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/publications/listservers.htm](http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/publications/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:

<http://www.nsls.bnl.gov/newsroom/publications/enews/>

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