



# EX-Ls

## Retiree Newsletter

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory - April, 2019

### IN THIS ISSUE

<b>Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Officers</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>President's Message</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>February Luncheon Recap</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Patti Powers-Risius</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Remembrances</b>	
<b>Matthias J. Kotowski</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Donald Landis</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Andrew Dubois</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>May Luncheon Speaker</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Luncheon Registration Form</b>	<b>10</b>

## EX-Ls BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Nancy Brown  
1st Vice-President: Bob Cahn  
2nd Vice-President: Ben Feinberg  
Secretary: Esther Schroeder  
Treasurer: Howard Matis  
Membership: Phyllis Housel-Gale  
Activities: Kathy Bjornstad  
LBNL Liaison: Margaret Dick  
CUCRA Representative: Janis Dairiki/Bob Cahn  
UCBRC Advisory Board: Henry Rutkowski, Nancy Brown  
Editor EX-Ls Newsletter: Linda Rutkowski  
UCBRC Director and Liaison Cary Sweeney

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Henry Rutkowski -2018	Bob Birge - 2002
Lee Schroeder - 2017	Per Dahl - 2001
Cheryl Fragiadakis -- 2016	Tom Beales - 2000
Connie Grondona – 2015	Ken Mirk - `1999
Trudy Forte – 2014	Paul Hernandez – 1998
Joe Jaklevic – 2012-13	Clay Sealy - 1996-98
Rollie Otto – 2011	Igor Blake - 1994-96
Richard Sextro – 2010	Conway Peterson –1992-94
Don Grether – 2009	Howard Browne – 1990-92
Jose Alonso – 2008	Ethel Skyrdlinski – 1989
Janis Dairiki – 2007	Al Amon - 1988
John Kadyk – 2006	Ken Lou – 1987
Gene Binnall – 2005	Virginia Cherniak - 1986
Sig Rogers – 2004	Bill Bigelow – 1985
Bob Fulton – 2003	Ted Bowers – 1981-84

## 2019 CALENDAR OF BOARD MEETINGS & LUNCHEONS

### Board: Meetings:

January 10, 2019 April 11, 2019  
July 11, 2019 October 10, 2019  
Board Meetings start at 3:00 p.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. usually held in LBNL Conference Room (54-130B). Note that the January 10th meeting was held in Bldg. 70A-3377. Location is subject to change at the last minute, so check with a Board member if you plan on attending. We welcome attendance by interested members.

### Luncheons (dates and locations):

Thursday, Feb 21, 2019, DoubleTree  
Thursday, May 16, 2019, Berkeley Yacht Club  
Thursday, Aug 15, 2019, DoubleTree  
Thursday, Nov 21, 2019, DoubleTree

## OFFICE ADDRESS:

**Our mailing address is:** LBNL EX-Ls  
101 University Hall Berkeley, CA 94720-1550

**Website:** <http://retirement.berkeley.edu/ex-ls>

**Webmaster:** Kris Thornton, UCBRC

### EX-LS Honorary Life Members

Shirley Ashley, Patrick Cullinane, Bud Larsh

## Next Luncheon

### May 16, 2019

## President's Message

We thank and appreciate the many donors to the Ex-Ls who have stepped up throughout the past year. This is especially important to us because we offer universal membership with no dues.

Although the EX-Ls leadership has found temporary solutions to luncheon venues this year, it has not found a more permanent solution. Our activities coordinator Kathy Bjornstad has devoted considerable effort to this. We will again be at the DoubleTree for the August, and November luncheons in 2019. As a change of venue, we will be at the Berkeley Yacht Club on May 16. We are looking forward to the upcoming May meeting when Bernie Lo, M.D., will speak about **Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Medicine: Ethical Challenges**. Meanwhile, the hunt continues for 2020 venues.

In response to the loss of a more permanent affordable luncheon venue, the Ex-Ls, with help from the University of California Retirement Center, crafted a survey to determine member preferences for getting together. The results are being analyzed, and we will summarize them at our May luncheon. Member preferences will guide us as we continue to pursue a more permanent solution to our luncheons and other events.

We continue to be very concerned about Retiree Health Care. The Working Group on UC Retiree Healthcare has yet to meet face-to-face this year, and their scheduled April meeting was abruptly cancelled. In January, the UC Office of the President issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) by the University to replace the current High Option, Health Net Seniority Plus and UC Medicare plans (PPO SPMs) with a Medicare Advantage Preferred Provider Organization Plan (MA PPO).

We, with retired colleagues from UCB and others, examined the two insurance products and concluded that the MA PPO represents a marked degradation in insurance coverage that will result in considerable hardship for many retirees. Issues of particular concern are:

1. Loss of Patients' Current Providers
2. Costs of Referring to an Out of Network Provider
3. Medicare Approved Procedures can be Denied by an MA PPO

Unfortunately, for retirees living in California there are no other options. UC Medicare retirees are unable to opt out of UC health coverage and purchase their own private supplemental plan to Medicare. The law requires that UC discontinue health coverage to the entire group (as UCOP did with out of state Medicare retirees) before that option is available.

If there is no resolution of these issues by the end of the month, we will send a more detailed explanation of the situation that provides information regarding the differences between the two types of insurance. We will also provide a sample letter with a request that you write a letter about this to the UC President, Janet Napolitano. The Ex-Ls leadership is working on this issue with the various UCB retiree organizations and is keeping the Laboratory informed.

## February Luncheon Recap

Dr. Michael Brandt, LBNL's Deputy Lab Director for Operations and Chief Operating Officer gave us a "Year One Retrospective: 'Opportunities and Challenges'." Michael came to the lab from Los Alamos just one year ago. He provided a quite comprehensive view of how he sees the Lab's position.

The Lab's budget now exceeds one billion dollars a year, the largest components of which are Basic Energy Sciences (BES, 201 M\$), Computing (\$202 M\$), Biological and Environmental Research (BER, 153M\$), High Energy Physics (99M\$), and Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (111M\$). An increasing portion of the funding is for projects, estimated at 235 M\$ in FY2019, compared to 22 M\$ in FY2013. The Advanced Light Source Upgrade and ESnet Upgrade are the two largest projects currently.

There have been a number of significant building completions and the Integrative Genomics Building (IGB), with a budget of about 90 M\$, will be completed this year, bringing 300 workers to the Berkeley site. A major future project is the Welcome Center Facility, which will replace the cafeteria complex. It will, however, provide much broader services, including conference facilities and health-related operations.

Despite all these advances, the Lab still has infrastructure challenges, with a deferred maintenance projection of 260 M\$. Annual expenditures for maintenance have increased by about a factor of two over the past seven years in an effort to address this problem.

At the heart of the Laboratory is its staff. Brandt summarized this with the imperative: "Recruit, develop, and retain highly skilled and diverse employees with the capabilities needed to contribute to scientific excellence and mission success."



**Patti Powers-Risius – Membership Coordinator – 2013—2018**

Thank you Patti for being our Membership Coordinator for six years and believing in and supporting the EX-Ls through your dedication and participation in our activities.



Service recognition Feb. 2019



Joined EX-Ls Board of Directors in 2013



Laboratory Runaround October 28, 2016



Recruiting a potential member of EX-Ls 2017



Take me out to the Ballgame March 28, 2018



## **Remembrance of Matthias J. Kotowski - 1947-2019**

Matthias J. Kotowski died on March 30, 2019 at age 79 in Woodland, California from complications of dementia. Matt was born on August 11, 1947 to Johannes W. Kotowski and Hedwig Kotowski, and was the second of five brothers.

Matt loved spending time with his family, doing woodworking projects in his garage, hiking in the redwoods and locally with the Tuesday Trekkers, singing in the San Jose Symphonic Choir, traveling in his camper to visit Zion, Arches and other National Parks; enjoying the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, attending the opera, laughing along to Click and Clack on Car Talk, attending LBL retiree luncheons, eating dark chocolate and enjoying a glass of wine. Matt volunteered with various nonprofit organizations over the years, and was a founding board member of the NorCal CarciNET Community, an organization for those with neuroendocrine and carcinoid tumors.

Matt and his family emigrated from West Germany to the United States in 1964, settling in Long Island, New York. Matt completed his secondary schooling at Smithtown Central High School, graduating in 1966 with honors and a Regents' scholarship. Matt graduated from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science in physics. He also became a United States citizen in 1970. Matt later obtained two graduate degrees at night while working full time, earning a Master of Science in Safety from New York University in 1977 and a J.D. from Golden Gate University School of Law in San Francisco in 1999.

Matt spent his career as a safety engineer and was a member of the National Safety Council and the American Society of Safety Engineers for decades. The bulk of Matt's career was spent working for Los Alamos National Laboratory (1975–1979), the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (1979–1989) and the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory (1995–2007), specializing in industrial and laboratory safety.

Matt is survived by his beloved wife Madeline Stuart, daughter Christy, son Nick (Christine), brothers Thomas (Wilfrida), Martin (Mary Ellen), Andy (Clarinda), Chris (Bridget), as well as many nieces and nephews in the U.S. and cousins in Germany. He was preceded in death by his parents Johannes and Hedwig Kotowski, and infant sister Barbara.

Matt was a smart, dedicated, talented and kind person who will be greatly missed. His children and extended family would like to especially thank his wife Madeline for taking such good care of him through his struggle with dementia.

**Family and friends are invited to attend a celebration of Matt's life on Saturday, May 4th at 1:00 PM at Greer Family Mortuary and Cremation Services in Alameda, CA.**



### **REMEMBRANCE OF DONALD LANDIS, 1933 - 2019**

Donald A. Landis passed away on January 11, 2019 at the age of 85. He began his employment at the Lab in 1959 and retired as a Senior Staff Electronics Engineer in the Engineering Division in 1991. Though formally retired, after a short break, Don continued his affiliation with the Lab until 2016. Don, a native of California, began his electronics career in the U.S. Army where he was placed in the Signal Corps. While in the Army, Don was deployed to Germany to help rebuild the German phone system after the war. After finishing his tour in the Army, Don began pursuing a BS in Electrical Engineering UC Berkeley. After graduating in 1959, Don joined the Laboratory's Nuclear Chemistry and Physics Instrumentation Group (headed by Fred Goulding), which became the Department of Instrument Science and Engineering (DISE) and is now the Electronics, Software & Instrumentation Engineering (ESIE) Department.

Under Goulding's mentoring, Don completed his Master's degree in 1961 and developed expertise in low-noise preamplifiers and associated amplifiers with emphasis on pulsed-feedback techniques. He was also associated with the development of semiconductor particle and energetic photon detectors in support of nuclear physics and nuclear chemistry. His expertise became a unifying theme of his long and distinguished career at the Laboratory. In the early 1960s, Don started designing detector instrumentation that was eventually used at all of the LBNL accelerators.

This was a particularly dynamic period in Laboratory history. The 88-Inch Cyclotron had recently been commissioned, the search for transuranic elements was actively being pursued at the HILAC, and the Bevatron was at the peak of its productivity as a premier facility for elementary particle physics. Don's development of electronics for experimental physics and nuclear chemistry was a particularly welcome addition to the Laboratory and later for Biophysics experiments.

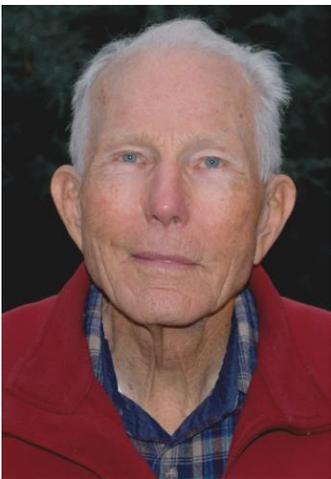
Don's importance to the Lab was highlighted by the many contributions he made through the direct support of the nuclear chemistry and physics research staff. His instrumentation was used to study the properties of heavy elements (transuranics produced at the HILAC and SuperHILAC), nuclear structure and reactions (HILAC, 88" Cyclotron and the 60" Cyclotron at the Crocker Lab on campus), exotic atoms (Bevatron), and heavy ion beams for biophysics (Bevalac). Some of the more noteworthy projects were: the 198 counting system, the particle identifier system, the beam integrators at the 88" cyclotron, the mirror position measuring electronics for the Keck 10 Meter Telescope, the first Time Projection Chamber analog pulse processing electronics with discrete components, and the signal processing electronics for the Iridium anomaly coincidence spectrometer

that played a key role in developing the argument that an asteroid collision caused the extinction of dinosaurs 65 million years ago. Don also played a key role in developing the signal processing electronics for the GammaSphere, for the Princeton Tokamak X-ray spectrometers, and for the  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  double beta decay experiment, to name a few.

Don Landis won the respect of a varied group of collaborators with whom he worked and the gratitude of the dozens of colleagues whose careers he enhanced. His achievements were recognized across the international scientific community.

Even though Don retired from the Lab in 1991, he continued to contribute to the GammaSphere experiments at the 88" Cyclotron for many years.

Don is survived by his wife Joan, son Mark, daughter Laurie and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A Celebration of Life service was held on February 3, 2019 at the El Sobrante United Methodist Church.



## **REMEMBERANCE OF ANDREW DuBOIS, 1924-2019**

Andy passed away peacefully in his sleep in late February. He was born on the family ranch near El Centro, California. His education began in a one-room school house and ended with degrees in Mechanical Engineering from U.C. Berkeley. He served his country in WWII as a 2nd lieutenant. Andy's working career began at LBNL, Engineering Division, working on particle accelerators and ended working on the two Keck Telescopes on Mona Kea in Hawaii. Andy played a vital role as Project Manager for the Lab's Keck Telescope Engineering Team. Under Andy's leadership the team developed the mirrors active support system, passive support system flex disk and whiffletrees (that permitted the up and down and tilting movements needed to align the mirror segments). The many contributions Andy made through direct support of the nuclear and physics programs was highly recognized throughout the scientific community. Andy is survived by his daughters Jennifer, Barbara, Amanda, Emily and Julie, son-in-laws and grandchildren. A memorial was held on Saturday, April 6, in Alameda.

## Join Us ..... EX-Ls May 16, 2019 Luncheon Registration Form

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2019

Speaker: **Bernard Lo, MD., President of the Greenwall Foundation**

**Location: Berkeley Yacht Club**

**Luncheon Price: \$41 is all inclusive of luncheon, tax, tip, fees, parking**

Register using the Eventbrite Link below

<https://ex-ls-berkeley-yacht.eventbrite.com>

IF YOU ARE PAYING BY CHECK PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE. Then you only need to mail Kathy a check made out to EX-Ls.

It is still acceptable to Fill out the registration form below and mail a check to Kathy

Where: **Berkeley Yacht Club**, Easy access, Berkeley Marina

**1 Seawall, Berkeley Drive, Berkeley, CA. 94710** ←

Time: **11:30 AM – Buffet Lunch Served at noon – Speaker at 1:00, Concludes 2:00 PM**

Location: **Main Dining Room, Beautiful view of the Bay**

No-Host Bar Service: **Located in the Berkeley Yacht Club Bar – opens at 11:30**

### **TITLE OF TALK: Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Medicine: Ethical Challenges**

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) may enhance medical care, but also raise difficult ethical challenges. Different types of big data are used to develop artificial intelligence and machine learning applications to medicine. These applications include classifying medical images, predictive analytics, and recommending clinical decisions. However, AI also raises several ethical challenges: (1) limitations in the data sets used to derive the algorithms and recommendations; (2) how to assess the clinical benefits and risks of applying AI to clinical care; (3) how to respond to errors in AI recommendations; (4) the impact on patient autonomy and (5) the privacy of personal data used to derive AI recommendations. Different countries and cultures will address these ethical challenges differently.

**BIOGRAPHY:** **Bernard Lo, MD** is President of the Greenwall Foundation, whose mission is to expand bioethics knowledge in order to improve clinical, biomedical research, and public health decision-making, policy, and practice. He formerly was Professor of Medicine and Director of the Program in Medical Ethics at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF). A member of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM, formerly the Institute of Medicine, IOM), Dr. Lo chaired IOM committees Sharing Clinical Trial Data (2015) and Conflicts of Interest in Medical Research, Education, and Practice (2009). He currently chairs the NAM committee Evidence-based Clinical Practice Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Acute Pain.



Lo serves on the Board of Directors of Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) and on the Medical Advisory Panel of Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Dr. Lo and his colleagues have published over 200 peer-reviewed articles on ethical issues concerning decision-making near the end-of-life, oversight of research, the doctor-patient relationship, and conflicts of interest. He is the author of *Resolving Ethical Dilemmas: A Guide for Clinicians* (6<sup>th</sup> ed., 2019). He continues to care for a panel of primary care internal medicine patients at UCSF.

