

At PPPL
THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

PPPL Safety Forum

8:30 a.m. - Noon ♦ M.B.G. Auditorium

**ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY
FOR ALL EMPLOYEES**

GFDL Events and Seminars

12 p.m. - 1 p.m. ♦ GFDL
Smagorinsky Seminar Room

Historical and Future Climate Change
Simulated by GFDL's Cm³ Coupled Model

Larry Horowitz (GFDL)
www.gfdl.noaa.gov/events

(Gov't, University or 2 other forms of I.D. needed)

PPPL Colloquium

4:15 p.m. ♦ M.B. Gottlieb Auditorium

Technical Challenges of Nuclear
Disarmament Verification

Alexander Glaser (Princeton Univ.)

[CLICK HERE FOR ABSTRACT](#)

THURSDAY, MAY 17

**DOE Center for Predictive
Control of Plasma Kinetics:
Multi-Phase and Bounded
Systems - 3rd Annual Meeting**

8:30 a.m. - 6:15 p.m. ♦ M.B.G. Aud.

[DETAILED SCHEDULE](#)

Special Theory Seminar

2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. ♦ T169

FRIDAY, MAY 18

**DOE Center for Predictive
Control of Plasma Kinetics:
Multi-Phase and Bounded
Systems - 3rd Annual Meeting**

8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. ♦ M.B.G. Aud.

[DETAILED SCHEDULE](#)

DIII-D Science Meeting

1 p.m. ♦ B-233

THIS WEDNESDAY

Mandatory Safety Forum



By **Stewart Prager** — Director, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory

Dear PPPL'ers,

As already announced, everyone at the Lab is cordially "invited" to a mandatory Safety Forum this Wednesday, May 16, starting at 8:30 a.m. in the MBG Auditorium, with overflow in the Cafeteria. We will focus on the recent incident and its implications, and discuss how we can improve the safety at PPPL overall. Since safety involves all of us, it is imperative that we all attend. A safety culture survey has been distributed, which will provide insight into how we can make PPPL a safer place to work. See you all Wednesday.

Stet C. Prager

**NSTX-U Project Gets Rave Reviews
from Lehman Committee**

PPPL received high marks for the NSTX-Upgrade project from the Lehman Review Committee on May 3. Following two days of presentations and discussions, the review committee concluded that the project is performing well on cost and schedule, construction efforts are being performed safely, and the project had responded well to previous management and Earned Value Management Systems recommendations.

PPPL Director Stewart Prager congratulated the NSTX-U team on the successful Lehman review. "The review committee judged the technical work, safety, schedule, cost, and management to be excellent. The committee said that no work in an area was less than outstanding. That's as good as it gets," Prager said. He also

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The Lehman Review Committee, from left, includes Frank Crescenzo, DOE Brookhaven Site Office; Ethan Merrill, DOE Office of Science; Tim Maier, DOE Brookhaven Site Office; Mike Epps, DOE Thomas Jefferson Site Office; Ray Won, DOE Office of Science; Barry Sullivan, DOE Office of Science; Arnie Kellman, General Atomics; Stephen Meador, DOE Office of Science; and David Lissauer, Brookhaven National Laboratory.

A Flame is a Plasma, After All, So PPPL Joins a Contest

By Kitta MacPherson

More than 800 scientists. Nearly 5,000 students. That's how many people are involved in what ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer has called "the most inspired contest on the planet."

In March, actor Alan Alda wrote a provocative editorial in the renowned journal *Science*. The title of his column, "The Flame Challenge," described how he, as an 11-year-old, stared at a candle flame and wondered what it was. He wasn't looking for overly simple answers – he wanted a step-by-step style of conversation that would lead to understanding. When he queried one teacher he thought he could approach, he received a disappointing answer. "What's a flame?" he asked. "Oxidation," she said. Many decades later, he sees this continuing failure to properly communicate science as a society-wide problem.

For years, he has been doing his part to address that problem by hosting "Scientific American Frontiers" on public television. In the show, Alda interviews scientists about their work, helping them explain their research to intelligent non-scientists. Now, as a member of the faculty at the Center for Communicating Science at the State University of Stony Brook on Long Island, Alda has launched his own experiment. He announced the Flame Challenge contest (<http://flamechallenge.org>) in *Science*, asking scientists, educators, and students to submit short videos, essays or effective communications by any other means to explain the simple question he asked as a boy.



Andrew Zwicker, left, a physicist at PPPL who heads science education, working with Aliya Merali.

Andrew Zwicker, a physicist at PPPL who heads science education, came up with a version of the answer, working with Aliya Merali. It can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

Submissions, which were due on April 2, have poured in from all over the world. According to a story on the website of the Center for Communicating Science, participants submitted 822 entries from the U.S. and 30 other countries. The entries range from a sentence to tomes and from poetry — one poem is written in the shape of a flame — to live-action videos with special effects. Once volunteer scientists screen the submissions for accuracy, the entries are being sent to schools where 11-year-olds at more than 130 schools will judge them. The finalists will be posted on flamechallenge.org, and the winner will be announced at the World Science Festival in New York in early June. 📺

Plasma Science Center Meeting This Week

More than 50 plasma physicists from across the country will assemble at PPPL this Thursday and Friday for the third annual meeting of the Plasma Science Center for Predictive Control of Plasma Kinetics. Further details and the meeting schedule are available at http://doeplasma.eecs.umich.edu/meetings.htm#meeting_an3.

The Department of Energy-funded center was launched with a five-year grant in 2009 to bring together physicists involved in fundamental research on low-temperature plasmas with vast potential for practical applications, explained PPPL physicist Igor Kaganovich, who organized this year's meeting. Such applications range from lighting and renewable energy to medicine and microelectronics. Scheduled meeting events include presentations by co-principal investigators and invited speakers, and a display of posters.

PPPL employees are invited to attend the meeting, and especially the poster session, which is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, from 1:40 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the LSB lobby. Those unable to attend the sessions can view the web simulcast by dialing the toll-free number 866-740-1260 and entering "8121333" followed by "#". To begin the simulcast go to <http://esnet.rea-dyrtalk.com> and enter "8121333." 📺

Lehman Review

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commended the NSTX-U team on its impressive progress to date on the Upgrade project.

Highlighted excerpts from the committee's closeout review included the following: "The safety culture on the NSTX-U project is excellent and a serious concern for safety is evident at all levels of the project team from upper lab management to the field technicians" and "The project appears on track to successful early completion based on performance to date, remaining cost and schedule contingencies, and risk analysis."

"The Lehman review team just concluded what we all knew, that the project is making excellent progress and is performing work safely, well ahead of schedule, and on cost," said NSTX-U project manager Ron Strykowski.

"Lehman reviews" are normally conducted every six months by the DOE Office of Project Assessment and headed by Dan Lehman to provide feedback to the DOE Office of Science on the technical, cost, schedule, and safety health of the project. 📺

May is Electrical Safety Month

7 Deadly Words

"THAT'S THE WAY WE'VE ALWAYS DONE IT"

More Deadly Words

- ☠ My journeyman showed me to do it that way
- ☠ The boss expects it
- ☠ It's easier, quicker, saves money, saves time, less hassle, less paperwork...
- ☠ We're not funded to do it that way
- ☠ Time is money
- ☠ We can't turn it off
- ☠ I just assumed...



DO IT RIGHT
DO IT SAFE



Electrical Safety in the 21st Century. Is this job worth my life?

COLLOQUIUM

Technical Challenges of Nuclear Disarmament Verification

ALEXANDER GLASER

Princeton University

Wednesday, May 16

4:15 p.m. (Coffee/Tea at 4 p.m.)
M.B.G. Auditorium, Lyman Spitzer Building

THIS
Wednesday

SAFETY FORUM

MAY 16, 2012

8:30 a.m. - Noon • M.B.G. Auditorium

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

PPPL Café Menu

BREAKFAST 7 a.m. • 10 a.m.
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 10 a.m. • 11:30 a.m.
LUNCH 11:30 p.m. • 1:30 p.m.
SNACK SERVICE until 2:30 p.m.

MONDAY MAY 14

TUESDAY MAY 15

WEDNESDAY MAY 16

THURSDAY MAY 17

FRIDAY MAY 18

COMMAND PERFORMANCE
CHEF'S FEATURE



**SAUSAGE & PEPPERS
PARMESAN W/ PASTA**

Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Fresh Baked Croissant

Minestrone

Grilled Chicken, Bacon, Swiss, Tomato Wrap, Fries

Capicola, Salami, Provolone, Red Peppers, Lettuce

Turkey, Cheddar, Red Onion, Tomato, Mayo



CHICKEN FRIED RICE

Thick Sliced French Toast with Choice of Meat

Cream of Carrot

Grilled Ham, Swiss, Tomato on Rye w/ Onion Rings

Fresh Mozzarella, Tomato, Basil Balsamic Vinaigrette

Crispy Chicken, Provolone, Red Peppers, Tomato



**STRAWBERRY
SPINACH SALAD**

The XL Veggie, Egg White Omelet w/ Potatoes

Black Bean

Chicken Quesadilla with Salsa and Sour Cream

Egg Salad BLT Wrap

Roast Beef, Pepper Jack, Sautéed Onion, Tomato



**FRESHLY CARVED
CAJUN TURKEY**

Homestyle Corn Cakes

Beef Noodle

Two Chili Cheese Dogs with Fries

The Cuban Reuben

Smoked Bacon, Pepp. Jack, Provolone, Cheddar



**CHICKEN SALTIMBOCCA
OVER RICE**

The Hungryman - Pancake, 2 Eggs, Sausage and Toast

Hearty Onion Soup

Crispy Chicken, Sautéed Onions and Peppers

Jamaican Curry Chicken Salad on a Multi Grain Roll

Honey Ham, Swiss, Banana Peppers, Tomato

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

[CLICK HERE FOR A PRINTABLE WEEKLY MENU](#)

WEEKLY

Editor: **Patti Wieser** ♦ Copy Editor/Graphic Designer: **Gregory Czechowicz**
Photographer: **Elle Starkman** ♦ Webmaster: **Chris Cane**

PPPL WEEKLY is published by the PPPL Office of Communications on Mondays throughout the year except for holidays.

Deadline for calendar item submissions is noon on Thursday. Other stories should be submitted no later than noon on Wednesday.

Send to: pwieser@pppl.gov ♦ Comments: commteam@pppl.gov ♦ PPPL WEEKLY is archived on the web at: <http://www.pppl.gov/ppplweekly.htm>