

At PPPL THIS WEEK

MONDAY, FEB. 17

My Health Coach Program 12 noon - 1 p.m. - A104 Healthy New Year - At Any Time of the Year

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19

PPPL Colloquium
4:15 p.m.
 MBG Auditorium
The Fate of the Land Carbon Sink
Stephen W. Pacala, Princeton Univ.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

DOE NJ Regional Middle School Science Bowl

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

DOE NJ Regional High School Science Bowl

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 25

PPPL Colloquium4:15 p.m. < MBG Auditorium</td>Quantum Mechanics and Spacetime

Geometry Juan Maldacena, Institute for Advanced Study

Feb. 26

PPPL Colloquium 4:15 p.m. • MBG Auditorium Genetic Hitchhikers

Gregory Lang, Lehigh University

Mar. 1

Science on Saturday Lecture

9:30 a.m. MBG Auditorium Can Studying Infinite Dimensional Space Help Us Improve Healthcare?

Dr. David Scheinker, MIT

Insidem



Winter Driving page 2

Colloquiua page 4

Cafe@PPPL Menu page 4

PPPL's magnetic fusion research is focus of DOE video on "A Star on Earth"

VEER

FEBRUARY 17, 2014

By Jeanne Jackson DeVoe

A videography team from the U.S. Department of Energy headquarters came to PPPL last week to film a video about the National Spherical Torus Experiment Upgrade (NSTX-U) and research at PPPL. The six-minute video, tentatively titled "A Star on Earth," will be posted on the DOE website (www.energy.gov) for Space Week in early March and is to be screened for U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz prior to that.

Ben Dotson, the DOE's project coordinator for digital reform, and video producer Matty Greene filmed the video over two days on Feb. 11 and Feb. 12. "The video is focused on the fusion research at NSTX," Dotson said. "It will help people understand what that means for the future of energy here on Earth."

Video to be featured during Space Week

Space Week will focus on the numerous contributions that national laboratories have made to the U.S. space program, including work on devices like the Chem-Cam laser instrument mounted on the Curiosity Rover to analyze samples on Mars. "A lot of people don't realize the immense contributions National Labs have made to the national space program," Dotson said.

The concept for a video on PPPL's role in creating a star on Earth came from PPPL Director of Communications Kitta MacPherson. Greene said the idea provided a chance to look at a space-related topic from a different angle and get some good visuals. "I think it works in our favor to take a different subject and make it really accessible," Greene said.

Another video team arrives Feb. 18

Dotson and Greene drove to the Laboratory from Washington D.C. on Tuesday and left Wednesday afternoon before a major storm that was predicted to cover much of the Southeast up to Washington with ice. The storm subsequently turned into a Nor'easter that swept from Philadelphia to New England and caused PPPL to close to all but critical personnel on Feb. 13.

Another video team from Websedge, a video company that produces videos for academic conferences, will be coming to PPPL on Tuesday, Feb. 18, to shoot a video about PPPL for the American Physical Society Conference to be held in Denver from March 3 to 7. That video shoot was originally scheduled for Feb. 13 but was postponed due to the impending snowstorm.

The DOE videography team first interviewed PPPL Director Stewart Prager in the NSTX-U Control Room. Prager provided an overview of PPPL's mission to do research leading to the development of magnetic fusion as a future energy source. "We're trying to produce a star on Earth, trying to confine a plasma at 10 mil-

continued on page 3



Videographer Matty Greene sets up lights, while Ben Dotson, right, discusses the video with PPPL Director Stewart Prager prior to his interview in the NSTX-U Control Room, as part of a video the DOE is producing that will appear on the DOE website in early March.



PPL's Site Protection Division would like to remind you to protect yourself and your passengers while driving this winter. Some tips:

- **Keep your car in shape** and keep gloves, ice scraper, brush, windshield wash, salt or sand in your trunk.
- Clean off the entire windshield, windows and roof of your vehicle and the front and rear vehicle lights so you can see and be seen. This is required under New Jersey law.
- Use your seatbelt and plan for extra time.
- **Plan your route** for main and major roads. These roads are typically plowed first and are more accessible than side roads.
- **Drive for the conditions.** Turn on headlights, drive slowly, avoid quick acceleration or sudden turning or braking and don't use cruise control in inclement weather. (Remember, all-wheel-drive or four-wheel-drive provides no advantage on ice!)
- **Maintain extra distance** between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you. Remember that larger vehicles take longer to stop.
- **Slow down** when approaching intersections, offramps, bridges, etc.
- **Stay well behind snowplows.** Only pass if necessary and when safe and legal to do so. A snowplow driver has a limited field of vision and limited maneuverability and always has the right-of-way. If you approach a snowplow from the opposite direction, be prepared for snow, ice, and slush being thrown into your lane.

Plan, dress, and pack properly for your winter trip. Fill the car, charge the cell phone, bring a blanket and cell phone charger, pack water and some provisions, inform others of your departure and arrival times, and route of travel.

A note about driving at PPPL: Do not pass slow-moving vehicles (gators, lifts, etc.), cranes, and pedestrians while at PPPL. Exercise care when driving through the campus during and after a storm. Obey speed limits.

The designated overnight parking area (located in the Lower N Lot) will receive priority for clearing snow and ice. Early PPPL arrivals should park vehicles in this location to allow the rest of the parking areas to be plowed

A note about the Scudders Mill and Campus Road intersection: There is no right turn on red at the intersection of Scudders Mill and Campus Road! Avoid the possibility of a ticket -- turn right only when the right turn arrow is green.

> Happy Winter Motoring! — The Site Protection Division



Chinese university delegation visits PPPL



A delegation from Tsinghua University in Beijing visited PPPL on Feb. 11 as part of a four-day visit to Princeton University arranged by the Vice Provost for International Initiatives. The group had lunch with PPPL Director Stewart Prager, physicists Guo-Yong Fu and Weixing Wang, and John DeLooper, head of Best Practices and Outreach. DeLooper then led a tour of PPPL that included the NSTX-U Control Room, left, and a stop at the model of one of the first stellarators, right.

DOE Video

continued from page 1

lion degrees to produce clean, limitless and safe fusion energy," Prager explained as the camera rolled.

A long shooting session at NSTX-U

The videographers also visited the Lithium Tokamak Experiment and interviewed physicist Robert Kaita there on Tuesday. They shot interviews with physicists Ahmed Diallo and Greg Hammett in the Visualization Wall Room and capped off the day late in the afternoon by spending more than an hour shooting footage of NSTX-U.

On Wednesday, the team interviewed engineer Kelsey Tresemer and filmed footage of physicist Arturo Dominguez's Remote Glow Discharge Experiment (RGDX). They also videotaped ohmic coil-winding operations and shot footage of the Magnetic Reconnection Experiment and the Hall Thruster Experiment.

While visiting PPPL, Greene and Dotson filmed an interview with physicist Angela Capece for a separate video on women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields at DOE national laboratories. That video will likely appear later in March along with other videos of women in STEM fields.

Greene, who is producing the "Star on Earth" video, will have less than two weeks to edit the footage in order to post it by early March. She said she enjoyed visiting PPPL. "I had an idea of what you actually do when I came to the Lab but now I have a much better idea," she said. "That's my favorite part."

"Dotson was enthusiastic too. "It's been great, we've gotten tons of footage," he said. "The main thing is we've gotten to meet researchers who covered every different aspect of NSTX-U. We have a full picture of what it is and what it does and we're very excited to tell the public that story."



Physicist Greg Hammett, right, is interviewed in the Visualization Wall Room for the DOE video.



John DeLooper, head of Best Practices and Outreach, talks to Dotson, right, and Greene, while Greene shot footage of the NSTX-U.

Volunteers still needed for Science Bowl at PPPL on Friday, Feb. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 22

PPL's annual Science Bowl is Feb. 21 and 22 and the halls and conference rooms of the Laboratory will once again be filled with dozens of whiz kids competing to represent New Jersey at the national championship in Washington D.C.

This is the 20th year PPPL will host the U.S. Department of Energy's New Jersey Regional Middle School and High School Science Bowl[®], which brings 100 middle schoolers on 16 teams to the Lab on Feb. 21 and 200 students on 32 teams for the High School Science Bowl on Feb. 22.

The students come from Delaware, Pennsylvania, and throughout New Jersey to compete in the contest and win the honor of going to Washington D.C. for the national contest April 24 to 28.

Each team of four students, an alternate and a teacher who serves as an advisor or coach, competes to answer questions in biology, chemistry, Earth science, physics, energy, and math. "It's literally a nail biter at the end," said program administrator Deedee Ortiz, who coordinates the Science Bowl. "It comes down to one question – one student being too fast or too slow. It's so intense but it's so fun!"

Hosting all those kids at PPPL means that an army of PPPL volunteers is needed to make the event run smoothly, including timekeepers, moderators, science judges.

Ortiz said she still needs two volunteers for two-hour shifts on Friday, Feb. 21 and 10 volunteers on Saturday, Feb. 22. You can volunteer by filling out a form here or by contacting Ortiz at dortiz@pppl.gov. D



page 🔀 of 4



Editor: Jeanne Jackson DeVoe ♦ Layout and graphic design: Gregory J. Czechowicz Photography: Elle Starkman ♦ Web: Chris Cane ♦ Admin. support: Pamela Hampton

The **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. Comments: commteam@pppl.gov **PPPL WEEKLY** is archived on the web at: http://w3.pppl.gov/communications/weekly/.