# NAMP Radiochemistry Webinars: Past, Present and Future

Berta Oates, Portage, Inc.



# National Analytical Management Program (NAMP) U.S. Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office

# NAMP Radiochemistry Webinars: Past, Present and Future



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In Cooperation with our University Partners



















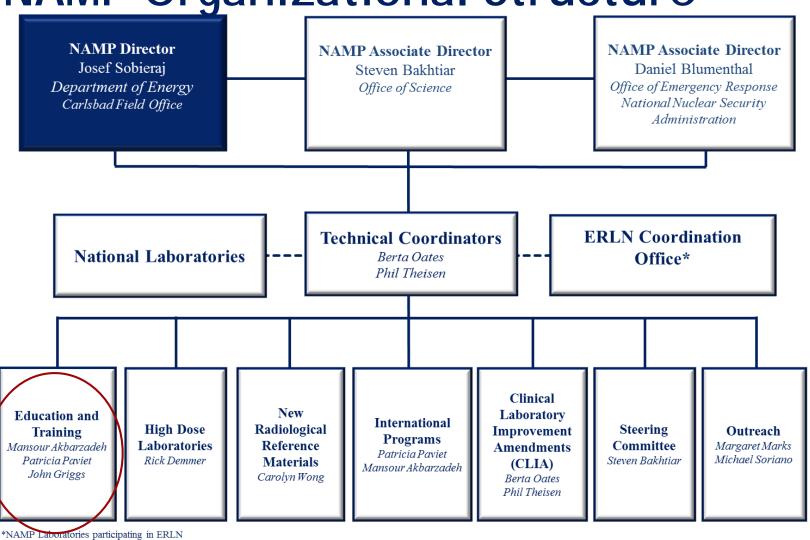




## NAMP Mission

- The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM) authorized the Carlsbad Field Office to reestablish the National Analytical Management Program (NAMP) and to create a DOE Environmental Response Laboratory Network Coordination Office in support of the Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks (ICLN) effort to establish an effective, integrated response in a national emergency.
- NAMP serves as a central focal point to coordinate analytical resources within the DOE complex and to help other federal agencies or organizations, both national and international, gain access to the analytical capabilities and expertise within the participating laboratories.
- NAMP addresses national technological and resource needs and promotes training and education.

## NAMP Organizational Structure



INLIdaho National Laboratory ORISE Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

SNL Sandia National Laboratories

SRS Savannah River Site WIPP Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Y-12 Y-12 Plant, Oak Ridge, TN



# Advantages to Webinars

# Issues and Challenges

- Aging facilities within the DOE complex
- Declining workforce
- Few universities teaching radiochemistry
- Lack of professors
- Lack of facilities for training

## Radiochemistry Webinars

- Promote radiochemistry education
- Introduce radiochemistry to a new audience
- Advance the knowledge of personnel in the discipline

## Audience

- Managers
- Technicians
- Students
- Regulators
- Health Physicists
- Quality Assurance Officers
- Chemists

# Declining Workforce in Radiochemistry

In May 2012, the National Academy of Sciences issued a report on the demand for and supply of nuclear and radiochemistry experts, a major component of the workforce in such areas as nuclear waste management, the nuclear fuel cycle, nuclear medicine, safeguards, and nuclear forensics.







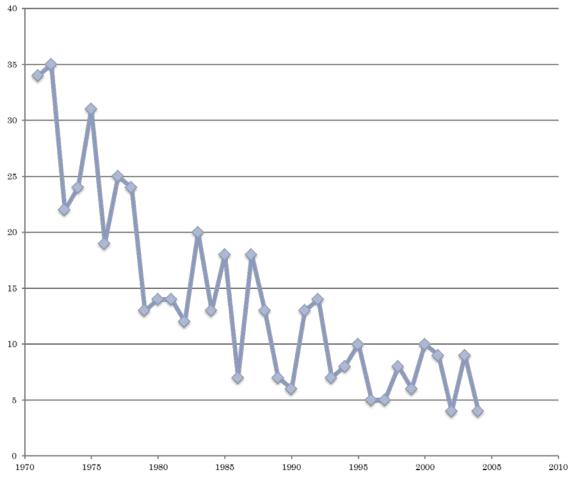
# Declining Workforce in Radiochemistry (Cont.)

- The report noted that while many in the current workforce are approaching retirement age, the number of students opting for careers in nuclear and radiochemistry has decreased dramatically over the past few decades.
- To avoid a shortage of trained personnel, it is necessary to increase student interest in careers in these critical fields, improve the research and educational capacity of universities and colleges, and offer sectorspecific on-the-job training.





# Declining PhD Degrees in Nuclear Chemistry in the United States



- U.S. granted PhD degrees in Nuclear Chemistry from 1970 to 2004
- Range from 35 to 4

Adapted from NAS report, 2011

# Example of Flyer

- Same format
- Title of presentation
- Lecture overview
- Learning objectives
- Who should attend
- Registration link
- Bio of the presenter
- Future presentations

National Analytical Management Program (NAMP) U.S. Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office

### Radiochemistry Webinars Environmental & Bioassay Radiochemistry Series

NAMP cordially invites you to attend web-based lectures on specific radiochemistry topics developed in cooperation with the EPA and other Federal agencies, and our university partners. The selected topics are designed to strengthen the participant in areas of professional

engineering practics identified by the nuclear industry or national laboratories, including but not limited to actinide chemistry in the environment and in the nuclear fuel cycle. Short (1 % to 2-hour) webinars on specific radiochemistry topics are presented by renowned university professors and leading scientists in radiochemistry.

### Please join us for Part 1 of Gamma Spectrometry

Who Should Attend: Chemists Laboratory Technicians Radiation Safety Personnel
Regulators Emergency Preparedness Personnel Managers

Lecture Overview: When compared to other forms of radiometric analyses, gamma spectrometry is sometimes considered "easy." However, complications of numerous nuclides present in the sample, overlapping peaks, ingrowth and decay, and a plethora of software settings can make even "easy" analyses go wrong. This webinar will focus on practical considerations to ensure reliable, defensible analytic results. The webinar format will focus on gamma spectrometry fundamentals, process knowledge, decay and ingrowth, libraries, calibrations, spectral artifacts, software settings, manual spectrum and results review and interpretation, and results validation.

Free Webcast: Thursday, September 19, 2013, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time, 12:00 pm Central Time

Register NOW at: https://foodshield.connectsolutions.com/spectrometry1/eyent/registration.html

For more information, please contact: Berta Oates at <u>boates@portageinc.com</u> or visit the NAMP website at www.wipp.energy.gov/namp

### Meet the Presenters...

For over 20 years, Mr. Bob Shannon has supported government and independent commercial testing laboratory radiochemistry needs. He currently performs consulting work through Quality Radioanalytical Support, LIC. His recent work has included projects such as drafting revision 2 of the NRC RG 4.15 to incorporate MARLAP principals, developing and teaching basic radiochemistry training for State and Federal lab radiochemistry performing audits for the EPA and DOE, and helping author laboratory guidance documents and develop Rapid Radioanalytical Methods for the EPA. Mr. Shannon chairs The NELAC Institute Radiochemistry Expert Committee and the ASTM D19.04 Fission and Activation Products Task Group, and is the Radiochemistry Part Coordinator for Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater.



David C. Burns



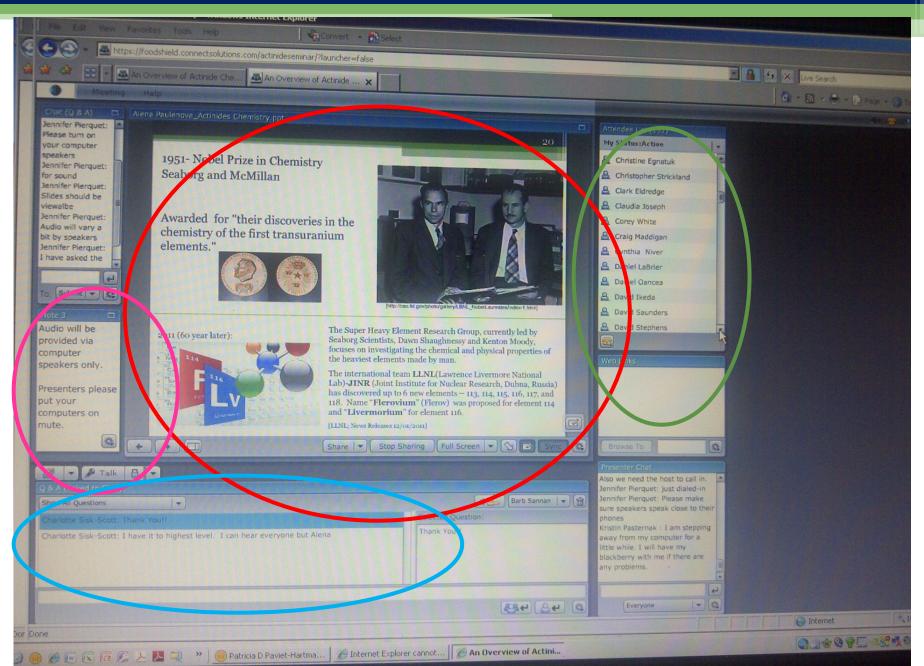
Mr. David Burns has been a radiochemist and nuclear measurements analyst for 20 years. He has managed a variety of radioanalytical laboratories in the private sector, as well as state- and federal-level government laboratories. Mr. Burns has provided radiochemistry consulting services in the areas of rapid method development, incident response, laboratory contamination control, and performance- and compliance-based laboratory assessments. Mr. Burns' other areas of expertise include radiation safety and industrial hygiene. Mr. Burns is currently the Radioanalytical Laboratory Measurements Branch Chief at the U.S. Air Force Technical Applications Center at Patrick Air Force Technical Applications Center at Patrick Air Force Technical Applications

Watch for these Uncoming Webinary

Part 2 of Gamma Spectrometry (September 2)
 Overview of EPA Rapid Methods (October 24)
 Subsampling (November 14)

Free attendance registration at:

https://foodshield.connectsolutions.com/spectrometry1/event/registration.html



# Webinar Series Participation

Series 1-Actinide Chemistry
April 2012 to April 2013

# Series 2-Environmental Radiochemistry / Bioassay May 2013 to May 2014

Webinar Topic	Attendance	Archived Viewings	Webinar Topic	Attendance	Archived Viewings
An Overview of Actinide Chemistry	165	642	Radiological Data Validation and Verification	205	142
Uranium Chemistry	183	247	Traceability and Uncertainty	260	70
Plutonium Chemistry – General Properties of Plutonium	142	182	Bioassay	182	86
Environmental Behavior of Plutonium	136	159	Gamma Spectrometry (Part 1)	273	207
Environmental Behavior of Uranium	164	88	Gamma Spectrometry (Part 2)	184	68
Analytical Chemistry of Plutonium and Uranium	210	182	Overview of EPA Incident Response Guides and Rapid Methods	182	106
Source Preparation for Alpha Spectroscopy	153	214	Detection Decisions and Detection Limits	234	80
Sample Dissolution	186	84	Guide to Uncertainty in Measurement	226	54
Neptunium Chemistry	157	65	Mass Spectrometry	235	50
Trivalent Actinides	151	61	Alpha Spectroscopy	237	84
Transplutonium Actinides	115	28	Applications in Liquid Scintillation Counting	236	84
Radium Chemistry	235	144	Unconventional Drilling/Hydraulic Fracturing and Natural Radioactivity	269	107

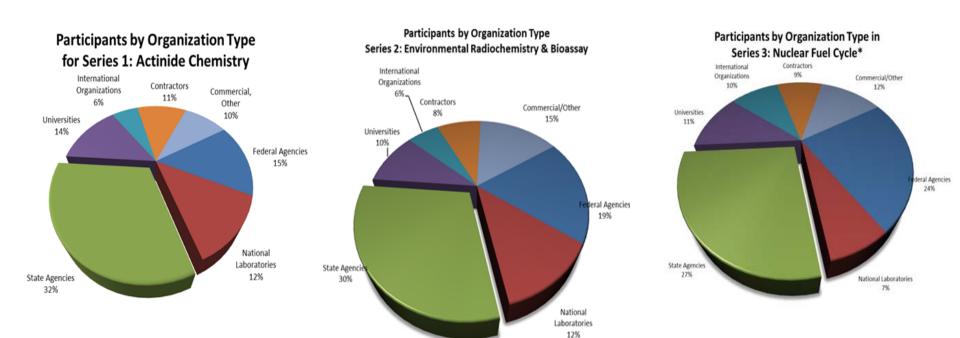
Series 3 Nuclear Fuel Cycle

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Webinar Title	Presenter	Date	Attendance			
Introduction to the Fuel Cycle	Stephanie Cornet, NEA/OECD	June 26, 2014	151/158			
Front EndUranium Mining, Milling, Enrichment and UO2 production	Mikael Nilsson, UC-Irvine	July 24, 2014	211/95			
Environmental and human contamination in the Front End of the Fuel Cycle for Uranium Mining and Milling	Kenya de Almeida, UNM	August 21, 2014	133/44			
Nuclear Fuels and Fuel Fabrication	Thomas Hartmann, UNLV	September 25, 2014	146/43			
Overview of Nuclear Reactors	Roger Blomquist, ANL	October 23, 2014				
Chemistry and radiochemistry of the reactor coolant system	Dr. Robert Litman, EMS	November 20, 2014				
The PUREX Process	Dr. Jimmy Bell, Bell Consultants	December 11, 2014				
Advanced Partitioning Technologies in the U.S.	Jennifer Braley, Colorado School of Mines	January 22, 2015				
Advanced Partitioning Technologies in Europe	Dr. Dominique Warin, Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique (CEA)	February 26, 2015				
Radiation Chemistry at the Back End of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle	Bruce Mincher, INL Steve Mezyk, California State University Long Beach	March 26, 2015				
Pyroprocessing Technology	Supathorn Phongikaroon Virginia Common-Wealth University	April 23, 2015				
Nuclear Waste Management-Application to Technetium	Edward Mausolf, PNNL	May 28, 2015				
Nuclear Repository Science and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant	Lindsay Shuller-Nickles, Clemson University	June 25, 2015				
High Level Waste	Rick Demmer, INL	July 30, 2015				
	<b>Total Attendance 5126</b>					

Average >190/webinar

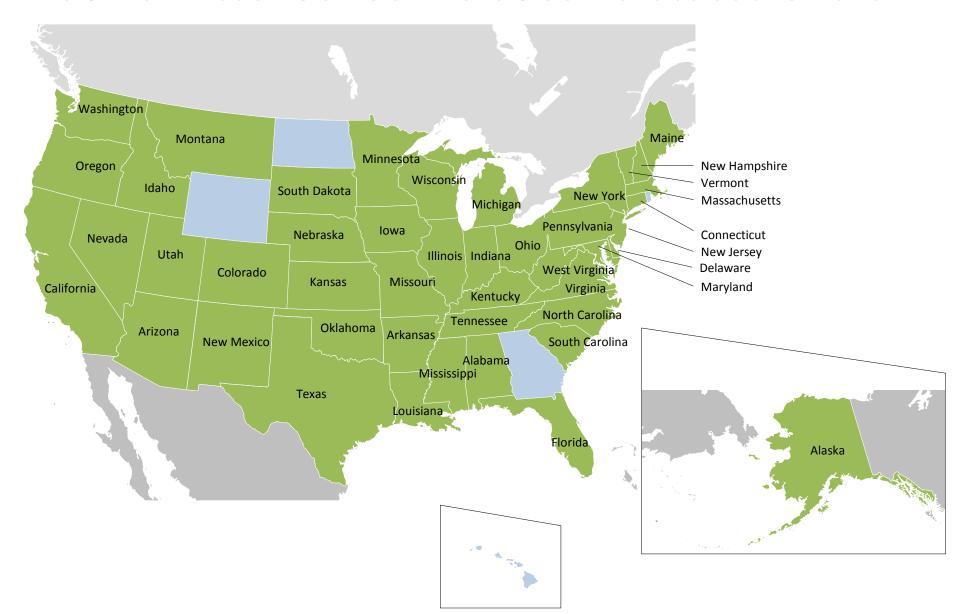
Total Attendance 5126
Total Archived Viewings 3574

## Webinar Attendance Distribution



- ~30% State Agencies
- ~30% Federal Agencies and National Laboratories combined
- Balance: universities, international organizations, contractors, and commercial organizations

## Webinar Attendance Includes 45 States Overall



# Future Series—Nuclear Forensics

Webinar Title	Presenter	Tentative Date
Introduction	Dr. Brian Powell, Clemson University	August 2015
Nuclear Fission/Nuclear Devices	To Be Announced	September 2015
Thorium and Uranium Resources and Enrichment	Dr. Lindsay Shuller-Nickles, Clemson University	October 2015
Chronometry	Dr. Michael Schultz, University of Iowa	November 2015
Sample Matrices and Collection, Sample Preparation	Dr. Amy Hixon, University of Notre Dame	December 2015
Nuclear Materials Analysis — Physical and Spectroscopic Methods	Dr. Jeff Terry, Illinois Institute of Technology	January 2016
Nuclear Materials Analysis — Chemical Methods	Dr. Brian Powell, Clemson University	February 2016
Nuclear Materials Analysis — Non-Destructive Analysis	Dr. Azaree T. Lintereur, University of Utah	March 2016
Nuclear Materials Analysis — Radioanalytical Methods	Dr. Tim DeVol, Clemson University	April 2016
Nuclear Materials Analysis — Mass Spectroscopy	Dr. Ken Marcus, Clemson University	May 2016
Development of Signatures	Dr. Kiel Holliday and Dr. Leonard Grey, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	June 2016
Statistics in Nuclear Forensics	Dr. Luther McDonald, University of Utah	July 2016
Source and Route Attribution	Dr. Jenifer Braley, Colorado School of Mines	August 2016
Case Studies Part 1	Dr. Lindsay Shuller-Nickles, Clemson University	September 2016
Case Studies Part 2	To Be Announced	October 2016

## **Archived Webinars**

## Accessible online

- Audio-video recording
- Slide deck
- Presenter information
- Keyword:NAMP+Webinar

www.wipp.energy.gov/namp





### **National Analytical Management Program**



#### Join us at NAMP!

Learn more about collaboration with other laboratories to strengthen analytical chemistry response for the homeland security radiological needs of the EPA.

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#### Training and Education

#### NAMP Radiochemistry Webinars

NAMP offers web-based lectures on specific radiochemistry topics developed in cooperation with the EPA, other Federal agencies, and university partners. Each webinar series presents short (1 ½- to 2-hour) webinars on specific radiochemistry topics presented by renowned university professors and leading scientists in radiochemistry. The selected topics are designed to strengthen the participant in areas of professional engineering practice identified by the nuclear industry or national laboratories, including but not limited to actinide chemistry in the environment and in the nuclear fuel cycle.

#### Series 1: Actinide Chemistry Series

The Actinide Chemistry Series offers the participant a comprehensive overview on the different topics of interest and concern, and provides understanding of the advances and challenges that actinide chemistry faces today.

- An Overview of Actinide Chemistry
   Presenter: Dr. Alena Paulenova, Oregon State University
   Webcast: Friday, April 20, 2012, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- Uranium Chemistry General Properties of Uranium
   Presenter: Dr. Mikael Nilsson, University of California, Irvine
   Webcast: Thursday, June 14, 2012, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- Plutonium Chemistry General Properties of Plutonium
   Presenter: Dr. Patricia Paviet-Hartmann, Idaho National Laboratory
   Webcast: Thursday, July 12, 2012, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- Environmental Chemistry of Uranium and Plutonium, Part 1 (Plutonium)
  Presenter: Dr. Brian Powell, Clemson University
  Webcast: Tuesday, August 7, 2012, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- Environmental Chemistry of Uranium and Plutonium, Part 2 (Uranium) Presenter: Dr. Brian Powell, Clemson University Webcast: Tuesday, August 14, 2012, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- Analytical Chemistry of Uranium and Plutonium
   Presenter: Dr. Ralf Sudowe, University of Nevada Las Vegas
   Webcast: Thursday, October 11, 2012, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- Source Preparation for Alpha Spectroscopy (2 CECs from AAHP, under ID 2012-11-005)
   Presenter: Dr. Michael K. Schultz, University of Iowa
- Webcast: Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 1:00 pm Eastern Time Sample Dissolution
- Presenter: Dr. Ralf Sudowe, University of Nevada Las Vegas Webcast: Thursday, December 13, 2012, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- Neptunium Chemistry
   Presenter: Dr. Alena Paulenova, Oregon State University
   Webcast: Tuesday, February 5, 2013, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time
- 10. The Trivalent Actinides
  Presenter: Dr. Alena Paulenova, Oregon State University
- Webcast: Thursday, February 28, 2013, at 1:00 pm Eastern Time

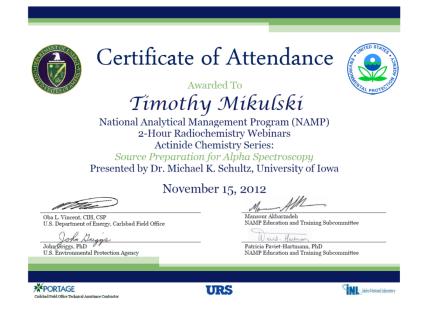
  11. Transplutonium Elements: Ultramicrochemistry and Atom-at-a-time Chemistry
  Presenter: Dr. Lester Morss, Professorial Lecturer with the George Washington University
  Webcast: Thursday, March 28, 2013
- Radium Chemistry
   Presenter: Dr. Bahman Parsa, New Jersey Department of Health
   Webcast: Thursday, April 25, 2013

#### Series 2: Environmental Radiochemistry/Bioassay Series

The second series of webinars focuses on topics fundamental to Environmental Radiochemistry and

# American Academy of Health Physics Continuing Education Credits

- Source Preparation for Alpha Spectroscopy, Dr. Michael K. Schultz, University of Iowa
- Verification and Validation of Radiological Data for Use in Waste Management and Environmental Remediation, Dr. Thomas Rucker, Leidos
- Alpha Spectroscopy, Dr. Ralf Sudowe, University of Nevada Las Vegas

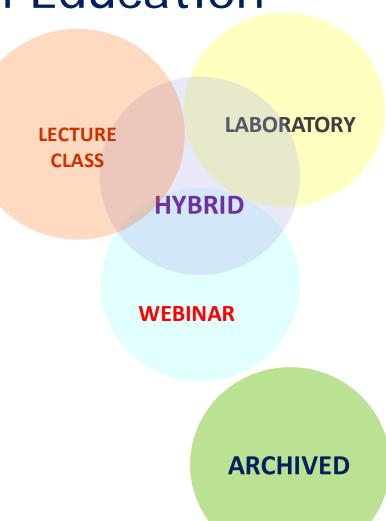


## Webinar Attendee Comments

- "I thought it was very interesting. The material is not often presented in other than a graduate school setting so many of us don't have access to it; other than from books. Thank you for making it possible."
- "Only criticism too much info too fast! providing a copy of the presentation was the cure."
- "I appreciate if you can send copy of the presentations as attached to the desired participants emails. It is good initiative to gather scientists from radiochemistry community world-wide to refresh their knowledge in such ease and advanced way."

## Conclusion: Future in Education

- Webinars are very successful and demonstrate the need for such resources to maintain the U.S. level of expertise in radiochemistry
- Attendance and positive feedback reflect a renewed interest in radiochemistry
- Archived webinars available to public online



## Thank You

# For more information, visit the NAMP website at

www.wipp.energy.gov/namp

