

**Introduction.** The EX-Ls, founded in 1982, is an association for retired and other former employees of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. It allows its members to enjoy and benefit from continued association with the Lab and with their fellow former employees. We currently have 255 members, including 4 honorary life members, 31 paid life members, and 4 new members in 2011. Dues remain at \$15/year or \$150/life membership.

**Luncheons.** We hold quarterly luncheon meetings, each with a featured speaker. Recent luncheons have included a talk by Laboratory Director Paul Alivisatos who first thanked all the retirees for their contributions to the Laboratory and then talked about how the Laboratory has been a world leader in developing methods of converting solar energy into renewable transportation fuel. In February, Terry Hazen, a senior scientist in the LBNL Earth Sciences Division, described his work in the Gulf of Mexico in the aftermath of the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig. His report that the oil had been degraded to virtually undetectable levels within a few weeks after the damaged wellhead was finally sealed made headlines across the country.

**Newsletter.** A quarterly newsletter, the EX-Ls EX-PRESS, is available to all members via USPS or e-mail and continues to be our primary communication link with our membership. Copies can also be found on our website – HYPERLINK "<http://www.lbl.gov/ES-Ls/>"[www.lbl.gov/EX-Ls/](http://www.lbl.gov/EX-Ls/). We are exploring the option of having the default distribution of our newsletter (under our new editor) be via e-mail.

**Retiree Survey.** The biggest project for the group since October has been the design of a survey meant for all LBNL retirees. It is nearly in final form and will be distributed for us by the UC Berkeley Retirement Center. We have appreciated having copies of the retiree surveys developed by UCLA and UC Davis for reference.

**Strengthening Ties within the Lab.** We are working to strengthen our ties within the Lab and now have a liaison with Laboratory management, in addition to existing ties with Community Relations, Human Resources (HR), and the Employee Activities Association. Rich Sextro, past president of the EX-Ls (2010) has recently been invited to join the Lab's Community Advisory Group which provides input on the Lab's future projects, focusing primarily on community health, safety, and the environment. Rich will add a voice for Lab retirees. The EX-Ls has also recently initiated a collaboration with the LBNL Center for Science and Engineering Education to involve EX-Ls members in some of the science education and outreach programs run by the Center.

**Annual Donation.** Each year the EX-Ls makes a donation to a non-profit organization. This year we will use our donation to assist victims of the Japan disaster. This will be done through the Lab's Asian Association and Diversity Council which are raising funds and distributing them through the Red Cross, the Japanese Consulate, and the Japanese Cultural Community Center of northern California.

Submitted by Janis Dairiki, EX-Ls CUCRA representative

**LBNL Retirees Association – the EX-Ls  
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