

Fall 2011

## HRC eNews – 2011 Fall

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# UNLV | HARRY REID CENTER

eNews Fall 2011

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Three current students and one former student at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas have won awards in the U.S. Department of Energy's Innovations in Fuel Cycle Research Awards competition.

**Ariana Alaniz**, an undergraduate student in Mechanical Engineering, has been awarded a first place prize in the category of Waste Forms. Her award-winning research paper, "Structure Studies on Lanthanide Technetium Pyrochlores as Prospective Host Phases to Immobilize 99-Technetium and Fission Lanthanides from Effluents of Reprocessed Used Nuclear Fuels," was published in the Journal of Nuclear Materials in April 2011.

**Erik Johnstone**, a Ph.D. student in Radiochemistry, has been awarded a second place prize in the the category of Advanced Materials. His award-winning research paper, "Synthesis and Structure of Technetium Trichloride," was published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society in October 2010.

**Edward Mausolf**, a Ph.D. student in Radiochemistry, has been awarded a second place prize in the category of Waste Forms. His award-winning research paper, "Characterization of Electrodeposited Technetium on Gold Foil," was published in the Journal of the Electrochemical Society in January 2011.

**Gregory Schmidt**, a former master's degree student in Nuclear Engineering, has been awarded a first place prize in the category of Used Fuel Disposition. His award-winning research paper, "Incorporating Actinide Sorption in Models of TRISO Repository Performance," was presented at the International High-Level Radioactive Waste Management Conference in April 2011. The research was performed and the paper was written while Schmidt was at UNLV. He is currently a master's degree student in the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University.

## Events

OCTOBER  
5

**UNLV Renewable Energy Roundtable Series**

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM in SEB 1311

The topic will be Utility Scale Solar Development Today and Tomorrow

NOVEMBER  
9

**We Will Survive Closing Reception and silent auction**

All work featured in the exhibition will be available for bidding. Proceeds will directly support the UNLV Barrick Museum.

## Contact

HRC eNews is a monthly electronic newsletter to keep individuals informed about developments at the Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies, located on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Current and past issues of HRC eNews are available online. Editor: [Megan Judice](#).

The program awarded 26 prizes in 2011 for student publications and presentations relevant to the nuclear fuel cycle. In addition to cash awards, winning students will have a variety of other opportunities including presenting their winning publication during the American Nuclear Society Winter meeting, participating in an Innovators' Forum, and participating in the DOE Office of Fuel Cycle Technologies Annual Meeting.

For more information on the Innovations in Fuel Cycle Research Awards program, visit <http://www.fuelcycleinnovations.org>.

**Kathy Lauckner** was invited to speak to the National Property Managers and Realtors from Southern Nevada. Mr. George Trombley, Chapter President, was a past student of Kathy's Lead Paint Inspector Class and chose to stay in touch and ask for an informational session for their July meeting held at the Palace Station.

**UNLV-HRC Radiochemistry Laboratories** recently became a partner of the Advanced Test Reactor National Scientific User Facility at the Idaho National laboratory as a part of a National Energy Collaboration. Currently HRC has received two tasks for work on the TEM as a part of this agreement. The PI's involved are in the current tasks are Dr. Todd Allen from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Drs. Longzhou Ma and Gary Cerefice here at UNLV.

**Ken Czerwinski** received an NSTec task project for \$190k entitled, Development of Synthetic Urban Matrix for Nuclear Forensics Analysis.

**Denis Beller's** proposal, "3138: Actinide Foil Production for MPACT Research (FC-5: Materials Protection, Accountancy, and Controls Technologies)" was selected for award by the Nuclear Energy University Programs (NEUP). They are funding his proposal in the amount of \$156,897.

## EVENTS

### **UNLV Renewable Energy Roundtable Series**

The UNLV Renewable Energy Roundtable Series will be held from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM on Wednesday, October 5, 2011, in SEB 1311. The topic will be Utility Scale Solar Development Today and Tomorrow

Speakers:

Ken Borngrebe - First Solar

Michael Lichtenfeld - FRV

Don Reid - Solar Trust America

Sponsored by UNLV Renewable Energy Education Programs and the Urban Sustainability Initiative



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### **Seduction of the Innocent: An Exploration of Banned Comic Books**

In this exhibition you'll take a journey through censorship with comic books, reproduced covers and original art from sequential art titles that have been spurned by libraries, communities and, yes, the once-mighty Comics Code Authority. On display September 30 - October 29.

### ***Tales from Fremont Street* Comic Book Anthology**

November 2 - December 3, 2011 view original art, conceptual drawings and scripts from the locally produced noir comic book anthology "Tales from Fremont Street". Viewers will get a glimpse behind the process that goes into creating illustrated fiction.

### ***We Will Survive* exhibition and benefit auction**

This Fall, the UNLV Barrick Museum asserts its determination to remain a leading part of the Las Vegas community with an exhibition titled "We Will Survive". The exhibition will run September 23rd to November 9th and will consist entirely of works by local artists donated to the Museum. On November 9th we will hold a closing reception and silent auction, with bidding on all the work included in the exhibition. Proceeds will directly support the Museum.

### ***Let Them Eat Cake* exhibition**

Celebrate the most deliciously sponge-like of treats with an exhibition of artwork depicting and inspired by... cake! Opening on the anniversary of cake advocate and French monarch Marie Antoinette's beheading, *Let Them Eat Cake* offers Las Vegas artists' many-layered look at the popular dessert item. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, October 16th, from 6 to 8 pm. Cake and milk will be served, of course.

## **NEW FACES**

**Danny Lowe** joined the HRC from the UNLV Engineering College to assist Paul Seidler in getting the Accelerator Program up and running. Danny has received an NSTec Task collaborating with Robert O'Brien of COE entitled Performing Modeling and Calculations in Support of DPF Systems, and is anticipating another Task to be set-up in August.

**Ross Bryant** comes from the Institute for Security Studies, but will be joining the HRC staff September 19 to further develop a program for homeland security initiatives. Ross is an accomplished trainer, project manager, and curriculum developer. He has built and delivered numerous quality training programs and has been recognized by the Department of Homeland Security for his soft target security curriculum development. Ross is also a retired U.S. Army Major.