

## NEW AND/OR INTERESTING IN MICROSCOPY

Mediated negotiations have settled the strike at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, just in time to "save" the fall semester. Under the new agreement, individual professors cannot be targeted, and the faculty will determine which programs (not individuals, as proffered by the administration), will be eliminated in proven financial exigencies. Affected individuals would be offered options for redeployment, retraining, reduced appointment, or early retirement incentives. This strike of 1000 professors and professional librarians was a battle over the protection of academic freedom.

**3D Microscopy Of Living Cells**, a hands-on "Woods Hole"-type course organized by Dr. James Pawley (University of Wisconsin), will be held 27 July to August 4, 1996 at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Seven functional 3D microscopy set-ups will be available, using both confocal and WF/deconvolution techniques. The 10-member international academic faculty, consists of world leaders in the field and they will be supported by a commercial faculty of more than 20.

Classes will emphasize active learning techniques and will cover everything from Introductory light microscopy, through quantitative confocal microscopy, laser operation, laser tweezers, aberrations, scanning systems, WF/deconvolution, detectors, pinholes, photon efficiency, dyes, 2-photon excitation, video-rate imaging, measuring ion concentrations, display, measurement and storage of 3D data, fluorescent labeling of living cells with fluorescent gold labels and backscattered-light imaging, to "How to keep the cells alive".

Requests for enrollment forms are available from Ms. Heming, Department of Anatomy, University of British Columbia, 313-2177 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z3. Phone: 1-604-822-2766, Fax: 1-604-822-2316, email: heming@unixg.ubc.ca

The White House recently decided not to close the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in California but rather designated it as one of the indispensable centers of science and technology in the national interest. As a result the some 7,300 LLNL employees will not be faced with consolidation with the rival Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico.

The ten "national" laboratories, operated by DOE, the Department of Defense, and the National Aeronautics & Space Administration, include LLNL, Los Alamos, and Sandia - the weapons labs - along with Idaho Engineering, Pacific Northwest, Lawrence Berkeley, Argonne, Oak Ridge, Brookhaven, and the Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO. Together, the labs spend about \$8 billion annually and employ about 50,000 people.

At the same time, a report was received from a Cabinet-level committee charged with examining the future of these labs that recommended a series of reforms, reductions, and restructuring at labs run by all three agencies. As a result all labs will be reduced in size over coming years - first through an immediate \$1.6 billion budget cut.

**EPA Compliance:** A series of "sector notebooks" is being published by EPA to provide information of general interest regarding environmental issues associated with specific industrial sectors. According to EPA, the ability to design comprehensive, commonsense environmental regulations for these industries depends on understanding how each industry operates. Information in each sector notebook will include details on industrial processes, pollution outputs, pollution prevention opportunities, existing environmental regulations, and compliance history. So far, 18 notebooks cover such specific industry sectors as inorganic chemicals, organic chemicals, petrochemicals, and iron and steel, among others.

**American Vacuum Society National Short Courses are announced** covering four broad categories: vacuum technology, materials and materials characterization, surface science and thin films and processing:

+ San Jose, CA: Approximately 25 courses on 11/15 March 1996.

+ Orlando, FL: 10 courses on 11/14 March 1996.

Contact Margaret Stringer at AVS: Tel.:(800)888-1021, Fax: (212)248-0245

### SCIENCE-BY-MAIL PROGRAM SEEKING VOLUNTEER SCIENTISTS

Science-By-Mail is a pen-pal program from the Museum of Science in Boston, MA that teams scientists with children in grades 4 through 9.

Due to an increase in membership this year we need additional scientists for the 1995-96 program year. All of the scientists in our program act as pen-pal mentors and correspond with up to five groups of 1-4 children or with one classroom of seven groups of 1-4 children. We mail out two activity packets per year (once in December and once in March) for you to review, and then correspond with your pen-pals about the activities in the packets.

The commitment requires approximately 20 hours per program year (November through June). Our topics this year are the Science of Sports and Planetary Science. Volunteers do not need to be experts in the fields of the topics, we provide information on each topic to the scientists, for each activity.

In order to be a Volunteer Scientist you need to have a bachelors degree in a science or technology related field. You also need to have the desire to inspire scientific curiosity in children.

If you are interested in volunteering for Science-By-Mail please call 800-729-3300 or 617-589-0437 and ask for Melissa Cotter or Monica Parker. If you get our voice mail just leave your name, phone number and fax number and we will send you information right away. Thank you in advance for your help!

The **INNOVATIONS IN INSTRUMENTATION FOR MATERIALS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM** will be held at the 1996 Spring Meeting of the Materials Research Society (8/12 April 1996, "San Francisco, CA).

As we are in the midst of an explosion in new technologies for microscopy, spectroscopy, data analysis, sample manipulation and more, the materials community is central to much of this activity and both drives and embraces these developments. This symposium will concentrate on the innovations and the people who develop the innovations. Analytical characterization of materials including at least imaging, elemental composition, chemical properties, and mechanical testing on a microscopic scale will be considered.

Both developers and users instrumentation are expected to be interested and academic, industrial and commercial groups developing either systems or components which advance the state of instruments used for materials research are particularly invited to attend. A cross-fertilization among the several communities is expected. Examples of topics of interest include:

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| 1) System Components:                         | Radiation Sources<br>Optics<br>Motion Technology, Stagework<br>Sensors and Detectors<br>Attenuation of Environmental Detriments |
| 2) Integrated Systems                         | Microscopy and spectroscopy<br>Microscopic Mechanical Test Systems  |
| 3) Enabling Instrumentation and Manufacturing | Microfabrication<br>Computer Hardware and Software  |

Information concerning papers, posters, etc. may be obtained from the symposium organizers:

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