

*Exceptional service in the national interest*



# Sandia National Laboratories

## Chris Jenkins, Ben Yang, Terry Hendricks

### Life after graduation: Where do I fit in?

# Executive Summary

- SNL specific stuff
  - Background
  - Employment opportunity at SNL
- What is life like at SNL?
  - Chris, Ben, Terry
    - Background & job specifics
    - Responsibilities & lessons learned
- How to get plugged in?
  - Upcoming interviews
  - Careers Website
  - Social Meeting
  - Ipad App

## Important Sites

- <http://www.facebook.com/SandiaLabs>
- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/sandialabs>
- <http://www.youtube.com/sandialabs>
- <https://twitter.com/sandialabs>
- [www.sandia.gov/careers](http://www.sandia.gov/careers)

# Sandia's Sites

Albuquerque,  
New Mexico



Livermore,  
California



Tonopah, Nevada



Waste Isolation Pilot Plant,  
Carlsbad, New Mexico



Pantex, Texas



# The Mission Has Evolved for Decades

**1950s**

Production engineering & manufacturing engineering

**1960s**

Development engineering

**1970s**

Multiprogram laboratory

**1980s**

Research, development and production

**1990s**

Post-Cold War transition

**2000s**

Broader national security challenges



# Sandia - Today

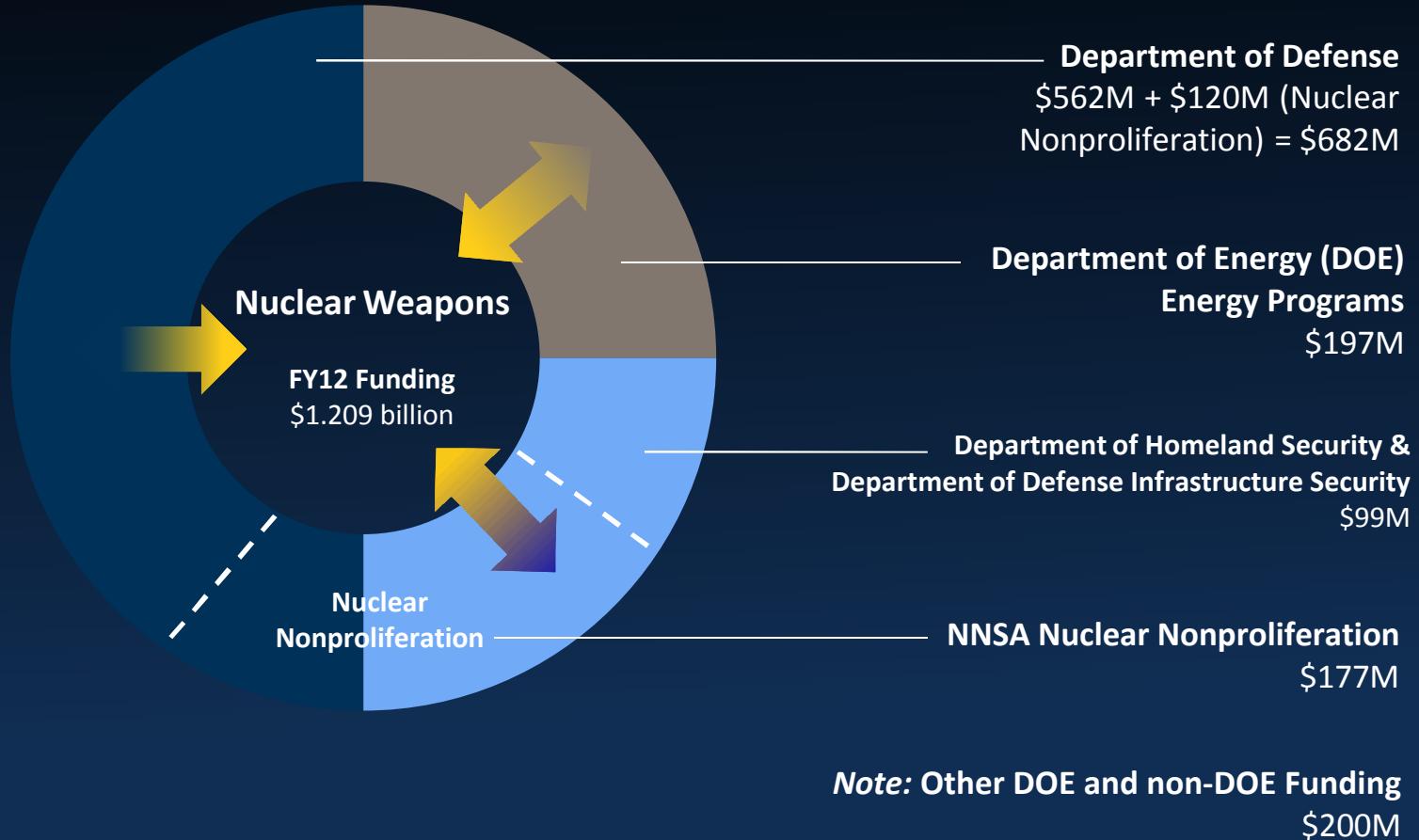


*As a multi-faceted national security laboratory, Sandia has delivered essential science and technology for more than 60 years and plays a critical role in ensuring U.S. technical superiority.*

*At Sandia, you can become part of something more—and contribute to our quest to render exceptional service in the national interest.*



# Sandia's Funding



High reliability, high consequence of failure, challenging environments, and technology solutions

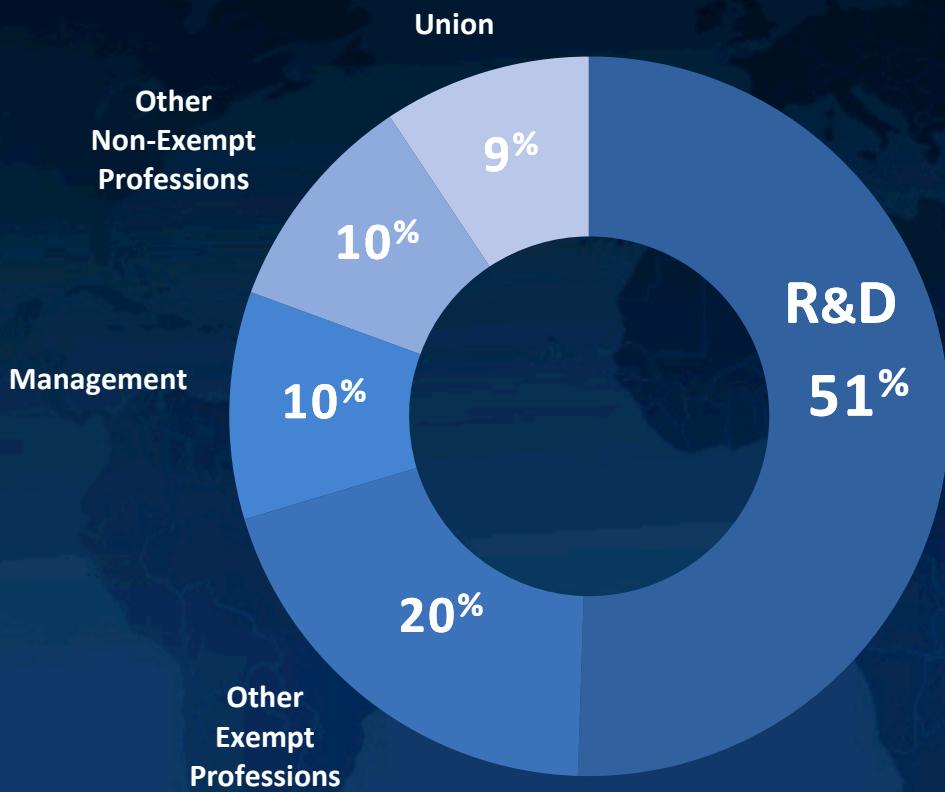
# Our Workforce

| Regular Employees | Highest Degree     |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1,728             | PhD                |
| 3,580             | Masters            |
| 1,721             | Bachelors          |
| 8                 | Doctor of Medicine |
| 31                | Doctor of Law      |

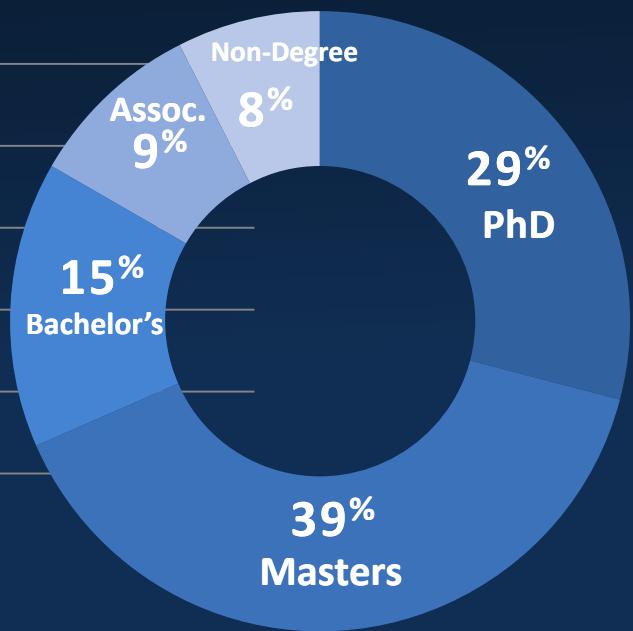
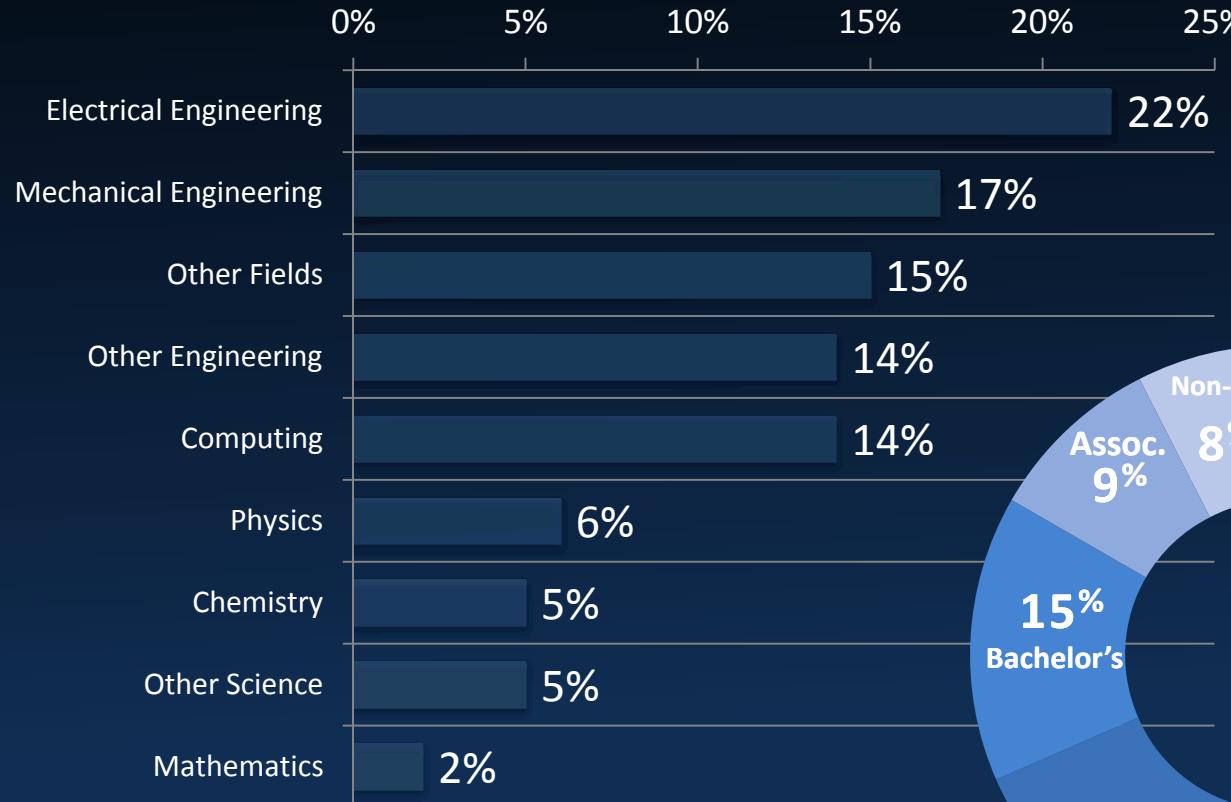
| Regular Employees | Years of Service  |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 3,098             | Less than 5 years |
| 1,554             | 5–9 years         |
| 2,541             | 10–19 years       |
| 1,652             | 20–29 years       |
| 766               | 30–39 years       |
| 25                | 40+ years         |

**9,633** Regular employees  
**1,743** Temporary employees and contractor associates



Data as of July 15, 2013

# R&D by Discipline & Degree



# Sandia New Mexico - Albuquerque



On-site workforce: ~8,500

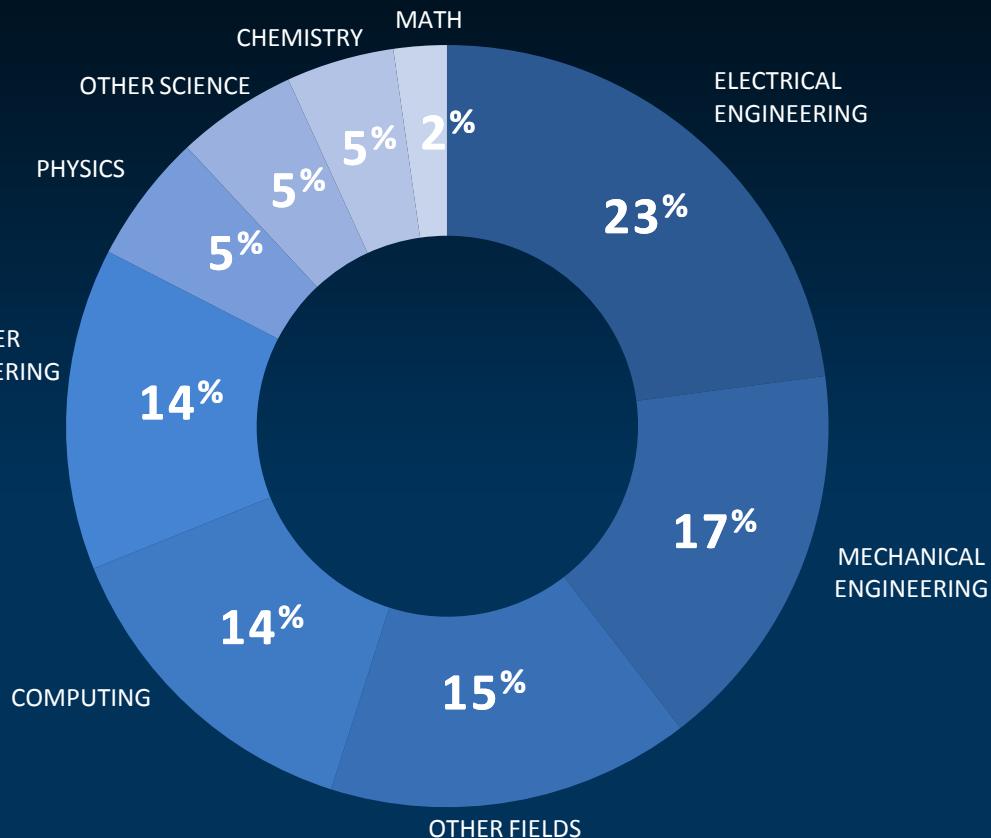
R&D staff: ~4,000

Distinguishing research capabilities:

- Renewable Energy
- Micro-electronics/Semiconductors
- Cyber Security
- Homeland Security *and more*



## R&D Staff by Discipline



# Sandia California - *Livermore*



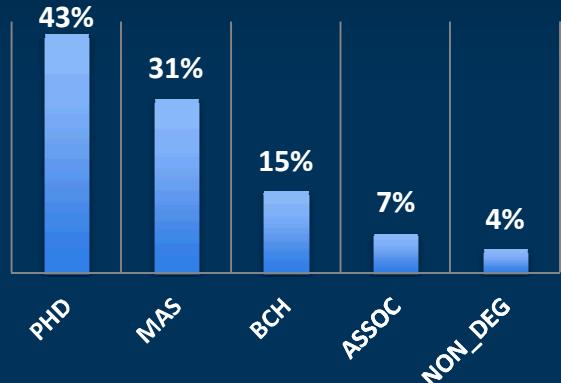
On-site workforce: ~1,000

R&D staff: ~550

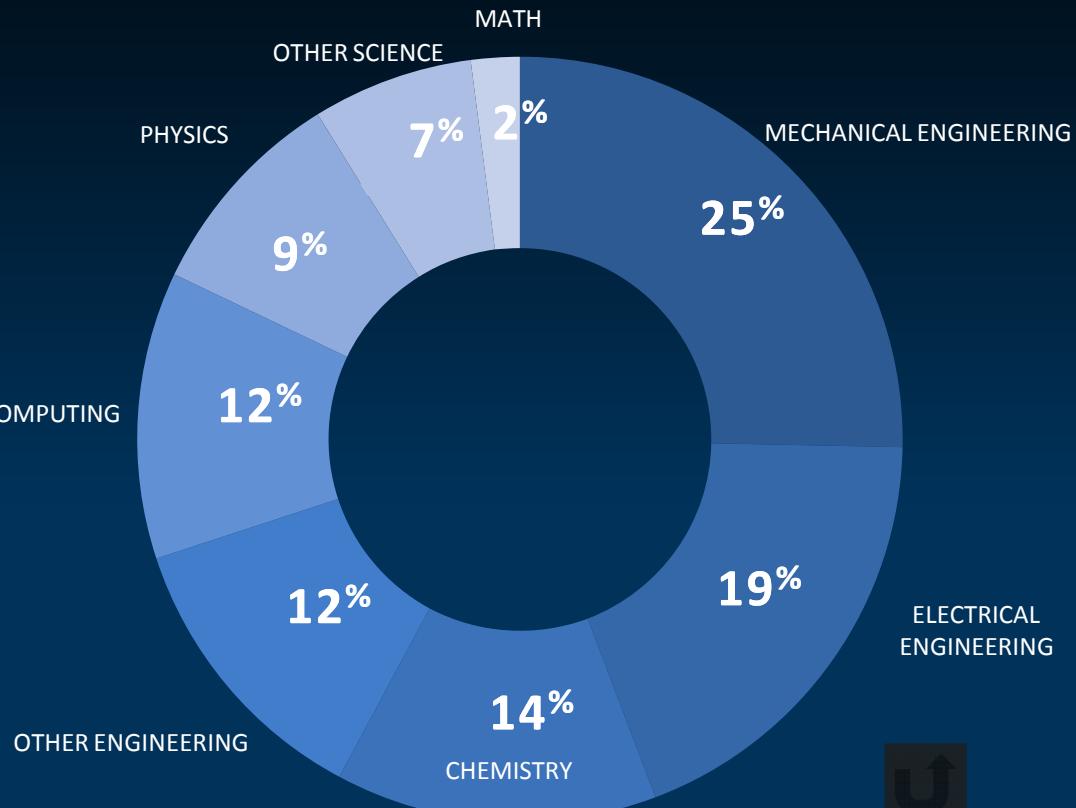
Distinguishing research capabilities:

- Applied Biosciences
- Combustion Research
- Information Systems
- Micro & Nano Technologies and *more*

**Degree Level**



**R&D Staff by Discipline**



# Alumni at the lab



95 alumni work at Sandia, including 5 post-docs, 3 graduate interns and 1 undergraduate intern

2 doctoral grad fellows: Kyle Rupnow, Electrical and Computer Engineering; Christopher Weber, Nuclear Engineering/Engineering Physics



Campus Executive: Paul Hommert, Executive Vice President, Deputy for Nuclear Weapons



Deputy Campus Executive: Mark Allen, Manager, IP Management, Alliances & Licensing



Team Lead: Randall Summers, Manager, Comp. Shock & Multiphysics



# Opportunities at Sandia National Labs

## Opportunities

- 16+ to PhD
- Variety of majors
- Technical institute programs (8)
  - Internships
  - SEE
- Fellowships
  - Harry S. Truman Fellowship
  - Salary: 110K
- Full-time / Post-doc
- Wounded-Warrior

## Requirements

- Most require U.S. citizenship
- 3.5+ graduate GPA
- 3.2+ undergrad GPA
- Some projects may require clearance
- Focus in areas of interest to national security



# Chris Jenkins (Ph.D., EE, Class of 2011)



- Hometown: Peoria, IL
- Undergraduate work: UIUC
- Graduate work: UW Madison
  - Thesis: Cryptographic Primitives for Secure Software Defined Radio Platforms
- Previous internships
  - Caterpillar (1998 – 2005)
  - GE Healthcare (2006)
  - Qualcomm (2008 – 2009)
- Current focus at SNL
  - Virtualization platforms and techniques
  - Publications and giving lectures
  - Cloud architecture assessment

# Where I fit in

- Org breakdown
  - Defense Systems & Assessments (5000)
  - Information Systems Analysis (5600)
  - Computer Systems & Technology (5620)
  - Network Systems Survivability & Assurance (5629)
- Degrees (2011, CTR 5600)
  - PhD: 37, MS: 147, BS: 43, Other: 17
- Major (2011, CTR 5600)
  - Comp Sci: 92, Comp Eng: 21, Elec. Eng: 56

# Full-scope cybersecurity addresses all systemic vulnerabilities and the insider threat.

HMI  
Perception  
Cognition  
Experience

Authorities  
Expectations  
Incentives

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 15 | Human                                  |
| 14 | Cultural Norms                         |
| 13 | Social Norms                           |
| 12 | Organizational Roles                   |
| 11 | 7.) Application                        |
| 10 | 6.) Presentation                       |
| 9  | 5.) Session                            |
| 8  | 4.) Transport                          |
| 7  | 3.) Network                            |
| 6  | 2.) Data Link                          |
| 5  | 1.) Physical                           |
| 4  | System Hardware<br>(Motherboard, etc.) |
| 3  | Component (ICs...)                     |
| 2  | Semiconductor<br>Physics               |
| 1  | Atomic                                 |

Less predictable  
Larger Error Bars  
Less  
Deterministic

**Example Layer 12-15 Vulnerabilities:**

- Spear-phishing
- Social engineering

**Traditional, *limited-scope* cybersecurity**

More Certain  
Smaller Error Bars  
More Deterministic

**Example Layer 1-4 Vulnerabilities:**

- Supply Chain

# Basics about my work

- 2 projects currently (6 total)
  - Security-architecture assessment
    - Cloud
    - Mobile
  - Early-Career Laboratory-Directed Research & Development (ECLDRD)
- Self-picked projects
- Matrix organization (specific to 5600)
- Project lead vs. Line manager
- Misc.
  - Outreach project with scratch programming
  - Lecture series: Virtualization on ARM Architecture

# My Research Project (ECLDRD)

- Accepted my proposal
  - Initial / Full
  - Investment Area Review
  - Mentor, Sr. Scientist
- Enhancing the integrity of computing systems
- Independent funding and direction
  - Conferences
  - Software / Hardware
  - Other employees / interns

# This summer

- 2 interns (NC A&T, Univ. of Arizona)
  - Continue to work on project as year-round interns
- Software design / integration
- Languages : Python, C, ARM assembly, XML
- Tools
  - Eclipse, gedit, Git
  - QEMU, Busybox, Linux, Xvisor
- Knowledge
  - Lists, Hash table, memory management, api design, system call, interrupt vector table, page tables
- Working on 1 - 3 publications

# Typical Day

- Morning
  - Check tech sites
  - Review calendar and to-do list
  - Choose work from existing projects
- Afternoon
  - Network lunch once a week
- Daily
  - Read whitepapers, research papers, journal articles
  - Google/Bing relevant data
  - Monitor email and attend project meetings
  - Coding, design doc (visio), documentation, presentations



# Did academia prepare me?

## Skills I acquired during pursuit

- Tech skills
  - Programming
  - Computer architecture
  - Web Design
  - Networking
  - Scripting
  - Version Control
- Soft skills
  - Organization and leadership
  - Communication skills

## Skills I had to acquire at work

- Tech skills
  - Operating system design
  - Linux Kernel
  - Virtual Machines
  - ARM architecture
  - Version Control (git)
- Recruiting
- Soft skills
  - Manage my manager
  - Maintain project outlook
  - Understand financial implications

# One year, seven months and still counting



- Things I enjoy about work
  - Consistent work schedule
  - Weekends off
  - Evenings off (pseudo off)
  - Per diem & Paycheck
  - Independence
- Things I miss about academia
  - Wake up when I want to
  - Time flexibility
  - Colleague interaction (Student Lab)

# Ben Yang (EE, 2011)

- Hometown: Taipei, Taiwan



- Education/Specialization History:

Go Utes!



Go Badgers!



EE

Math

Photonics

MEMS

THz EM

CMOS  
FA

Microsystems  
PV

PV Systems

University of Utah  
(BS EE/Math)

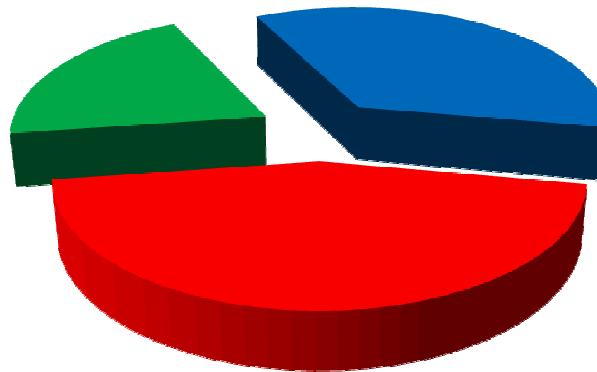
University of Wisconsin  
(Ph.D. EE)

Sandia Labs  
(2011-present)

# Sandia Work Portfolio

## ■ 2011-2012

Photovoltaic Systems  
Reliability

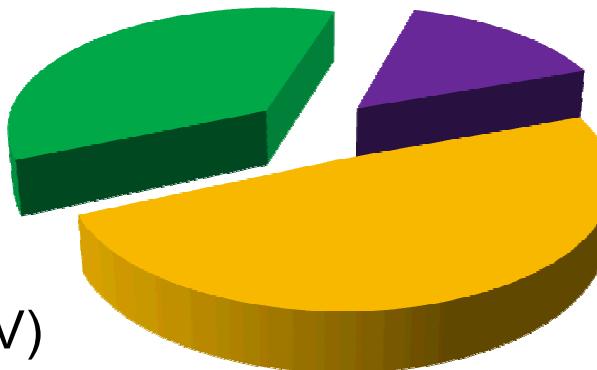


Anticounterfeit  
Technology

CMOS Failure Analysis

## ■ 2012-2013

Photovoltaic Systems  
Reliability

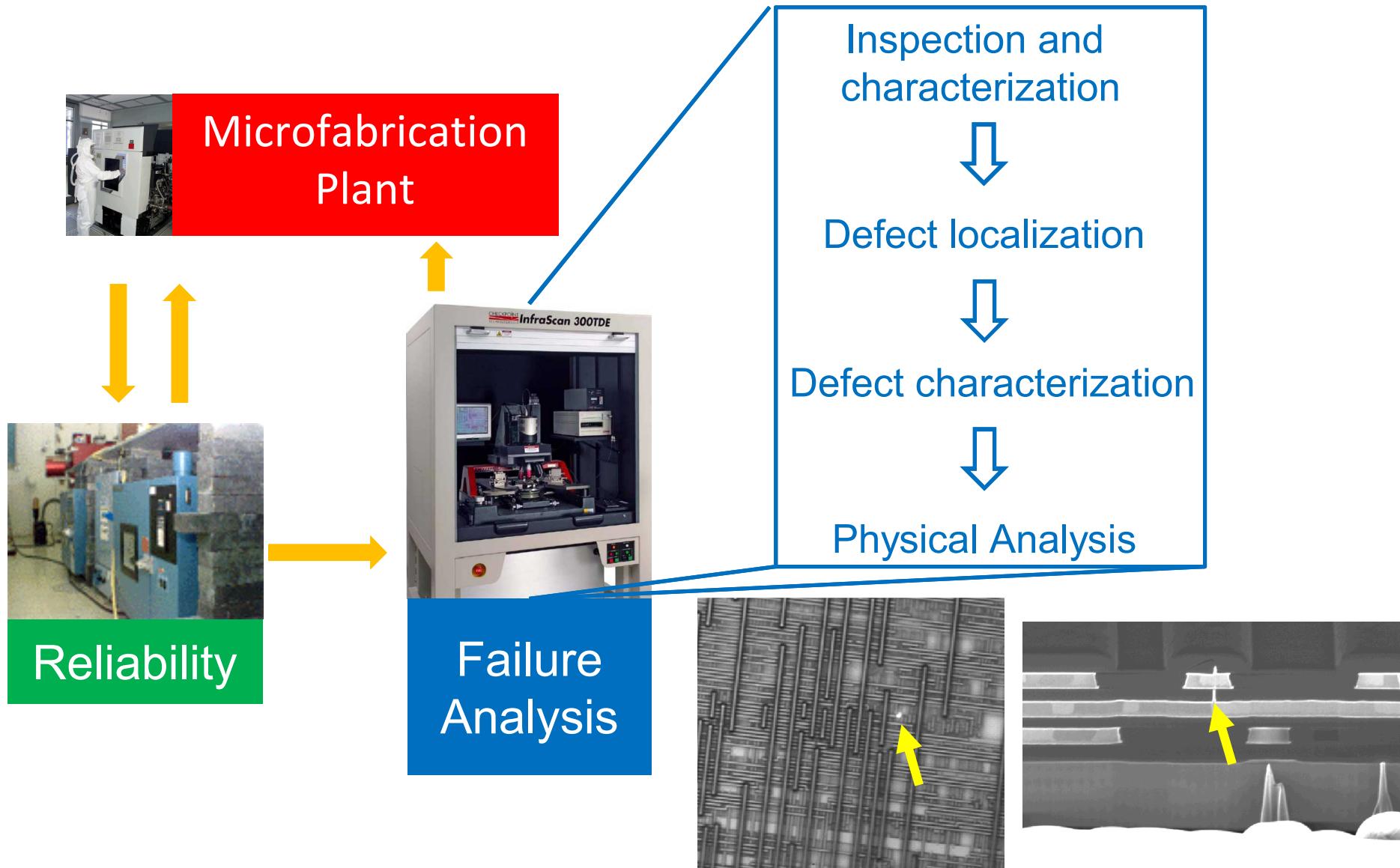


Novel Photovoltaic (MEPV)  
Failure Analysis Development

Other Activities

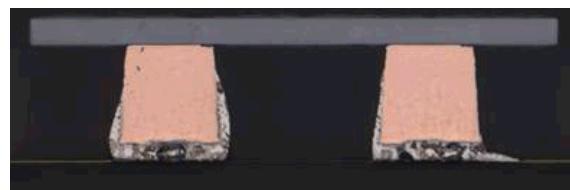
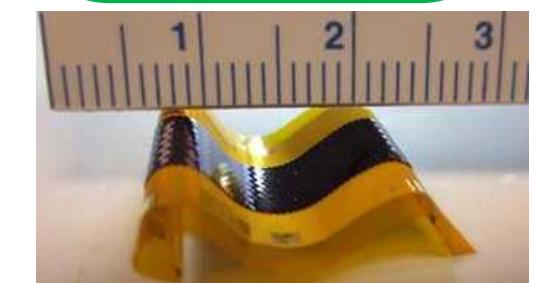
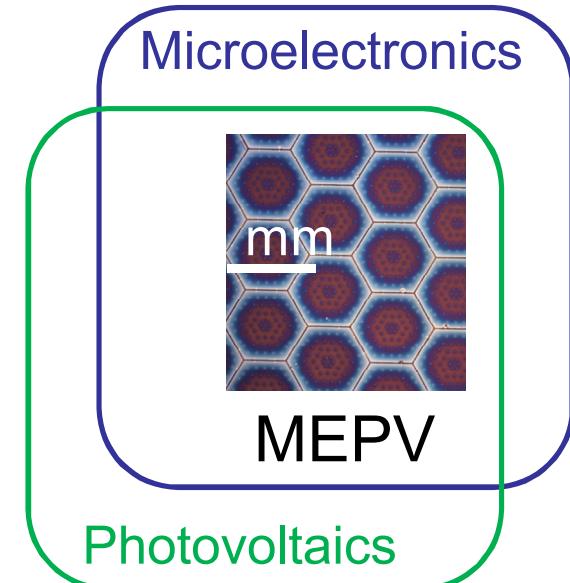
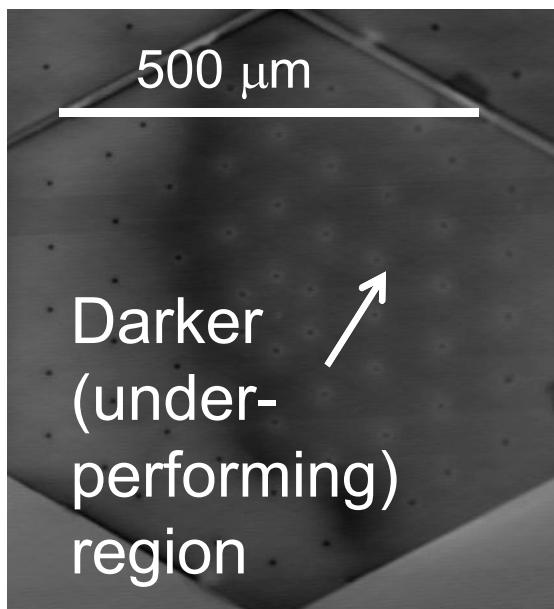
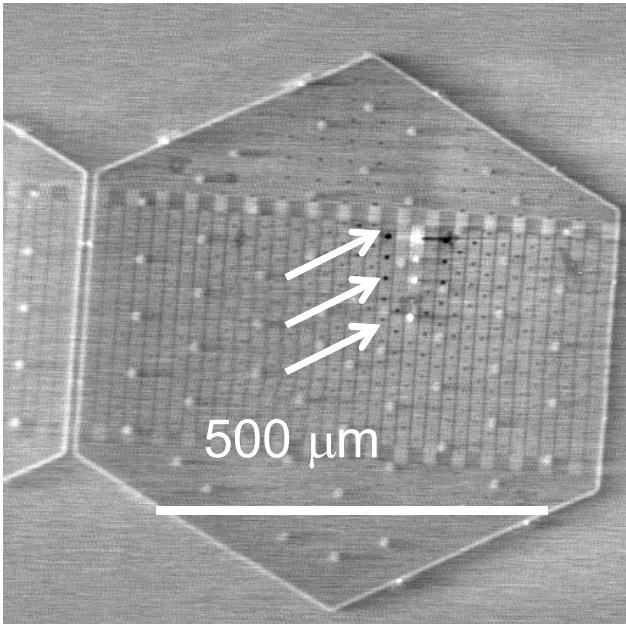
- Wide-band gap power electronics
- Anticounterfeit technology
- CMOS failure analysis

# CMOS Failure Analysis



# MEPV Failure Analysis

- MEPV
  - = Microsystems-Enabled Photovoltaics
  - = Microfabricated solar cell arrays
- Adapt CMOS failure analysis techniques to MEPV



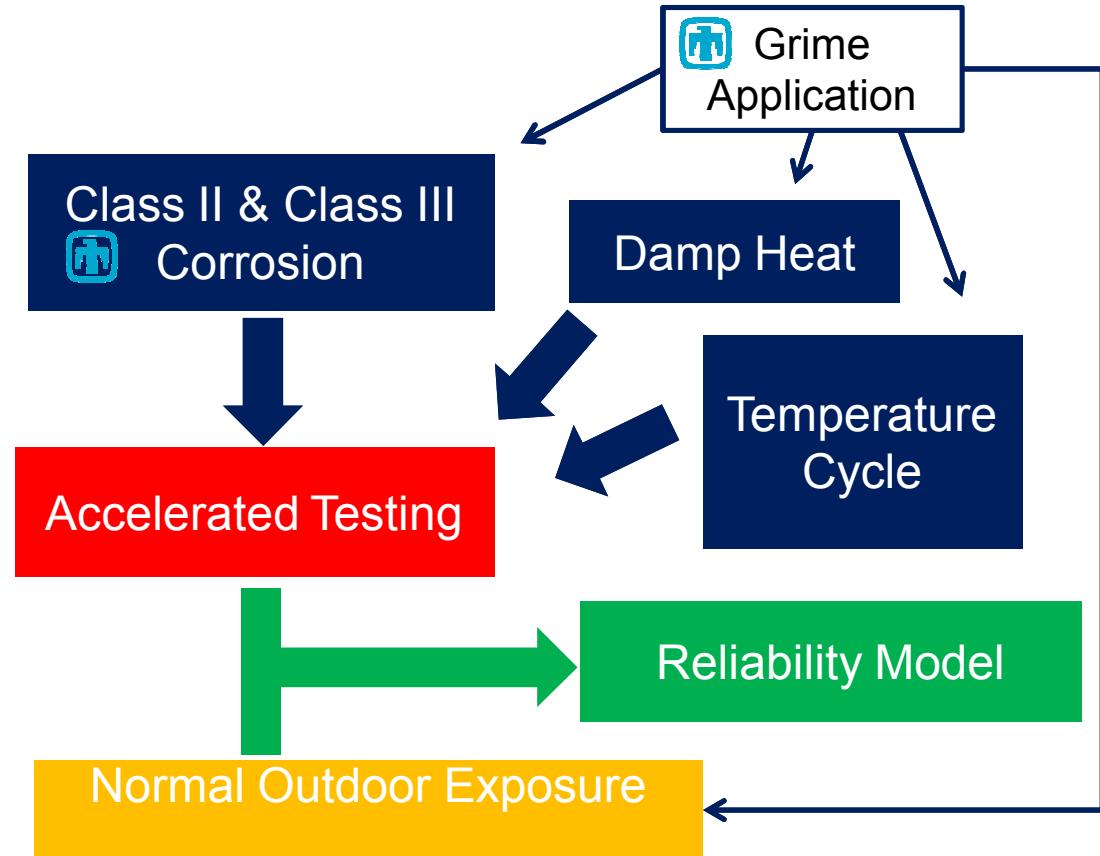
# Photovoltaic Systems Reliability - Connectors



Connector costs relatively low but losses are estimated to be up to 140 Wh/string

- Three kinds of accelerated testing
- Develop reliability model through comparison with outdoor exposure

(  = Sandia differentiating capability)

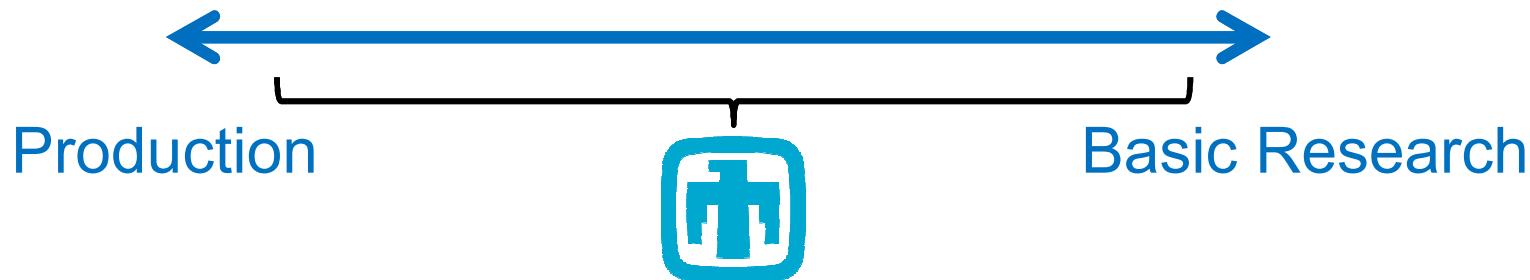


# Sandia vs. Graduate School

| Graduate School    | Sandia   |
|--------------------|--|
| 100% Hands on      | 50% hands on: Must learn to work through technologists |
| Time > \$          | \$ > Time  |
| Do It Yourself     | Work with experts                                      |
| 1 group, 1 meeting | N groups, N meetings                                   |

# Why You Should Consider Sandia

- You are undecided between academia and industry



- You wish to continue building your human capital



- You wish to work for an organization driven by societal impact over profits

# Terry L. Hendricks (2011)

- Hometown: Milwaukee, WI
- Education: 11 years at UW-Madison
  - Ph.D Dissertation: Instantaneous Heat Flux Measurements in Internal Combustion Engines
- Work Experience:
  - Automotive mechanic
    - Hot rod shops, transmission repair
  - General Electric
    - Combustion lab (Greenville, SC)
    - Steam Turbine Test Laboratory (Schenectady, NY ZIP: 12345)
  - Work at Sandia
    - Nuclear Weapons Engineering
    - Aerospace Mechanical Systems

# What I did at Sandia Nat'l Labs



- Design engineer for explosive components in the Nuclear Weapons Division @ SNL
- Sandia is the weapons integrator for LANL/ LLNL
  - Also work on R&D for explosives, propellants, pyrotechnics
  - Work with other organizations and groups on other projects



**B83 Strategic Bomb** - 6,519 Total parts  
Sandia developed - 3,922; Sandia specified - 2,378

# What I now do at Sandia Nat'l Labs



- Aerospace Mechanical Engineer for Missiles and Strike Systems
  - We fly RVs
  - We also fly MARVs
    - Like the AHW
  - And we also do missile defense work in support of MDA
    - Countermeasures
    - Interceptor/ kill vehicle



# So what does that mean....

- Things I get to do...
  - Determine if an object will burn-up upon re-entry
  - Analyze heat transfer and ablation rates for many 'shapes'
  - Design payloads (satellites too) and payload separation systems
  - Design, develop, and test rocket motors / engines
    - Hypergolic, electrothermal, solid composites
  - Design, develop, and build actuator components for maneuvering vehicles
- Things I wish I didn't have to do....
  - Calculus...yes you need to know vector calc
  - Meetings and schedules

# Example of End Use Application (NW and RVs)

- Trident II

<https://w>



[3vnAGQ](#)



# Current Work / Research (As of Sept 13)



- Work
  - Evaluate explosive gas generators for staging systems for CPGS
  - Shock and Vibe testing for mechanical aerospace structures
  - Evaluate a heat sink for a cube sat
  - Evaluate a thermal conditioning blanket for use at the Kodiak, AK launch facility
- Research
  - Completing work on an inverse heat transfer / ablation code to evaluate materials for use in a high enthalpy environment
  - Developing a 'Extended Kalman Filter'-type data processing code for high speed (~1 ns) thermocouples
  - Working with a consortium\* on developing a high speed heat flux sensor for use in a wide-variety of applications
  - Developing a 'green' propellant combustion analysis lab

\* Consortium includes UW-Madison, LANL, AFRL, ARL, LLNL, SNL(Livermore)

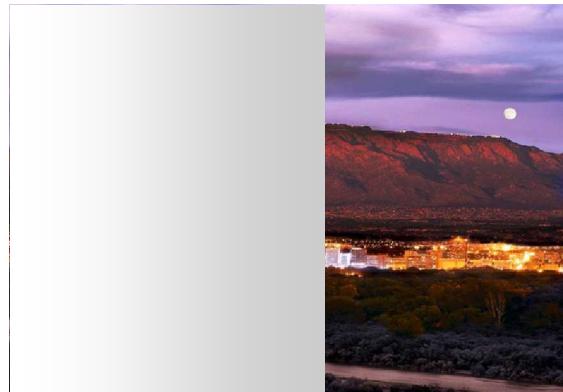
# Life at Sandia

- I can't believe they pay me to do this...
  - When in meetings, the corollary applies
- School taught me the basics, Sandia taught how to be an effective engineer
  - Fast paced, less-than-perfect data at times, you need to come up with an answer that gets the job done
- I don't worry about 'the sequester' or an economic calamity
  - Sandia is great at taking care of their staff members
  - Sometimes you wish a day was twice as long
- No place on Earth will let you do the things we do

# Working at Sandia / Living in New Mexico

## ■ Working at Sandia:

- Diversified portfolio and work opportunity
- Great amount of freedom
- Many opportunities for self-investment
- Meaningful work
- Good work-life balance



## ■ Living in New Mexico

- Gorgeous scenery and year-round outdoors activities
- 300 days of sunshine
- Unique culture



# Work with top minds & be recognized



Our unique work requires the collective minds of the nation's top scientists, engineers, and support staff. Each year, Sandians are recognized for developing a range of breakthrough technologies with commercial applications of global importance.



**Nancy Jackson**  
**2013 Science Diplomacy Award**  
*American Association for  
Advancement of Science*



**Dennis Owens**  
**J. Anthony Wingate**  
**Carl Rhinehart**  
*2013 National Black  
Engineer Award Recipients*



**Jeffrey Y. Tsao**  
*2013 Asian  
American Engineer  
of the Year*



**Steve Castillo**  
**2012 HENAAC  
Engineer of the Year**  
*Hispanic Engineering  
National Achievement  
Awards Conference*



# How to get plugged in?

1. Speak to us after the presentation
2. Interview (October time frame)
3. Create an account, and identify job opportunities.
4. Apply
5. If not graduating, focus on internships
6. If graduating, focus on fellowships, postdocs, and full-time

# Questions?



SNL Ipad Site



YouTube Site



Facebook Site



Careers Site



Twitter Site



LinkedIn Site



# Internships

## Features

- 16+ to PhD
- Variety of majors
- Technical institute programs (8)
  - Perform leading-edge research
  - Guidance of a Sandia research mentor
  - State-of-the-art equipment and facilities
- Tours, workshops, seminars

## Requirements

- U.S. citizenship
- Full-time enrollment status
- GPA: 3.5 grad, 3.2 undergrad
- Some projects may require clearance



# Fellowships & Postdocs

## Features

- Ph.D.-level candidates
- Harry S. Truman
  - Salary: 110K
- Alexander Hollander Distinguished
  - Focus on life, biomedical, and environmental sciences
- John Von Neumann Postdoctoral
  - One-year
  - Applied/computational mathematics

## Requirements

- U.S. citizenship
- GPA: 3.7 grad, 3.5 undergrad
- Obtain clearance
- Research in areas of interest to national security



# Full-time

- US citizenship (but check posting)
- 13 majors listed on website
- Work-life balance
- Diversity programs, community outreach, 401(k) matching, patent royalties, wellness programs,



# Wounded Warrior Career Development Program



- A unique limited-term career development employment opportunity that enables veterans to acquire career-based skills at Sandia through training, mentoring and real-world work experience while supporting mission success.



- Actively pursue an appropriate college degree
- Continue to develop and refine job related skills through training
- Share experiences to improve understanding of combat theater and enhance connections with Sandia work