



# Sandia National Laboratories

## Chris Jenkins, Joe Castro, Corrine Trevino

### Graduation Session: Life After Graduation



# Welcome



- Who We are
- Our Workforce & Culture
- What is a career like at Sandia
- Employment Opportunities

# Sandia's Impact



## Cleanroom invented 1963

\$50 billion worth of cleanrooms built worldwide. It's used in hospitals, laboratories and manufacturing plants today.



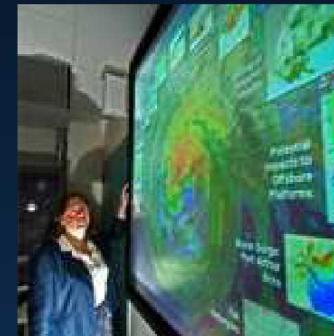
## 2008 Satellite Takedown

Red Storm computing helps shoot down rogue satellite.



## 9/11

Sandia sets contingency plans for release of materials and aircraft attacks on critical facilities immediately after 9/11. Search dogs are equipped with cameras for search and rescue K-9 handlers. The capability allowed search efforts to be carried out in spaces inaccessible to humans.



## Hurricane Katrina

Sandia is called to assess flooding and infrastructure failures.



## Fukushima Quake

Sandia helps cleanup radioactive wastewater.



## Gulf Oil Spill

Sandia works to help to develop an approach for securing the damaged well head, stopping the leak, and minimizing the severity of the oil spill.

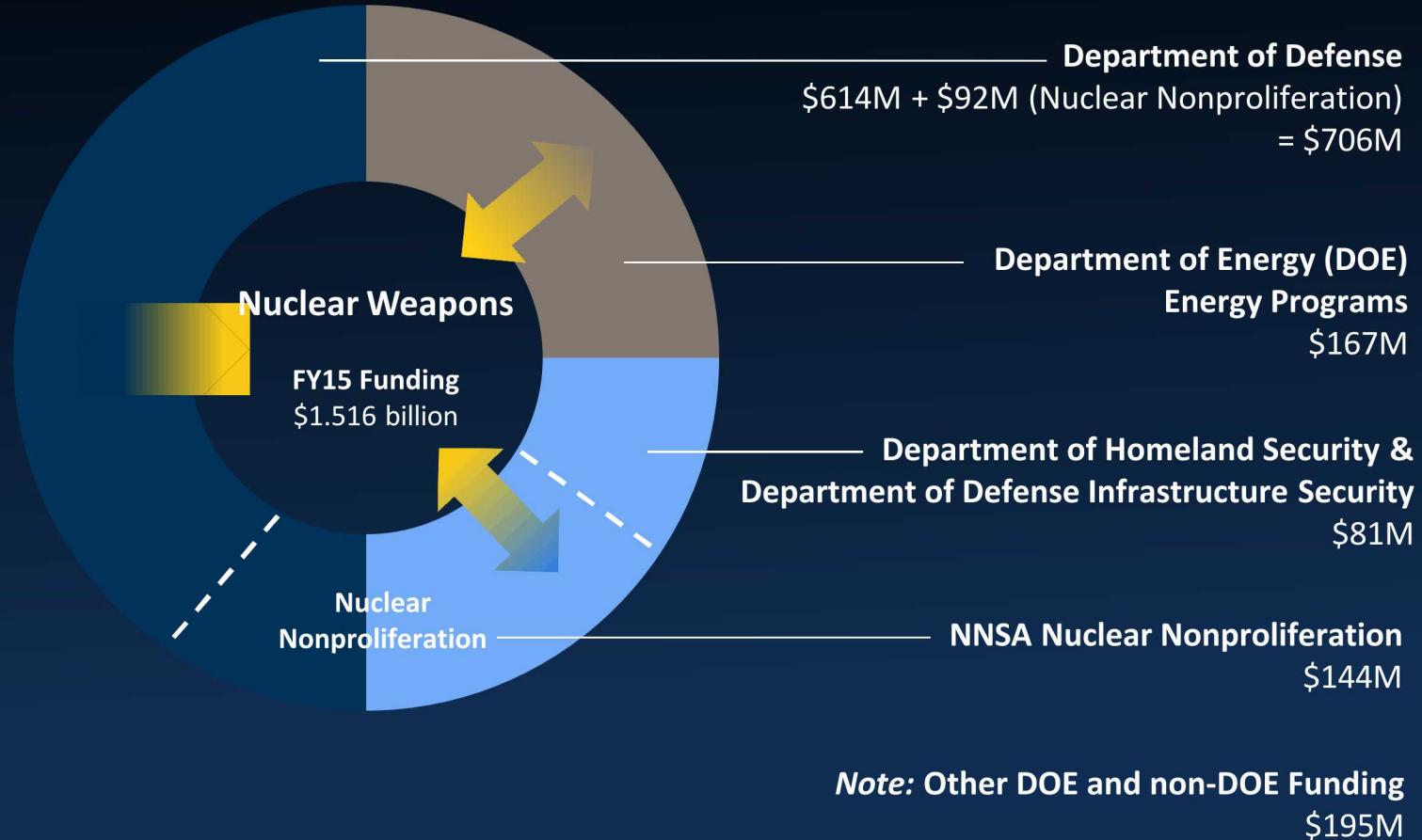
# Sandia is a National Laboratory



# Sandia has two main locations



# Sandia's Funding - ~\$2.8 Billion



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

# Fulfilling Our National Security Mission



*Nuclear Weapons*



*International, Homeland & Nuclear Security*



*Energy & Climate*



*Defense Systems & Assessments*

# Our Foundations in Research



*ential research-and-discovery activities that support invention, innovation, entrepreneurship, community, and public benefit.*

- Bioscience
- Computing and Information Science
- Engineering Science
- Geoscience
- Materials Science
- Nanodevices and Microsystems
- Radiation Effects and High Energy Density Science



# Our Workforce & Culture

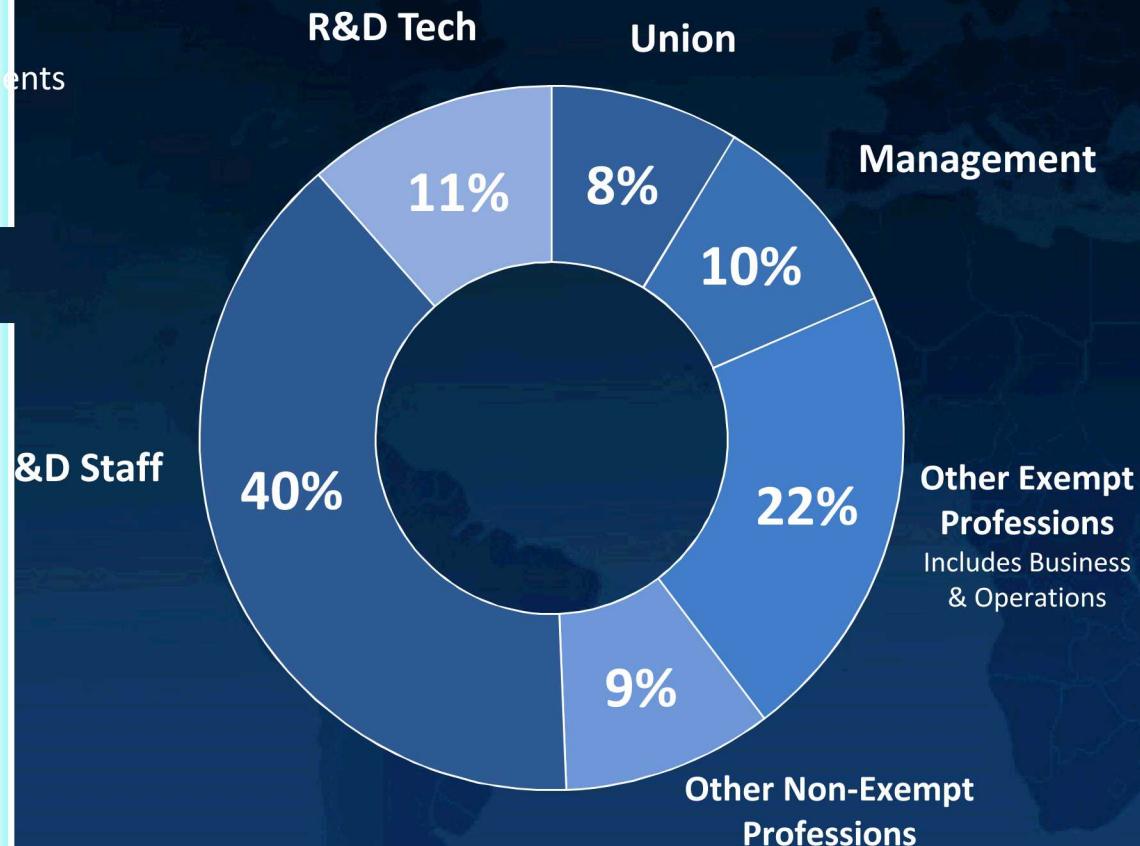
# Our Workforce ~12,000 employees



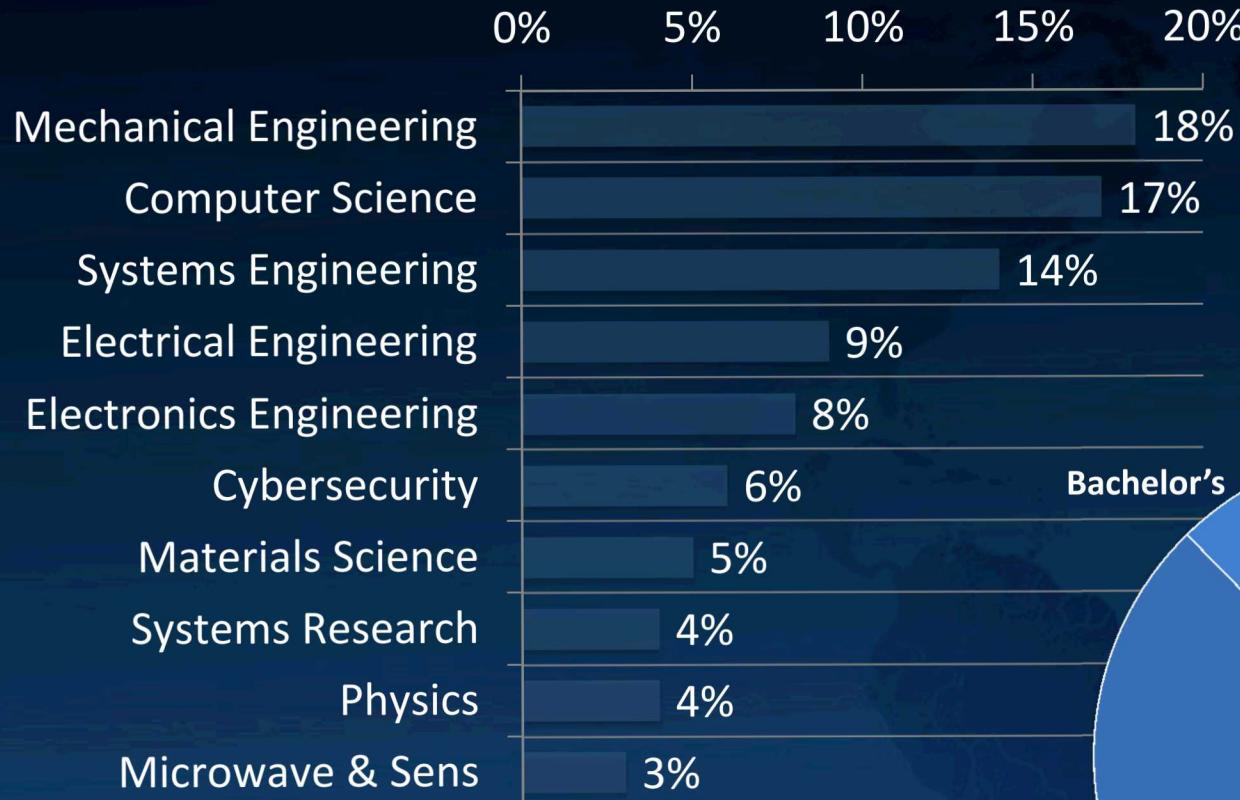
**~10,500** Regular employees  
**~1,600** Temporary employees, students & postdoctoral appointees

**New Mexico Site:**  
Workforce: ~10,800  
R&D employees: ~4,700  
(*R&D Staff & Technologists*)

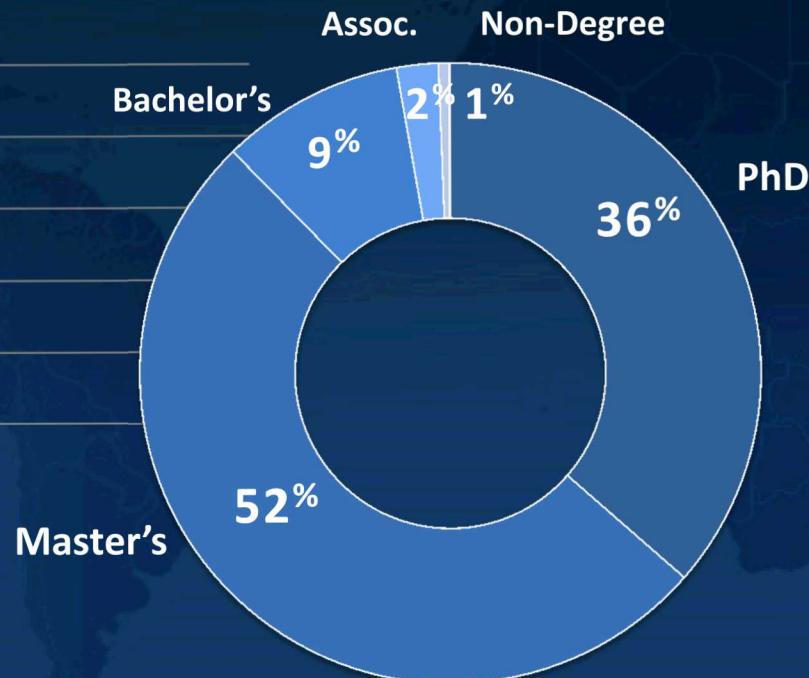
**California Site:**  
Workforce : ~1,300  
R&D employees: ~600  
(*R&D Staff & Technologists*)



# R&D by Discipline & Degree



Top 10 job descriptions shown, Regular exempt non-management employees only

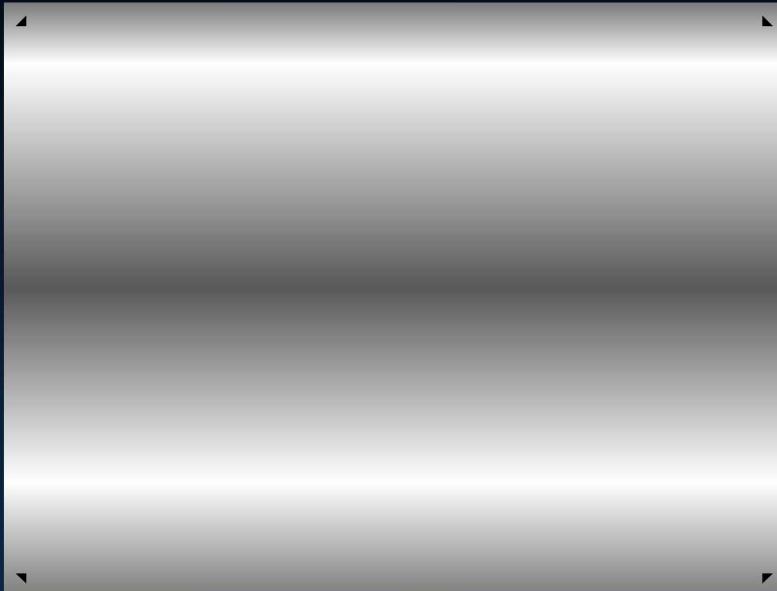


# Our Culture – Our Values



- We serve the nation
- We team to deliver with excellence
- We respect each other
- We act with integrity
- We live safe and healthy lives

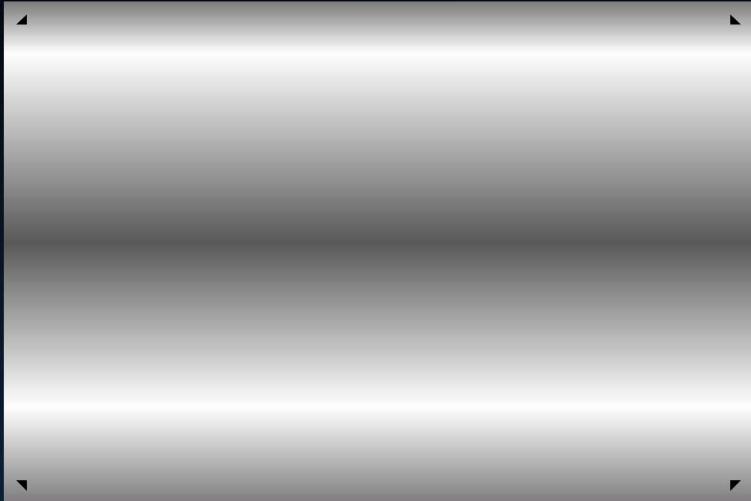
# Our Culture – Giving Back



**+ 100,000** Volunteer Hours Annually  
**~ \$6 Million** Donated to Nonprofits Annually

- Animal Adopt-a-thons
- Coach sports teams
- Lead scouting troops
- K-12 education outreach
- Help at food banks
- Build homes
- Contributions and drives

# Special Programs, Education and Mentoring



## University-based Education

- Tuition Assistance Program
- University Part-Time Program
- Special Master's Program
- Doctoral Study Program

## In-house Education, Training and Mentoring Programs

- Business
- Communication
- Design and drafting
- Energy
- Health and wellness
- Information technology
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Project management
- Sciences



# What's a career like at Sandia?

# Joe Castro (PhD, NEEP, Class of 1995) Undergrad Years (1984-1989)



## Berkeley on the Brain

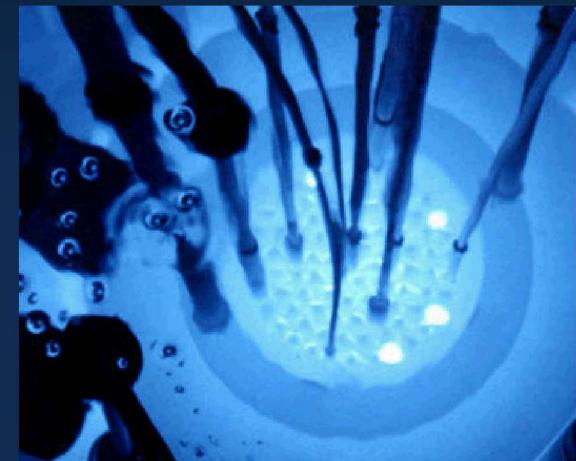
- Planned to transfer after freshman year
- 1<sup>st</sup> semester grades suffered

Refocused – graduate school is the next goal

K-State was a great school and a great experience

Obtained B.S. in Nuclear Engineering – Dec. 1989

- Emphasis on physics and math



## Lesson Learned:

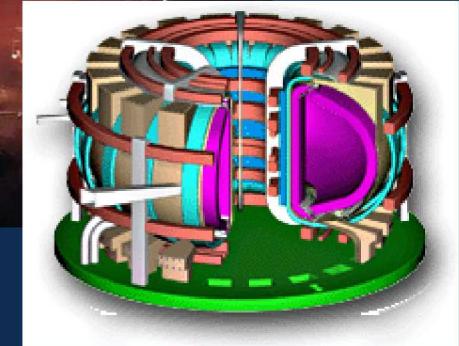
“High Profile” School was not a critical need for my academic goals

# Graduate Years (1989-1995)



## Lessons Learned:

- ❖ On-site visit is critical – if not offered a visit take the time and expense to do it yourself
- ❖ The school is not only important but also the location – you'll live there for 5-8 years of your life!
- ❖ Grad school choice is more critical than undergrad – make sure to do your homework
- ❖ Your academics are important but have a broader perspective about your future. Transition to next slide...



# Desert Period (1995-1997)



## Lessons Learned:

- ❖ Assumed Would Receive a Post-Doc position (no money) – communicate with advisor!
- ❖ Should have been pro-active on job search early! (saw it coming)
- ❖ Should have made more contacts – involvement in intern program, university organizations, etc.
- ❖ Job market tends to be cyclic – don't give up!

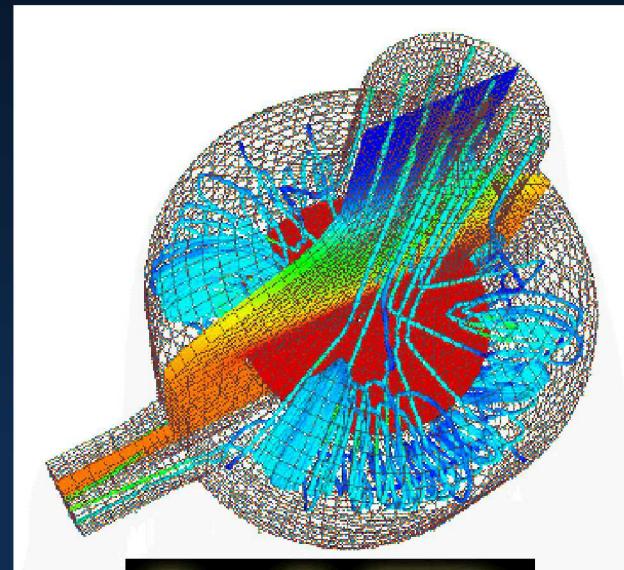


# Sandia: Early Years (1997-2001)



## Lessons Learned:

- ❖ Always re-educate yourself when you have the opportunity (something I should have done more during grad years)
- ❖ Be flexible and willing to transition into something new – you may find you like it!
- ❖ Be persistent and communicate with your management – was able to be hired during a very difficult time





## Lessons Learned:

- ❖ Again, always be open to change:
  - Unforeseen change
    - ✓ Budget
    - ✓ Priority
  - New Opportunities
    - ✓ Technical
    - ✓ Programmatic
  - Good for growth!
- ❖ Sandia gives you the opportunity to transition to different things and wear different “hats”
  - If it doesn’t work for you – have the ability to transition back



# Sandia Years: Later Years (2008-Present)



Converted to Primary Member of Technical Staff

Continue technical and programmatic lead on the QASPR project

- Programmatic and research

Developing skill set for management

- Begun bidding on management positions in 2014

Why management?

- Higher level impact
- Helping others succeed

Hired as manager of Electrical Models and Simulation org. in October of 2014



## Lesson Learned:

~20 years at Sandia I've transitioned to areas I never would have predicted at the beginning of my career. I look forward to the continuing opportunity and change!

# 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

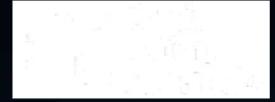
Cyber Assessment of target bus architectures (submitted patent)

Next-generation Cryptography

Drones

Effect-based testing

# Variety of projects



- **Varied Types**
  - Research
  - R&D
  - Development
  - Classified
- **Self-picked projects**
- **Matrix organization (5600)**
- **Project lead vs. Line manager**
- **Misc.**
  - Outreach project with HMTech
  - Lecture series: Virtualization on ARM Architecture
  - Workplace Enhancement Team

# Integrity Levels: A New Paradigm for



## Protecting Computing Systems

### Proposal stage

- Initial / Full
- Investment Area Review
- Mentor, Sr. Scientist

### Independent funding and direction

- Conferences / Publications
- External Presentation
- Software / Hardware
- Other employees / interns

### Joint Collaboration

# Cyber Assessment of Bus Architectures



## Targets

- VPX
- MIL-STD-1553
- ARINC 429
- LonTalk

## Why?

- Customers utilizing networked components
- No authentication
- Potential to affect critical infrastructure
- Design protection (patents)
- Improve national security of the nation

# Did academia prepare me?



## Skills I acquired at school

- 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

# Things I enjoy about work



- Consistent work schedule
- Weekends off
- Evenings off
- Paycheck
- More Independence

# Things I miss about academia

- Wake up when I want to
- Time flexibility
- Colleague interaction (Student Lab)

# Mike Starr (EM, 2002)

- Hometown: Milwaukee, WI



- Education/Specialization History:

$\left  S - \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \Delta_i \right  < \varepsilon$	$(\lambda + \mu) \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{F} = 0$	Mat. Sci. Lab Tech	$J_k = \int_{\Gamma} [wn_k - T_i u_{i,k}] d\Gamma$	$\mathbf{F} = 0$	$\mathbf{F} \approx 0$	$\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a} \neq 0!$
<b>Math</b>	<b>Engineering</b>		<b>Fracture Mechanics</b>	Contact Mechanics	Friction, Plasticity and Dissipation	Structural Dynamics

University of Wisconsin  
(BS EMA)

University of Wisconsin  
(PhD EM)

Sandia Labs  
(2002-present)

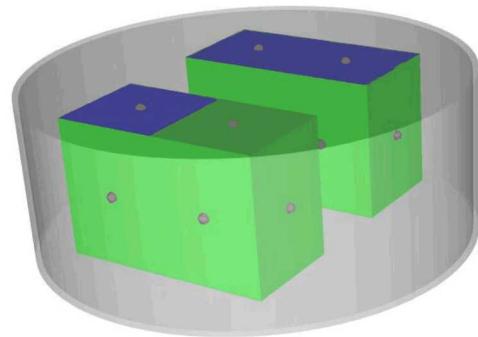
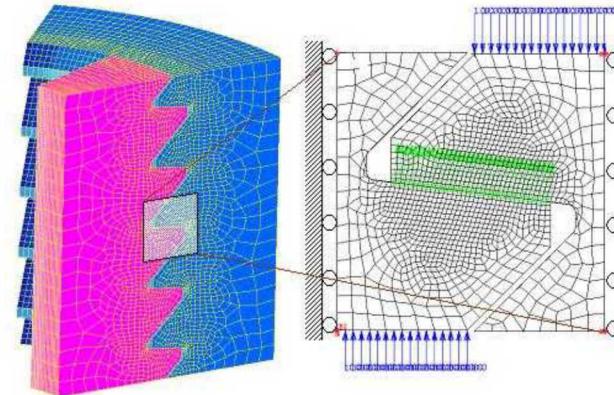
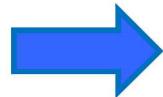
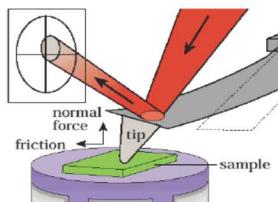
# What is it like working at Sandia?

- Feels like graduate school, but ...
  - Office has a door
  - Defined work hours (if you want)
  - Problems don't always have a solution
- Weekly meetings
  - Time in meetings  $\propto 2^{years-1}$
- Everyone is willing to help; open door policy
  - An expert around each corner
- Time is split between research and analysis
- The mountains are right there

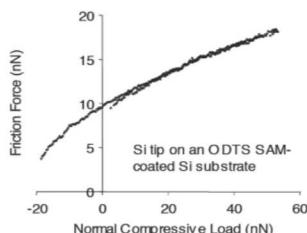
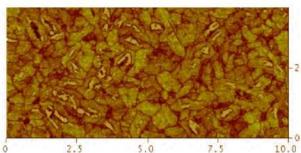


# How I Approach My Job:

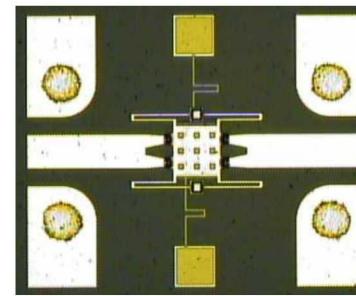
Can I develop and populate **predictive** physics models for the structures I work on?  
What exactly does that mean, and what does it require?


 $O(m)$ 

 $O(mm)$ 


AFM tip is the asperity  
( $R \sim 30$  nm)


 $O(nm)$ 


From Carpick et al.,  
U. Wisc. - Madison

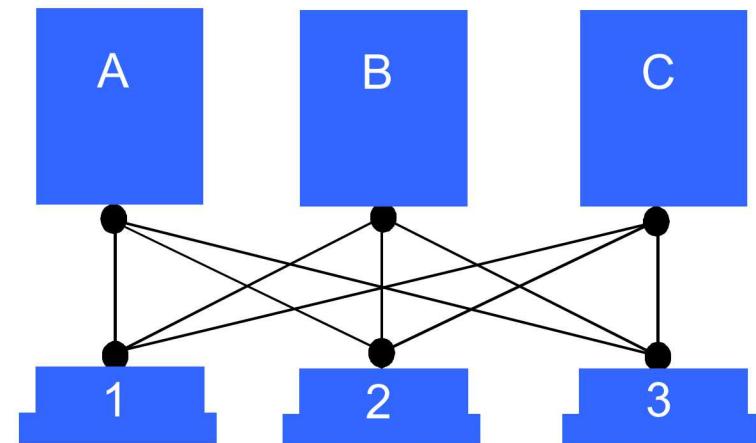
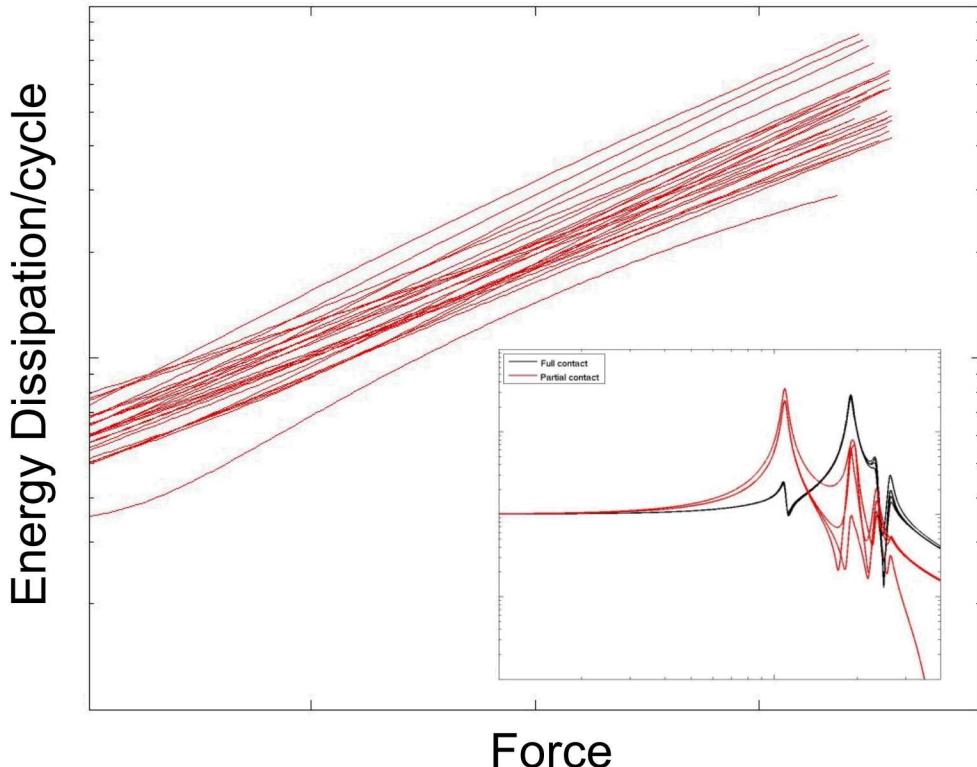

 $O(\mu\text{m})$ 


# Things I Used To Not Think About ...

Do deterministic mechanical systems really exist?

What's so wrong about empiricism, approximation, and linearization?

All models are wrong, but some are useful.



- Part-to-part variability
- Assembly variation
- Material variability

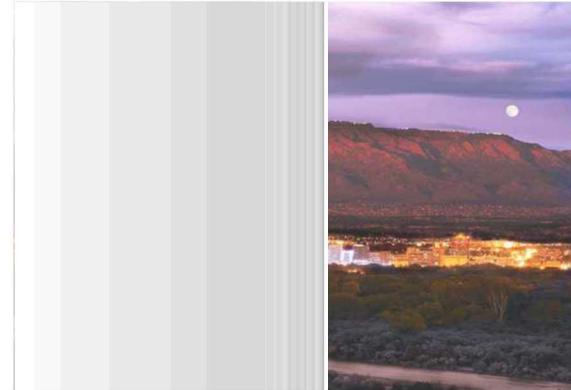
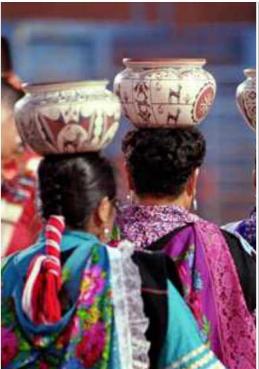
# Work, Research, and Other Realities

- Daily Technical Tasks
  - Analysis: Validate my SD models against experimental data.
  - **Analysis: Qualify hardware against environments over lifetime of their exposure.**
  - Research: Account for the non-linearities and variability of contact interfaces in built-up structures.
  - Research: Accurate modeling of boundary conditions and derivation of 6DOF model inputs from experiments.
- Politics, Funding, and Security
  - Budgets ebb and flow, projects evolve as mission evolves.
  - Security clearance required; classification dictates where and how you can talk about your work.

# Working at Sandia / Living in New Mexico

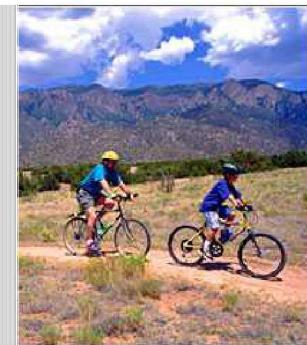
## ■ Working at Sandia:

- 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 outdoor activities
- 300 days of sunshine
- Unique culture



# Questions?



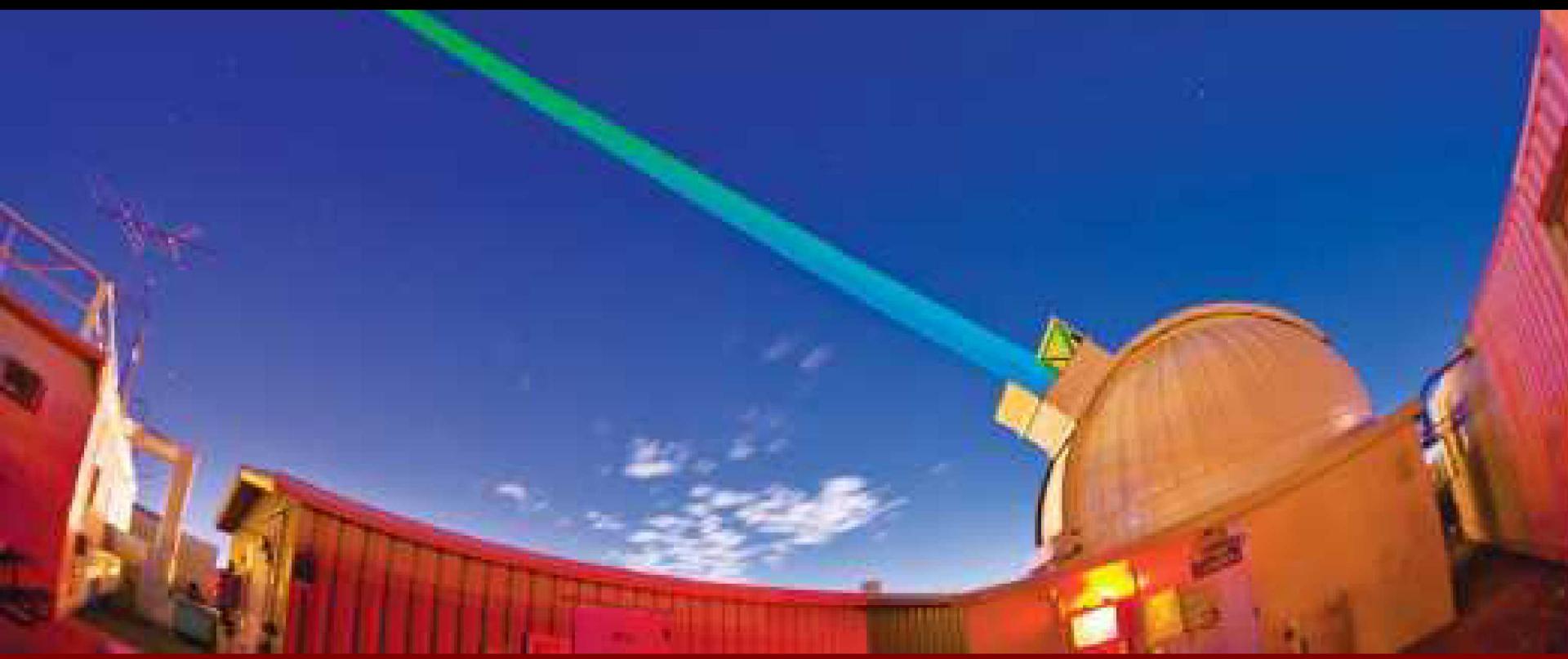
# Employment Opportunities

# 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.*



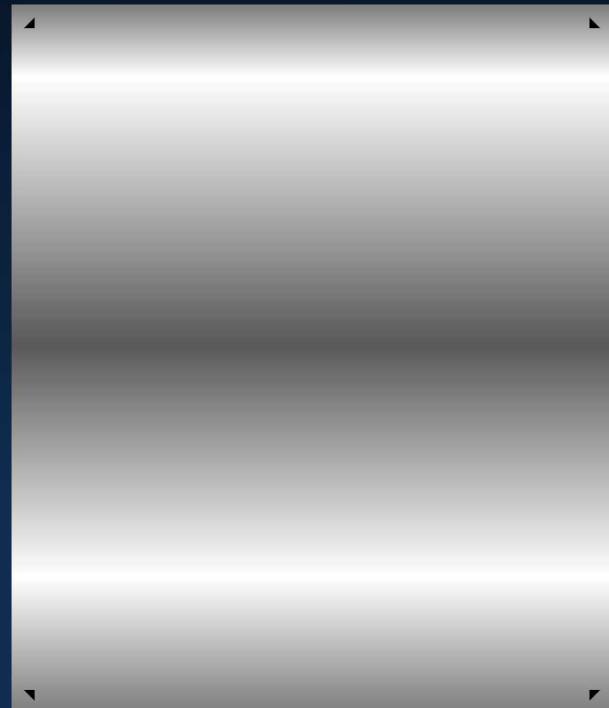
# Internships



Encourages qualified students to develop interests in critical skills areas related to our mission, with the ultimate objective of developing our pipeline for our future. Available for Summer, Year Round and Co-op.

## Eligibility Criteria

- Min. cumulative GPA (3.2 Undergrad/3.5 Grad)
- Have U.S. citizenship for positions that require clearance or as stated in the job posting
- Full-time enrollment status at an accredited college, university, or local high school
- At least 16 years of age



# Nuclear Weapons

*Sandia assumes an increasingly pivotal role in sustaining the nation's nuclear deterrent.*

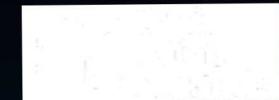


# International, Homeland & Nuclear Security

*Nonproliferation* - the prevention of an increase or spread of the number of countries possessing nuclear weapons



# Energy & Climate



Energy Security  
Security  
Structure Security  
ing Capabilities

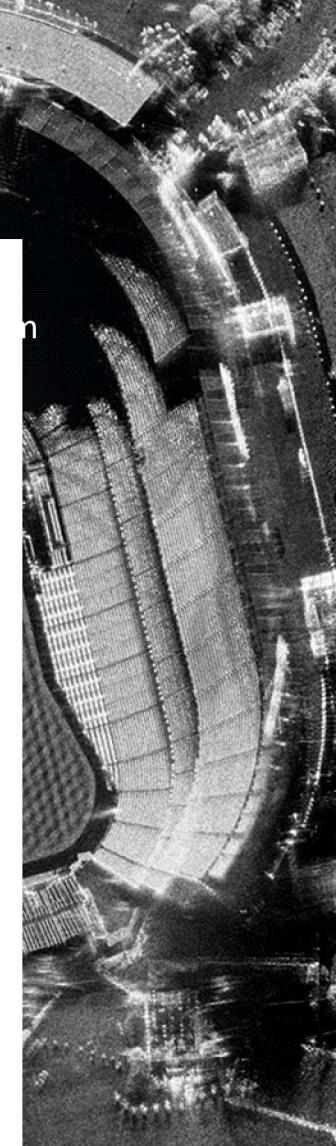


# Defense Systems & Assessments



*We support our troops around the world*

*and help to keep them safe*

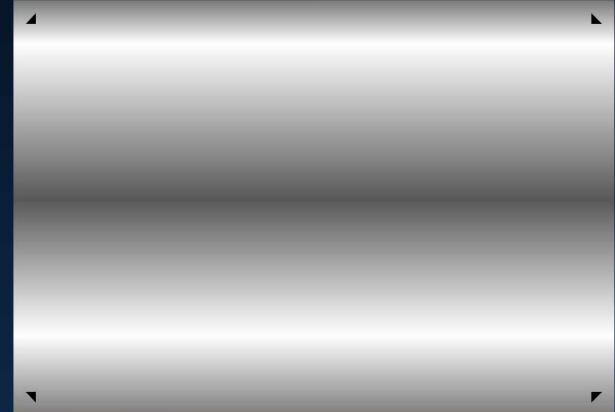


# Technical Institute Internships



Technical institute interns perform leading-edge research under the guidance of Sandia research mentor and use world-class equipment and facilities.

- Center for Computing Research (CCR)
- Engineering Design and Integration Students (EDIS)
- Nonlinear Mechanics and Dynamics (NOMAD)
- Science of Extreme Environments Research Institute (SEERI)
- SENTINL: Energy Surety Incubator (ESI)
- SENTINL: Interns for Security, Arms Control, and Force Protection Engineering (iSAFE)
- TITANS: Center for Analysis Systems and Applications (CASA)
- TITANS: Center for Cyber Defenders (CCD)
- TITANS: Monitoring Systems and Technology Intern Center (MSTIC)



# Post-doc Opportunities



## Key areas for post-docs at Sandia:

- Biosciences and biotechnology
- Chemistry and materials science
- Combustion
- Computational mechanics
- Computer science
- Hydrogen
- Microelectronics and microfluidics
- Nanotechnology
- Physics

## Eligibility Criteria

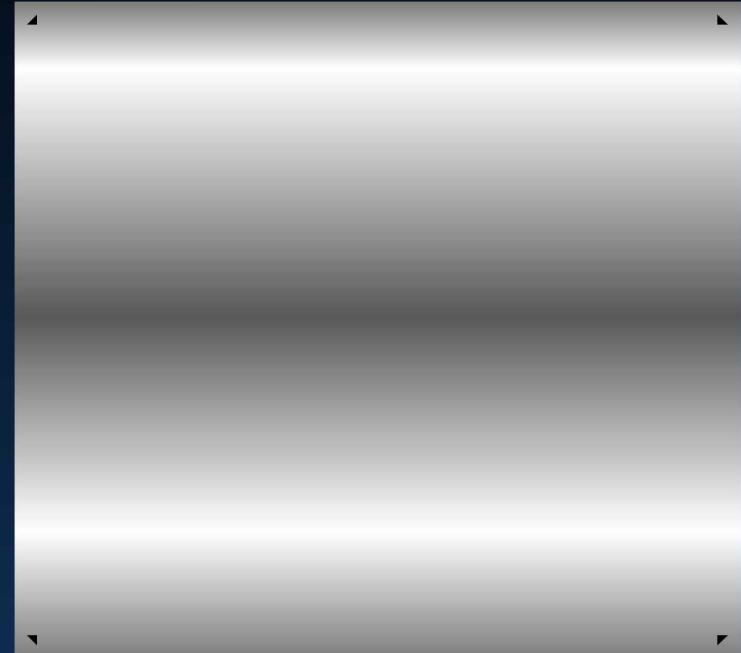
- A recent PhD (awarded within the past five years) or the ability to complete all PhD requirements before beginning
- No previous post-doc appointments at a national laboratory

# Special Degree Programs & Fellowship Opportunities



## Ph.D. Level Fellowships

- Harry S. Truman Fellowship
- John Von Neumann



# Apply Online! [sandia.gov/careers](http://sandia.gov/careers)



Locations Contact Us Employee Locator  Search

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Students and Postdocs Benefits and Perks Hiring Process Life at Sandia Special Programs

## Careers



**Turn your passion for engineering into a career.**  
Solve challenging national-security problems that defy easy textbook answers.

### Career possibilities

[View All Jobs](#)

» <a href="#">Aerospace Engineering</a>	» <a href="#">Computer Science</a>	» <a href="#">Mechanical Engineering</a>
» <a href="#">Bioscience</a>	» <a href="#">Cybersecurity</a>	» <a href="#">Nuclear Engineering</a>
» <a href="#">Business Support &amp; Operations</a>	» <a href="#">Electrical Engineering</a>	» <a href="#">Physics</a>
» <a href="#">Chemistry &amp; Chemical Engineering</a>	» <a href="#">Geoscience</a>	» <a href="#">Systems Engineering</a>
	» <a href="#">Materials Science</a>	

Is your career missing from the list? [View all job openings](#) instead.

### Announcements

- Download our [recruiting iPad app](#) from the App Store today
- Transitioning Military: Learn about our [Wounded Warrior Career Program](#)
- Check out our [recruiting brochure](#) (PDF, 2.3 MB)



LOCATIONS

*in the national interest*



Sandia  
National  
Laboratories



Link You



# Backups



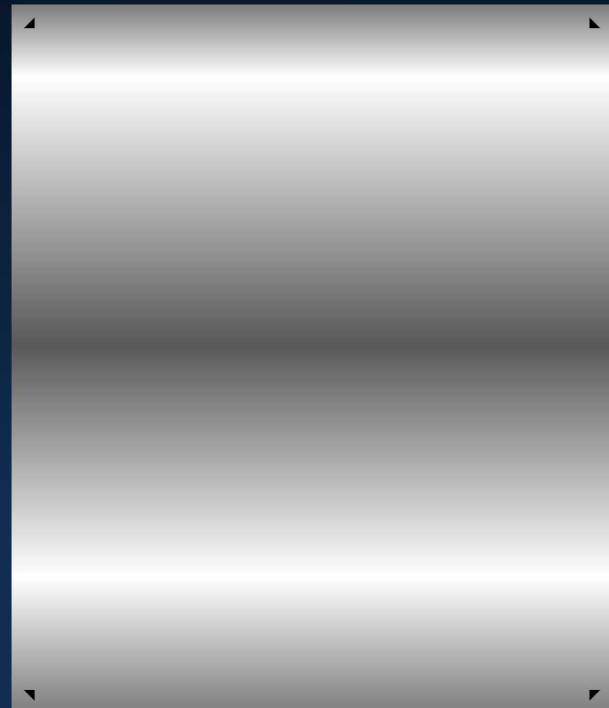
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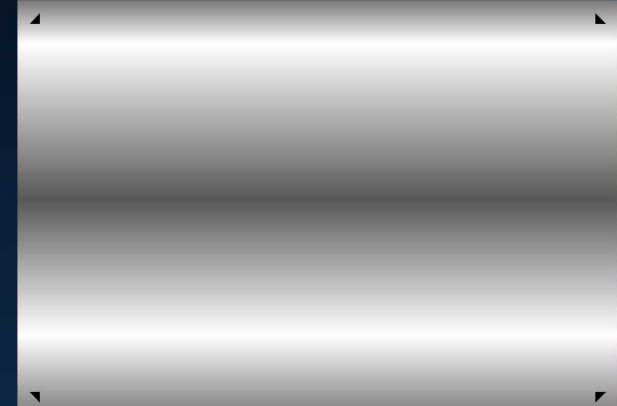


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- Computer Science Research Institute (CSRI)
- Enabling Predictive Simulation Research Institute (EPSRI)
- National Security Engineering Institute (NSEI)
- Physical Sciences Institute (PSI)
- Sandia Institute for Modeling and Simulation (SIMS)
- Science of Extreme Environments Research Institute (SEERI)
- Energy Surety Incubator (SENTINL: ESI)
- Interns for Security, Arms Control, and Force Protection Engineering (SENTINL: iSAFE)
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# Special Degree Programs & Fellowship Opportunities

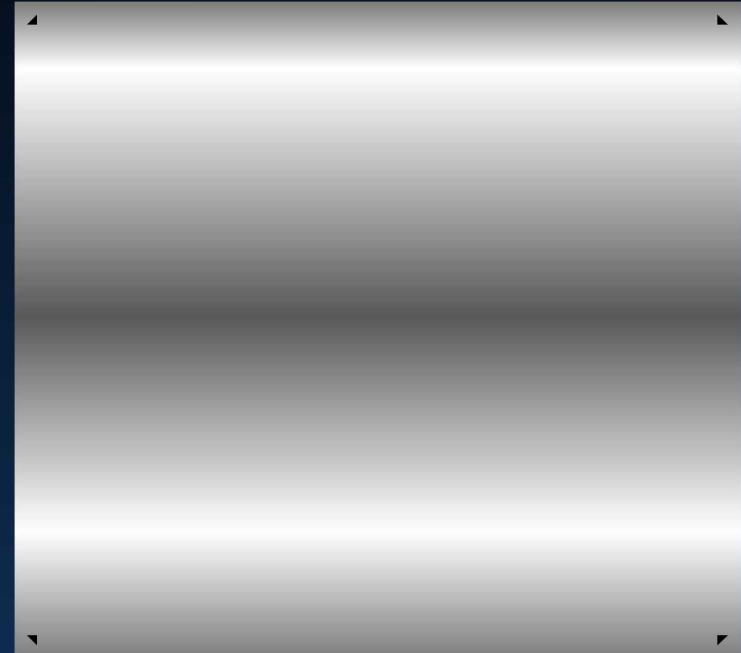


## Special Degree Programs

- Critical Skills Master's Fellowship Program
- Master's Fellowship Program

## Ph.D. Level Fellowships

- Harry S. Truman Fellowship
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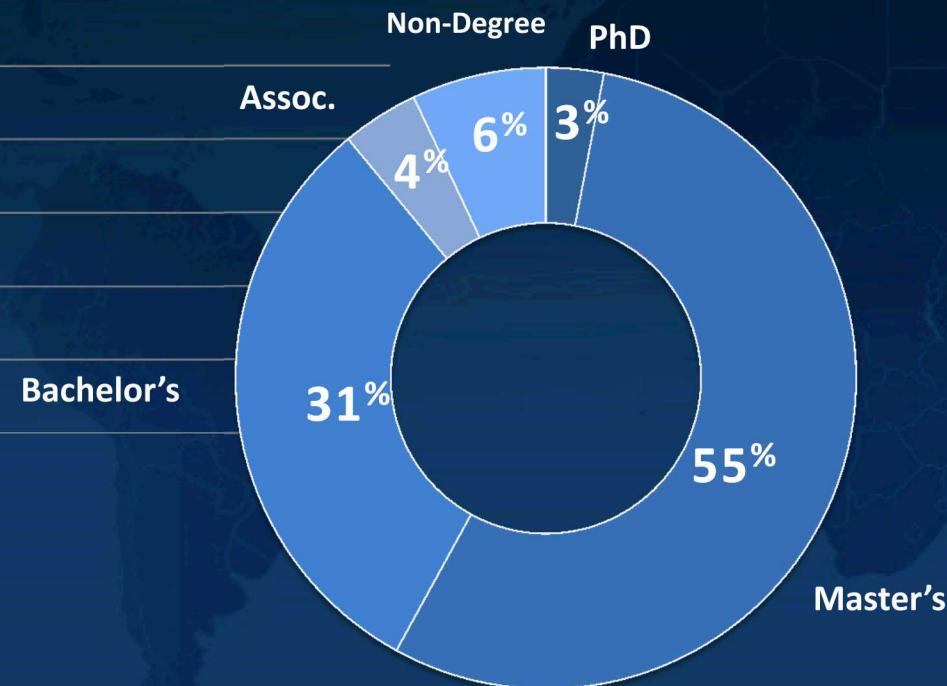


# Business & Operations Staff



Top 10 job families shown , Regular exempt non-management employees only

Degree levels for all our non-management professions including those not represented



SNL Ipad Site



YouTube Site



Facebook Site



Careers Site



Twitter Site



LinkedIn Site

