

**Dr. John L. Bignell**

Dr. John Bignell is a Principal Member of the Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) in Albuquerque, NM in the Structural and Thermal Analysis Department within the Nuclear Energy and Fuel Cycle Programs Center. He holds a BS, MS, and Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Utah (BS) and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (MS, Ph.D.). In 2006 Dr. Bignell joined the Spacecraft Structures and Dynamics Group at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA where he served as lead structural engineer for the rover mobility system on the 2.5 billion dollar Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) mission (which successfully landed on the planet Mars in 2012). In 2010 Dr. Bignell moved to SNL where he currently specializes in the application of numerical and analytical methods in the design and assessment of structures subject to extreme loading environments.