



Campus Update, September 2014

June 2014 – August 2014

Updates to Parking for Expectant Mothers

The Lab recently made changes to its parking policy at Berkeley Lab's main site to allow expectant mothers to receive a Temporary Blue Triangle parking pass (this pass allows employees to park closer to buildings). This program is designed to ensure that expectant mothers are provided safe access to their work buildings and vehicles, and to aid them in accessing parking at the laboratory during their pregnancy. This policy is part of the Lab's Diversity and Inclusion Initiative, launched by Lab Director Paul Alivisatos last fall. Ensuring a family-friendly workplace is one of the top priorities identified by the Initiative.

LBNL Celebrates LGBT Pride Month in June

Every June, Berkeley Lab festoons the main entrance (Blackberry Gate) with the rainbow flag, reminding employees and visitors that this month is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month. In honor of the Lab's LGBT community, profiles of three employees were featured in the Lab newsletter as a way to celebrate a diverse and inclusive workforce where employees are free to be themselves.

Berkeley Lab's Got Talent Show on August 8

The LBNL Karaoke Club hosted an event on Wednesday, August 13, at the Lab cafeteria. All talents were welcome. The event was also fundraiser, with employees encouraged to bring school supplies or backpacks for local students.

Lab Community Helps with Bay Restoration

Berkeley Lab, in conjunction with Save the Bay, sponsored a Bay restoration event on August 5 along the Martin Luther King Jr. shoreline in Oakland. Volunteers learned more about the Bay and transplanted over 2,200 baccharis glutinosa seedlings. This native perennial supports the local marsh ecosystem and creates habitat for wetland animals and insects.

Message from Lab Director, 8/11, on Collaborative Spirit

With several ongoing infrastructure and modernization projects happening at the Lab, Lab Director Paul Alivisatos published an open letter to the community encouraging support for operations staff, particularly during this challenging time. "We talk a lot about teamwork and the collaborative spirit at Berkeley Lab, and this is important to us because it defines who we are. It is my expectation that we all work together in that spirit, even when there are challenges. As a unified team, we need to acknowledge and expect that there will be transitional bumps in the road as we "go live" with the new systems, move into new facilities, and draw on very busy operational units for support to our scientific mission; all things will not necessarily operate as smoothly as we want or hope. This is a normal consequence of rolling out the significant new systems and facilities here. We will do our best to ensure stakeholders are kept apprised of and can manage any particular issue of concern or interest as or before it may arise.

I recognize there will be strain on the system and that you may experience some frustration as a result. This also is to be expected. So I just want to remind us that we need to continue to engage respectfully and constructively with all of the members of our Lab community as we make the changes necessary to allow us meet the challenges of the 21st century."

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