

BREA NEWS

www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea/

Volume 19, Issue 6

November/December 2019

BREA Meetings

BREA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month (except for August), at 1 p.m. in one of the conference rooms in Bldg. 400 (except where noted).

All BREA members are invited to attend and participate.

Meeting Schedule

November 12, 2019

December 10, 2019

January 14, 2019

BREA Officers

President

Steve Shapiro
shapiro@bnl.gov

Vice President

Bob Kinsey
bobkin@optonline.net

Secretary

Arnold Moodenbaugh
moodenba@optonline.net

Treasurer

Lillian Kouchinsky
lkouchin@yahoo.com

* * *

Newsletter Editor

Mona S. Rowe
msrowe.hi@gmail.com



Brookhaven Lab's science café and conversation series headed to the Parrish Art Museum in September. See article on page 3.

From the President

by Steve Shapiro, shapiro@bnl.gov

Dear Fellow BREA Members,

This is my final President's message. It has been a pleasure to be BREA's president for the past two years. I particularly enjoyed chairing the meetings every month and the active participation of those who attended.

There were always some

interesting discussions and suggestions that help us retirees maintain a close contact with the Laboratory and improve the interactions of the retirees and the Laboratory.

We have had some interesting talks at our meetings featuring travelogues of some of our members, expansion of the Laboratory such as Discovery Park, and history of the Lab's dark period of the '90s. We pushed the Workers' Health Protection Program (<http://www.worker-health.org/>), which resulted in a period of greatly increased enrollment. I am pleased that we were able to obtain an increase in the Health Care Reimbursement Account (HRA) after five years of flat stipends. My pet project was to establish a new logo that you see on our website and the last page of the newsletter.

I would like to thank my fellow officers who made BREA run smoothly. I particularly would like to thank Chris Carter, who supervises the BERA programs of which BREA is a part. Her

(continued on page 4)

Vote for new BREA officers. Ballot on page 2.

New BREA Officers Nominated

Candidates for BREA officers for the January 2020 through December 2021 term are listed below, along with their biographies. Write-in candidates are accepted, in accordance with BREA's bylaws. If a candidate receives a positive vote on a majority of the ballots returned, that candidate is elected. Note that returning a ballot but not voting for a candidate is the equivalent of a "NO" vote. If any candidate does not get a majority vote, the office will be left vacant until another election. The ballot includes a slate of officers put forth by the BREA Nominating Committee as well as space for write-in candidates. **Please mail your ballot to BREA so it arrives by December 9, 2019.**

Arnold Moodenbaugh for President

Arnie Moodenbaugh worked at BNL for 36 years, primarily doing materials science and solid state research, often as a user at the National Synchrotron Light Source and the High Flux Beam Reactor. Later in his BNL career, he served as Technical Equipment Coordinator for the Center for Functional Nanomaterials construction project and Materials Science Department Safety Coordinator. These assignments gave him the opportunity to interact with a range of employees, including many working in facilities & operations and in environment, safety and health. He retired in January of 2014. He is currently the BREA secretary. Says Arnie, "I believe BREA provides useful information to retirees, especially with respect to the changes in health benefits. The organization also plays a role in providing useful input to and support for BNL."

Lillian Kouchinsky for Vice President

Lillian Kouchinsky organized BREA's annual luncheon for the past three years. During her 47 years at the Laboratory, she worked for seven Lab directors; interacted with elected officials, from the federal level to the town level; interfaced with many Department of Energy directors and their staff; and had dealings with a number of local organizations, including the Long Island Association. Her position also permitted her to know many of the Nobel Prize winners associated with BNL. Retired six years and enjoying retirement with her husband, Lillian says, "I now have the time to enjoy family and to do volunteer work."

Pat Flood for Secretary

Pat Flood joined Brookhaven in 1988 and retired in 2017. She originally worked at the Technical Information Division under Diane Mirvis and finished in the Information Technology Division under Tom Schlagel. Pat completed her tenure at the Lab by heading up the Records and Information Management Group. She says, "I enjoyed working with this program as it gave me an opportunity to interact with all the other organizations at the Laboratory. The best part of BNL was the people that worked there. I consider myself lucky to have made many long lasting friendships." In retirement, she's spending time with her husband traveling, kayaking and enjoying their family.

Leslie G. Fishbone for Treasurer

Les Fishbone worked at Brookhaven for 32 years, retiring in early 2014. During the years 1989-1993, he served as a staff member of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, while on leave from the Lab. He graduated from the California Institute of Technology (BS) and then from the University of Maryland (PhD), with both degrees in physics. Les's work at the Lab primarily focussed on nuclear nonproliferation and safeguards in the Nonproliferation and National Security Department and its predecessor organizations. For almost 20 of those years, he contributed to cooperative programs with nuclear facilities in Russia, traveling there many times. Les was a member of the Brookhaven Lecture Committee, chairing it for one year, and later a member of the Lectureship Committee. He comes to the Lab now for BREA meetings, to exercise in the fitness rooms, and to attend seminars and lectures. "I traveled frequently during my stimulating career," he said. "Now my wife and I travel particularly to see our far-flung family."

Ballot for BREA Officers

President

☐ Arnie Moodenbaugh

☐ _____

Vice President

☐ Lillian Kouchinsky

☐ _____

Secretary

☐ Pat Flood

☐ _____

Treasurer

☐ Les Fishbone

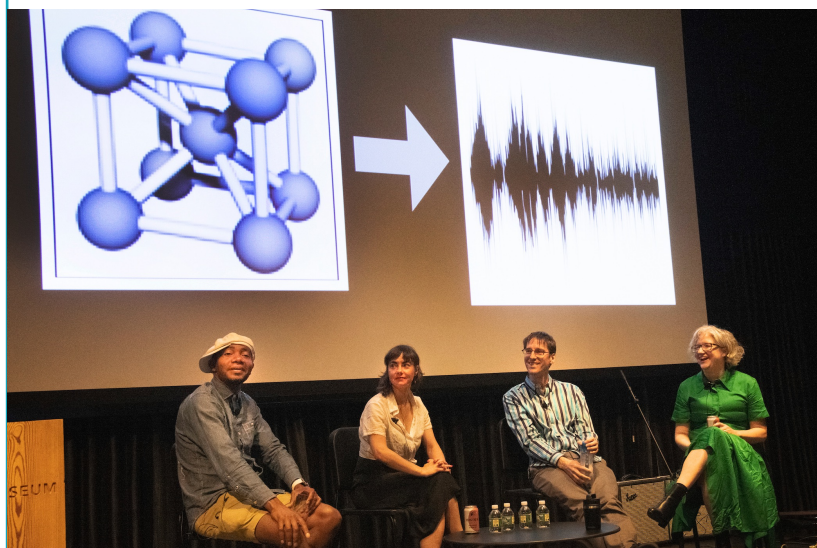
☐ _____

Please vote and mail your ballot to:

BREA c/o BERA
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Bldg. 400
Upton, NY 11973

PubSci at the Parrish Merges Science, Art, Music

The sciences and the arts are often seen as polar opposites. But a conversation between a scientist, artists and composers held at the Parrish Art Museum in Water Mill, NY, on the evening of September 6, 2019, showed how these fields can be combined to create beautiful visuals and sounds based on real scientific data. The conversation was the second installment of PubSci at the Parrish, a spin-off of PubSci – the science café and conversation series of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Brookhaven National Laboratory.



From left, panelists Paul D. Miller a.k.a. DJ Spooky, Melissa Clarke, Kevin Yager and Margaret Schedel
– PubSci photos by Roger Stoutenburgh

PubSci is typically hosted in local bars to provide an informal and casual setting for the public to engage in discussions with Brookhaven Lab scientists and their collaborators. But last September, for the first time, PubSci was brought to the Parrish Art Museum for a program titled “Illumination: Revealing the Secret Chemistry of Oil Paintings.” At that event, scientists and artists explored how ultrabright x-ray light from Brookhaven’s National Synchrotron Light Source II (NSLS-II) illuminated the chemical changes in a microscopic sample of a 15th-century oil painting, Jan Van Eyck’s *The Crucifixion*, that led to the artwork’s degradation.

The topic of this evening’s event was “Sculpture, Sound, & Simulation: Transforming Scientific Data into Interactive Art.” Four panelists led the conversation: interdisciplinary artist and arts.codes co-founder and creative director Melissa Clarke; independent

composer, artist, and essayist Paul D. Miller a.k.a. DJ Spooky; Stony Brook University professor of computer music and arts.codes co-founder Margaret Schedel; and Brookhaven physicist Kevin Yager.

The event was inspired by an ongoing collaboration between Clarke, Schedel and Yager. Using nanoscience data that Yager and other scientists generated at the Center for Functional Nanomaterials (CFN) and NSLS-II – both DOE Office of Science User Facilities at Brookhaven – the trio created novel representations of 3-D nanostructures in the form of a sculpture collection (“Glass Menagerie”) and sonifications incorporated into a virtual reality (VR) experience.

To kick off the event, Schedel played a cello composition based on the digits in the mathematical constant pi. Yager followed this live performance with an introduction to nanoscience, or the study of materials at ultrasmall scales. Attendees heard sonifications of different nanomaterials, including a metal alloy and carbon nanotubes in a polymer. Clarke then described her process for transforming nanoscience visualizations into 3-D printed glass-like nanosculptures such as a DNA octahedron and nanostar. Several of these hand-sized nanosculptures were on display and passed around to audience members. To give the audience a feel of the VR component of the project, the panelists played a video recreating the experience. Throughout the evening, Miller shared his perspectives on how science and mathematics provide inspiration for his music. The program concluded with Yager revealing a “surprise” nanoscience dataset that Clarke, Miller and Schedel had never seen before and asking them to explain how they would re-represent the data.

Since 2014, PubSci has been offering the public a chance to see a more casual side of the cutting-edge research happening every day at Brookhaven Lab, and chat with scientists over a drink. The series hops around Long Island, covering different topics, from the Big Bang to tomorrow’s technologies.

– Ariana Manglaviti, amanglaviti@bnl.gov

Editor’s note: Ariana Manglaviti is a science writer in BNL’s Media and Communications Office.

Renew BREA Membership

Membership expires on December 31 of every year no matter when you paid your dues (which are requested by January 31 of the following year). To stay on BREA's mailing list, complete the form below and mail it to me along with your payment. Include your email address so BREA can send you timely information.

If you have questions or if your contact info has changed, email me at hellobylin@yahoo.com.

PLEASE PRINT

Last name: _____ First name: _____ MI: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership type:

☐ annual (\$10) ☐ 5 years (\$40) Life ☐ (\$95)

Date: _____ Check amount: _____

MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO BREA

☐ I want to receive BREA News by mail via the U.S. Post Office.

☐ I want to receive BREA News by email only. Do not mail it to me via the U.S. Post Office.

Mail form and check (made out to BREA) to:

Beth Lin, BREA Membership Chair
81 Westchester Drive
Rocky Point, NY 11778

– Beth Lin, Membership Chair
hellobylin@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

We deeply regret to inform you of the passing of the following retirees and former employees. Certain individuals died many years ago.

Frank E. Kito, 76, August 27, 2019

Nancy White, 84, May 24, 2019

More information may be found at BREA's website: www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea.

To post an obituary for a deceased BNL employee or retiree, email information to msrowe.hi@gmail.com or mail it to BREA (see panel below for address).

President's Message (cont'd from page 1)

always cheerful help is indispensable. In this newsletter is a list of the candidates for the next slate of officers for the 2020-21 term. Please vote; this demonstrates your interest and support of BREA.

The holidays are soon upon us. I wish you all a happy, healthy and safe holiday season. Take a break and enjoy your family and loved ones and help out those who are less fortunate in whatever way you can.

Goodbye,
Steve Shapiro
President, BREA
shapiro@bnl.gov

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association

BREA c/o BERA
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Bldg. 400 Brookhaven Avenue
Upton, NY 11973

Phone: (631) 344-5090

Email: BREA@bnl.gov

Web: <https://www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea/>

