

Developing Collaborations with Sandia National Lab Scientists

There are a number of ways to initiate collaborations with colleagues at Sandia National Labs (SNL). Keep in mind that it can be a slow process, and depending on the interaction, different levels of permissions and paperwork will be required.

Point of Contact: Diane Peebles (depeeb@sandia.gov) is the Partnerships Manager for UNM. Contact her if you want to know if your research interests align with SNL or you want additional information on some of the Sandia-led programs mentioned here.

Citizenship: Sandia programs that fund students generally require that the students be US citizens. Faculty that are foreign nationals or permanent residents can interact with SNL, but the opportunities and permissions required will depend both on the research area and country of origin. Check with Diane Peebles about your specific situation.

Research Areas of Interest: There are some specific areas of interest that have been identified. These have UNM and SNL points of contact, see Table 1 below. Other research areas are also of interest, so you are not limited by this list.

Funding Cycles: The SNL budget year begins on October 1, and most funding processes are tied to that date.

Starting Points:

- Visit this website:
<https://engineering.unm.edu/research/sandia-academic-alliance.html>
and click on the link "UNM Faculty, connect your research with a Sandian". This will prompt for your NetID and password and you can complete the brief form and upload up to three papers.
- Identify an SNL scientist with relevant research interests and email them, requesting a meeting or phone call. Provide a short description of your research and how it might be of interest to them; consider referring to a paper the SNL scientist has written. If you have trouble connecting to the SNL scientist, let Diane Peebles know. Colleagues on campus and Diane Peebles can help identify and introduce you to potential initial contacts.
- Participate in the [Sandia Research Spotlight Forum](#)
- Offer to give a seminar at Sandia or invite an SNL scientist to give a seminar at UNM
- Ask an SNL colleague to give a lecture on their research or talk about working at a national lab in a class
- Ask an SNL colleague to serve on a student thesis/dissertation committee
- Develop a small, unfunded, collaborative research project involving a student (undergraduate or graduate)
- Encourage students to apply for internships
- Apply for a faculty summer sabbatical or visit
- If the funding agency allows it, get a letter of support from an SNL partner or collaborate on a proposal. (Generally SNL partners can't receive funding, and will need time to get permission from management.)



- Talk with Diane Peebles about the ACORN funding competition for new faculty (faculty who are in the first 5 years at the university)

Collaborative space: UNM and SNL share space in UNM’s Advanced Materials Laboratory and opportunities are available for collaborative student research at the facility. Contact Jim Carney (jpcarn@sandia.gov) for more information.

Need access to facilities? Become familiar with CINT, the [Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies](#). CINT is a national user facility jointly operated by SNL and LANL. The SNL Center is located outside of KAFB, so access is more straightforward.

Other Resources:

Working with Sandia: https://www.sandia.gov/working_with_sandia/index.html

Table 1: UNM – SNL Focus Areas and Points of Contact

	Focus Area	SNL POC	UNM POC	Focus Area Description	FY21 Focus Area Goals
<i>Grow</i>	Quantum Information Science	Setso Metodi (tmetod@sandia.gov) Rick Muller (rmuller@sandia.gov)	Ivan Deutsch (ideutsch@unm.edu)		Quantum Roadmap
	Extreme Environments	Thomas Mattsson (trmatts@sandia.gov)	Edl Schamiloglu (edls@unm.edu)	Including radiation sciences and effects. Including Resilient Agile Deterrence (RAD) and Science and Technology Advancing Resilience for Contested Space (STARCS) Mission Campaigns. Includes SUPER collaborations. Maybe Joshua Townsend or Mike Cuneo.	
	Cyber Physical Security	Cindy Veitch (ckveitc@sandia.gov)	Fernando Moreu (fmoreu@unm.edu) Michael Devetsikiotis (mdevets@unm.edu)		
	Autonomous Systems	Jay Brown (jbrown2@sandia.gov)	Meeko Oishi (Oishi@unm.edu)	Including Autonomy for Hypersonics (A4H) Mission Campaign.	Autonomy Roadmap
	Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning	Justin Newcomer (jtnewco@sandia.gov)	Manel Martinez-Roman (manel@unm.edu)		Autonomy Roadmap
<i>Sustain</i>	Nuclear Engineering	David Luxat (dlluxat@sandia.gov)	Hank Lee (leehk@unm.edu)	Including Assured Survivability & Agility with Pulsed Power (ASAP) Mission Campaign. Includes CRADA collaborations.	
	Nano/Micro/ Optical Devices	Matt Eichenfield (meichen@sandia.gov)	Ganesh Balakrishnan (gunny@unm.edu)		
	Energy/Water/ Materials	Stephanie Kuzio (spkuzio@sandia.gov)	Kerry Howe (howe@unm.edu) Yu-Lin Shen (shenyl@unm.edu)	Including computational materials. Including Resilient Energy Systems (RES) Mission Campaign.	Advanced Manufacturing Roadmap
	HPC Systems & Algorithms	Rob Hoekstra (rjhoeks@sandia.gov) Ron Brightwell (rbrigh@sandia.gov)	Patrick Bridges (bridges@cs.unm.edu)		
<i>Explore</i>	Bioengineering	Jeri Timlin (jatimli@sandia.gov) Anup Singh (aksingh@sandia.gov)	Shuang Luan (sluan@cs.unm.edu) New CBME director	Including computational biochemistry.	
	Peace Engineering	Nancy Hayden (nkhayde@sandia.gov)	Ramiro Jordan (rjordan@unm.edu)	Including GNSPI. Connection to cooperative monitoring systems?	