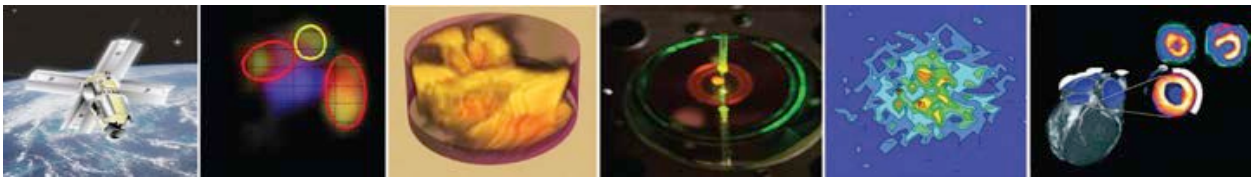

Science of Signatures
Advanced Studies Scholars Program 2014

Speaker: Nancy Sauer, Ph.D., Associate Director for Chemistry, Life and Earth Sciences (ADCLES)

Title: The Science of Signatures Pillar at LANL

Abstract: This talk will provide a history and current status of the Science of Signatures Pillar at LANL. The laboratory designates key technical capability areas as "pillars" of our science and mission efforts. Fostering these core areas is essential to the health and success of our missions. The Science of Signatures Pillar has is foundations in the Manhattan project and currently focuses on measurement and detection science in six main areas from radiological signatures to energy and climate.

Bio: Nancy Sauer came to LANL as a Director's Postdoctoral Fellow in 1987 to work on uranium oxidation and coordination chemistry. In 1990 she became a staff member and over the past 26 years has held a number of technical and programmatic leadership roles for the Laboratory. As a scientist, Sauer's research focused on uranium oxidation and coordination chemistry and beryllium environmental and biological chemistry. In 2006, Sauer was appointed the first Director of the LANL Institutes Office. She led this organization, coordinating the activities of six Institutes and three Innovation Centers engaged in outreach to over 30 Universities. In 2010, Sauer moved into the role as Associate Director for Chemistry, Life, and Earth Sciences. As AD, Sauer is responsible for science strategy development and execution within this organization as well as the integration and alignment of the Directorate research strategies with institutional Laboratory goals. The ADCLES is the institutional champion for the Science of Signatures capability pillar. Sauer has served on numerous institutional committees including the Postdoc committee, the Fellows Selection Committee and the Strategy Team for LDRD Directed Research. She has received a Defense Programs Award of Excellence, an R&D 100 Award, two LANL Distinguished Performance Awards and the Fellows Prize for Leadership. She received a B.S. degree in chemistry from University of Idaho *summa cum laude* in 1981 and a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from Iowa State University in 1986. Sauer has a distinguished track record as a research scientist with more than 60 publications and technical reports in archival journals. She has delivered invited lectures at more than 25 meetings, and holds 5 patents. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from the University of Idaho and a PhD in inorganic chemistry from Iowa State University.