



Materials Science & Engineering *Special Seminar*

*This special seminar will follow Professor Plummer's
presentation of the regular MS&E colloquium*

THE DOE NANOSCALE SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTERS *AN EXPERIMENT IN UNIVERSITY-GOVERNMENT LABORATORY PARTNERSHIPS*

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The Department of Energy has announced that it intends to create three to five Nanoscale Science Research Centers (NSRC) to be co-located with major DOE user facilities. The challenge put forth in the DOE call for proposals was to "Maximize resources and promote multidisciplinary interaction, to enable research of a scope and depth beyond current national capabilities." The premise is that current scientific infrastructure is not well suited for research or education at the Nanoscale. The NSRCs will address the national need for a proper balance between synthesis and fabrication of novel materials on the nanoscale and advanced characterization capabilities available at the major user facilities.

Three NSRCs were approved in May of 2001 following a peer review process: the Molecular Foundry at LBNL, the Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies (CINT) at SANDIA/LANL and the Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences (CNMS) at ORNL. Each NSRC has a different focus and mode of operations but all three are charged with creating partnerships with the University Community. I will briefly describe the programs at CINT and the Molecular Foundry and then outline in detail the proposed mode of operation of CNMS and the workshops that have been and will be held to organize Focused Research Groups.

ORNL's Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences has been recommended for construction funding by BES (\$24M in FY 03), construction reviews and approvals for other centers are in process. The president's FY 03 budget includes \$139M for DOE nanoscience programs.

***Friday March 8th, 2002
4:30 PM, in the Iacocca Room
1504 H.H. Dow, on the North Campus***