PARTICIPANTS

Anne Abraham

Graduate Student, University of California, Davis

Anne is an incoming structural engineering MS student in the fall of 2025. She interned at LANL in spring 2025, which sparked her interest in nuclear structures. In her free time, she enjoys running and climbing.

Umi Ariga

Japan Chair Fellow, Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Umi Ariga is a Japan Chair Fellow at the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, where she researches nuclear non-proliferation policy and the evolution of nuclear norms. Her work focuses on analyzing evolving diplomatic narratives and developing frameworks for understanding nuclear governance. Previously, she served as a Cash Equity Analyst at J.P. Morgan Securities in Tokyo and completed internships at the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and NATO's Political Advisor's Office. Umi holds dual Master's degrees in International Studies from Seoul National University and Public Policy from the University of Tokyo. She speaks English, French, and Japanese fluently and brings a global perspective shaped by her education and work across Asia and Europe.

Christopher Coffelt
Staff Scientist, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Chris Coffelt is a staff scientist in X-Theoretical Design, Nuclear Threat Assessment. Chris specializes in Weapons Physics and Weapons Effects. He completed his B.S. in Physics at the University of Mississippi and a Master's in Materials Engineering at Georgia Tech. He is also a graduate of the Sandia National Laboratories Weapon Intern Program.

Gabriella Colello
Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, Irvine

Gabriella Colello is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of California, Irvine, where she specializes in international relations, critical security studies, and environmental politics. Her research explores the conceptual foundations of global security and the role of alternative onto-epistemologies and cosmologies in shaping international policy. Gabriella's current work examines how relational and non-Western frameworks can inform more ethical approaches to global politics, including nuclear and ecological threats. Her research has been supported by the National Science Foundation and published in the Review of International Studies.

Thomas DeGuire
Ph.D. Candidate, Texas A&M University

Thomas DeGuire is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering at Texas A&M University. He is a Nuclear Nonproliferation and International Safeguards fellow, and his work focuses on investigating facility-level modeling approaches to support the application of international nuclear safeguards to Generation IV nuclear reactors. The ultimate purpose of this work is to better enable the ability to compare the hypothetical performance of different combinations of safeguards techniques for next-generation nuclear facilities. During his graduate studies, Thomas has served as the president and vice president of Texas A&M's Institute of Nuclear Materials Management (INMM) student chapter and is deeply interested in both the technical and policy aspects of nuclear

nonproliferation. Thomas previously received a B.S. in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

William Faulkner
Ph.D. Candidate, University of Sussex

William Faulkner's career has centered on research evaluation, i.e., helping organizations, primarily nonprofits and public institutions, align their strategic goals with evidence-based decision-making. Through this work, he has become increasingly focused on how some existential risks receive significant policy attention while others, like nuclear atmospheric shock (commonly, 'nuclear winter'), remain critically underexplored. He is working towards a PhD at the University of Sussex, investigating the braided coevolution of nuclear weapons effects and climate science research and their translation into concrete policies.

Brent Goehring
Group Leader, Analytical Earth Sciences Group
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Dr. Brent Goehring is trained as an isotope geochemist, with a specialty in understanding nuclides produced by cosmic rays. He was a professor at Tulane University prior to joining Los Alamos in 2022. Since then, he has helped lead efforts in critical minerals research and developing new isotope forensic techniques. He is now the group leader for the Analytical Earth Sciences Group.

Kylie Jones
Graduate Student, Stanford University

Kylie Jones is pursuing a master's in international policy at Stanford University's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies as a 2024 Knight-Hennessy Scholar. Her research interests include nuclear weapons as social artifacts, the global nuclear order, and the implications of emerging technology for nuclear policy. An academic and artist, Kylie seeks to tell important nuclear policy stories through both words and pictures.

Maureen Lunn
Communications Specialist, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Maureen Lunn is a communications specialist at Los Alamos National Laboratory, where she leads the team that supports communications for the Laboratory's Weapons Program. Maureen is dedicated to highlighting achievements in weapons design, engineering, and manufacturing and in helping Lab employees understand the 'why' behind U.S. national and global security missions. In 2024, Maureen led the team that developed and implemented the communications plan for the W87-1 plutonium pit first production unit, a major milestone as Los Alamos pursues NNSA's goal of establishing the capacity to produce at least 30 pits per year. Maureen joined the Lab in 2018 with a background in marketing and communications after working in the non-profit sector in Kansas City, Missouri. She earned her master's degree from the University of Kansas in International Studies, with a focus on conflict and economic development in Eastern Africa.

Lachlan MacKenzie
CSIS Project on Nuclear Issues

Lachlan MacKenzie is a research associate with the Project on Nuclear Issues at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). His work focuses on Russian nuclear signaling in Ukraine, although he has written about a range of issues related to Russian nuclear policy, including Russia's novel delivery systems, Russian support for North Korea's nuclear program, and future arms control. Previously, Lachlan interned with the Institute for the Study of War and with the Institute for National Strategic Studies. He holds a BA in international relations from Brown University, where he graduated with honors. He is a native of Belmont, Massachusetts.

Paige MacKinnon
Graduate Student, Middlebury Institute of International Studies

Paige MacKinnon is a graduate student in Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California. Her coursework and work as a graduate research assistant with the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies focuses largely on nuclear nonproliferation and defense policy with a specific lens on North Korea, China, and Russia. Prior to MIIS, Paige was a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Semey, Kazakhstan. She earned her bachelor's degree in Government and Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies from Smith College.

Deborah Martinez
Security Manager 5, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Deborah Martinez has worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) for 26 years. She is the acting Security Operations Deputy Division Leader and acting Protection Program Operations Group Leader. Deborah worked in Personnel Security for 22 years, with increased responsibility leading up to Group Leader for seven years. During her tenure, Deborah served as a member of the Reliable Replacement Warhead Design Data Package team while working in the Nuclear Weapons Program. She leads by example and encourages her employees to strive for personal and professional growth. Her contributions have earned her recognition in HR Magazine for teamwork during the Cerro Grande Fire in 2000; she is the recipient of the 2019 NNSA Security Professional of the Year award for representing excellence and dedication to the national nuclear security mission; under her leadership, Personnel Security was honored with the 2021 Jane Hall Award for excellence in mission operations and nuclear security; she received the 2021 Distinguished Performance Award for the COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate Personnel Support Team, and most recently received Jilly Hruby's Administrator Achievement Award for being a part of the NNSA MC&A Academy team in 2024. As a leader, Deborah values people. Her professional interests focus on innovation, communication, collaboration, building trust between employees, and the development of individuals in her organization as it relates to the Laboratory's mission. Developing strong relationships is a vital

ingredient to her success. Deborah hopes to continue building relationships in pursuit of excellence in support of the national nuclear security mission.

Lia Meirose
R&D Engineer, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Lia Meirose is currently an R&D Engineer at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), where she works to facilitate communication between the US and UK programs to leverage qualification testing activities and capabilities, in support of the US/UK Mutual Defense Agreement. She recently returned from a three-year assignment at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as a member of the Technology Foresight team within the Verification Technologies section. There, she supported the testing, evaluation, and authorization of NDA instrumentation for inspector use, focusing on Cerenkov Viewing Devices. Before her role at the IAEA, Lia worked as an R&D Engineer in the Test Engineering group at LANL, specializing in mechanical and thermal testing.

Brooke Mosley
Intelligence and Space Research Chief Systems Engineer, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Brooke joined LANL in 2020 as the Chief Systems Engineer for the Intelligence and Space Research (ISR) division. In this role she leads a team of systems engineers that provide process plans, direction, and monitoring of engineering on a broad portfolio of national security and scientific missions in space. Before coming to the laboratory, her area of expertise was primarily focused on the integration of large propulsion systems on launch vehicles. Between 2016 and 2020 Brooke was the Lead Solid Rocket Motor Responsible Engineer at United Launch Alliance. She has experience in human spaceflight certification of the Atlas V and Delta IV launch vehicles, and over 15 years of working knowledge developing and producing propulsion systems. Brooke has an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Colorado, Denver and a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of California, San Diego.

Seamus Murphy
NGFP Graduate Fellow, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Seamus Murphy is a former management consultant at Accenture with extensive leadership experience, including prior service as an Infantry Noncommissioned Officer in the U.S. Army. At Accenture, he managed large-scale change initiatives for Fortune 500 clients. His military service includes leading teams through complex operational environments during deployments in Iraq. Seamus holds a Master of Public Policy, specializing in Global Conflict, from the University of Chicago and a Bachelor of Science in International Agriculture and Rural Development from Cornell University.

Doniyor Mutalov
Graduate Student, Tufts University

Doniyor Mutalov is a graduate student at the Fletcher School, Tufts University, concentrating in International Organizations and International Legal Studies. His research interests include arms control, nonproliferation, and public international law. He previously interned at the Arms Control Association, working on nonproliferation and nuclear policy.

Abigael Nachtsheim
Statistician and Deputy Group Leader, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Abby Nachtsheim is a statistician and Deputy Group Leader of the Statistical Sciences Group at Los Alamos National Laboratory. She joined the Laboratory after receiving her Ph.D. in Statistics at Arizona State University. Her research interests focus on data collection and analysis, statistical inference, and data-informed decision-making.

Mercy Nandutu
Graduate Student, Ontario Tech University

Mercy Nandutu is a graduate student at Ontario Tech University in Canada, pursuing a master's degree in nuclear engineering. In addition to that, she works as a teaching assistant and graduate research assistant at the same institution. She also works with Health Canada under the Radiation Protection Bureau Department as a student researcher. Mercy is a recipient of the prestigious IAEA Marie Sklowdowska Curie Fellowship Program. Prior to joining Ontario Tech University, Mercy earned her first master's degree in nuclear engineering from KEPCO International Nuclear Graduate School (KINGS), South Korea. She also holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Makerere University, Uganda. Mercy's current research is on Emergency Planning Zones for SMRs. However, she is also passionate about nuclear policy, nuclear security, and international safeguards.

Jack O'Doherty
Ph.D. Candidate, University of Leicester

Jack O'Doherty is a PhD student researching nuclear counterforce strategies at the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom. His thesis focuses on American nuclear counterforce strategy, and specifically the emergence and maturation of viable 'strategic conventional weapons' purposed for a 'conventional counterforce' mission. His research interests include nuclear strategy and policy, missile defense, anti-submarine warfare, air and naval warfare, advanced aerospace applications, and military science generally. He was previously a Nuclear Security Research Fellow at the ERA Cambridge Fellowship, and he is presently a Junior Associate Fellow at the NATO Defense College.

Pablo José Pérez Cañavate
Postgraduate Student, University of Glasgow

Pablo José Pérez Cañavate holds a Bachelor's degree in History and Politics, with a Minor in Sociology, from Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. His academic excellence earned him the LaCaixa Foundation Fellowship for postgraduate studies, a prestigious award granted to top students in Spain and Portugal. He is currently pursuing the Erasmus Mundus International Master's Degree in Security, Intelligence, and Strategic Studies (IMSISS), jointly awarded by the University of Glasgow, the University of Trento, and Charles University

in Prague. Simultaneously, Pablo is a Research Fellow at the African Center for Science and International Security (AFRICSIS), currently based in Yaoundé, Cameroon. His main areas of interest include the development of nuclear energy projects in Africa and their associated security implications, particularly in relation to nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism. He is also actively involved in several youth networks focused on nuclear issues, especially in Spain, including "Jóvenes Nucleares."

J. Reed Pieper
Graduate Student and Research Assistant, Los Alamos National Laboratory

J. Reed Pieper is a Master's student at American University studying global governance and security. In addition to his studies, he is a research assistant with the Center for National Security and International Studies at Los Alamos National Laboratory. His areas of focus are global security, international relations, non-proliferation, and political analysis.

Paris Porter Bradley
Ph.D. Candidate, Colorado School of Mines

Paris Porter Bradley is a PhD student at the Colorado School of Mines studying the intersection of public policy and global energy security threats using graph models of critical materials flows in nuclear supply networks and interplay with an evolving geopolitical landscape. He also works as a Research Intern in the Strategic Security Sciences Division at Argonne National Laboratory, supporting and learning about monitoring and verification in denuclearization agreements. Before his graduate work, Paris obtained his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and master's in Nuclear Science and Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. During that time, he gained public sector experience at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and engaged with the commercial sector while attending the Nuclear Innovation Bootcamp.

Jennifer Talhelm
Public Affairs Group Leader, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Jennifer Talhelm is the Public Affairs manager for Los Alamos National Laboratory. She supervises a group of over 40 communications specialists who are responsible for communicating to the Lab's internal and external audiences. Jennifer has worked for Los Alamos for over four years. Prior to joining the Lab, she worked as a journalist, staff member for three U.S. senators and for an environmental nonprofit. She is originally from Michigan and lives in Santa Fe, NM, with her husband Matt and dogs, Cricket and Indiana Jones.

Yudian (Rainbow) Tao
Research Assistant, Open Nuclear Network

Yudian (Rainbow) Tao is a Research Assistant at Open Nuclear Network (ONN), specializing in countering disinformation related to weapons of mass destruction, with a particular focus on the ongoing war in Ukraine. In this role, she provides research support and contributes to ONN's analytical outputs. Her broader research focuses on understanding and countering radiological and nuclear disinformation to reduce the risk of nuclear escalation. Rainbow holds a Master of Arts in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), with a concentration in Security, Strategy, and Statecraft, and a regional focus on Asia. She also earned a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies, with a minor in Asian Studies, from the University of Michigan. Her interest in nuclear non-proliferation was sparked during a summer program at Yonsei University in Seoul in 2018. Before joining ONN, Rainbow interned with the Stimson Center's 38 North Program and the Nuclear Threat Initiative. Her primary research interests include nuclear policy and extended deterrence on the Korean Peninsula. In her free time, Rainbow enjoys city walks without a set destination and exploring zoos and nature reserves around the world.

Juan-Antonio Vigil
Deputy Division Leader, M Division
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Juan-Antonio graduated from New Mexico Tech with an MS in mechanical engineering, specializing in explosives engineering. During his college years, Juan-Antonio worked at the LANL explosives testing firing sites before transitioning to the NNSA's B61-12 federal program office. There, he oversaw qualification testing, Product Realization Teams, and led B61 Nuclear Explosive Safety Project Teams at Pantex. Juan-Antonio returned to LANL to lead LANL's explosives operations at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). There he performed explosives experiments across the NNSS for LANL and LLNL Weapons (NA-10) and Nonproliferation (NA-20). He is currently the deputy division leader for Dynamic Experiments (M). M Division provides expertise in evolving explosive science and shock physics for Weapons, Nonproliferation, and Counterproliferation missions. Juan-Antonio is also the Program Manager for LANL's Explosives Safety Program..

Dao Tran
Graduate Student, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies

Dao Tran is a Master's Candidate in International Relations at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, D.C., concentrating on Security, Strategy, and Statecraft in the United States. She is currently working at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA), contributing to research on force structure analysis, defense planning, and wargaming. Dao received her Bachelor's in Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia. During her time at UVA, Dao conducted research for the National Security Policy Center (NSPC) in Charlottesville, Virginia, focusing on US civil-military relations.

Sophie Weidenbenner
Graduate Student, Oregon State University

Sophie Weidenbenner is a PhD candidate in the Department of Nuclear Science and Engineering at Oregon State University. She was awarded a Nuclear Nonproliferation and International Nuclear Safeguards graduate fellowship by the National Nuclear Security Administration in 2021. She is a full-time graduate research assistant at Los Alamos National Laboratory, where she works with the Low Temperature Detector R&D Team within the Safeguards Science and Technology group, developing and implementing microcalorimetry to enhance nuclear verification capabilities. Her dissertation work focuses on the development of microcalorimeter decay energy spectroscopy for improved effectiveness and efficiency of international nuclear safeguards measurements. Sophie has a Bachelor of Science in nuclear engineering from Purdue University.

Katelyn Yeamans
Senior Scientific Advisor, OASD Office of Nuclear Matters

Katelyn Yeamans is a Senior Scientific Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Matters (DASD(NM)) and a member of the Nuclear Weapons Council (NWC) Staff. She leads the Requirements and Capabilities Working Group to execute its responsibilities in informing policy development and congressional communications, supporting enterprise modeling capability maturation, and writing the NWC's Requirements and Planning Document (RPD) that identifies threat-based and risk-informed planning considerations affecting the 25-year future of the nuclear weapons stockpile. Katelyn earned her B.S. in mechanical engineering from New Mexico Tech and M.S. in structural engineering with specialization in nondestructive evaluation from UC San Diego; she is a licensed Professional Engineer for the state of New Mexico and is certified as a Systems Engineering Professional (CSEP) by the International Council of Systems Engineering (INCOSE).