# The national laboratories of the U.S. Department of Energy constitute a network for discovery and innovation



## **Distinguishing characteristics** of DOE national laboratories

Mission driven

Sustained support for DOE missions Science at scale

Large-scale, long-term programs Multidisciplinary teams

Delivering the talent needed to address the nation's energy, environmental, and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology Stewardship of distinctive, powerful research facilities

Designed to meet DOE mission needs

Developed in partnership with the scientific community

Available to users from academia, industry, and other government agencies

### Safe and secure operating environments

Providing for hazardous, sensitive, or classified research essential to national interests



# National laboratories occupy a distinctive space in the innovation ecosystem





## Oak Ridge National Laboratory

**Edgar Lara-Curzio** 

## 2018 Annual Conference Development District Association of Appalachia

Crystal City, VA March 19, 2018



ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle for the US Department of Energy

## **The Beginning: Einstein's Letter**



#### August 1939

Albert Einstein Old Grove Rd. Nassau Point Peconic, Long Island

August 2nd, 1939

F.D. Roosevelt, President of the United States, White House Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Some recent work by E.Fermi and L. Szilard, which has been communicated to me in manuscript, leads me to expect that the element uranium may be turned into a new and important source of energy in the immediate future. Certain aspects of the situation which has arisen seem to call for watchfulness and, if necessary, quick action on the part of the Administration. I believe therefore that it is my duty to bring to your attention the following facts and recommendations:

In the course of the last four months it has been made probable through the work of Joliot in France as well as Fermi and Szilard in America - that it may become possible to set up a nuclear chain reaction in a large mass of uranium, by which wast amounts of power and large quantities of new radium-like elements would be generated. Now it appears almost certain that this could be achieved in the immediate future.

This new phenomenon would also lead to the construction of bombs, and it is conceivable - though much less certain - that extremely powerful bombs of a new type may thus be constructed. A single bomb of this type, carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory. However, such bombs might very well prove to be too heavy for transportation by air.

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## Oak Ridge National Laboratory evolved from the Manhattan Project



The Clinton Pile was the world's first continuously operated nuclear reactor

Chemical processing techniques were developed to separate plutonium from irradiated fuel



## **ORNL** has a distinguished history of making groundbreaking discoveries and meeting national needs



Science and engineering of the nuclear fuel cycle Reactor technology Materials and fuels **Separations** chemistry

Development, production, and distribution of radioisotopes

Development of neutron scattering, neutron activation analysis, and other innovative research tools

**Related basic** and applied research in the physical and life sciences

**Development** and application of high-performance computing resources 50 Sb Te

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## **ORNL's mission**

Deliver scientific discoveries and technical breakthroughs that will accelerate the development and deployment of solutions in clean energy and global security, and in doing so create economic opportunity for the nation

### Signature strengths

Computational science and engineering

Materials science and engineering

Neutron science and technology

Nuclear science and technology

# **ORNL** innovations have billion-dollar impacts



 Big-area additive manufacturing: US investment
 >\$1B

 Fueleconomy.gov: \$1B in cost savings
 \$1B

 Ceramic matrix composites for gas turbines
 \$150B

 Lab-on-a-chip: Caliper acquired by PerkinElmer
 \$0.6B

 Cesium extraction: Basis for waste processing plant
 \$1.3B

 Reactor life extension: \$20B cost avoidance
 \$20B

Advanced alloys: Chrome-moly steel in widespread use

Ion implantation: Integrated circuits and medical implants

## **Coal as a precursor for value-added products**

Centrifuge technology: Basis for vaccine purification and US enrichment industry

Instrumentation: Products and spinoffs from ORTEC and TENNELEC

>\$1B

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Reactor technology: Concept technology for light water, high temperature, and molten salt reactors

PUREX: Basis for nuclear fuel reprocessing techniques used worldwide

Radioisotopes: Multibillion dollar industry (>100 million procedures per year)



# Partnerships are vital to accelerating technology transition and engaging with industry and universities

### Technology transfer

- Cooperative R&D Agreements (CRADAs)
- Strategic Partnership
   Projects
- Technology licensing



Industry and economic development partnerships

- Regional industry recruiting and cluster development
- State and local economic development partnerships
- Institute for Advanced Composite Materials Innovation (IACMI)



Graduate/postgraduate education and university partnerships

- Graduate education
  - UT-ORNL Bredesen Center: Entrepreneurial and policy options



- Graduate
   Opportunities
   (GO!) program
- DOE Office of Science Graduate Student Research program
- ~280 joint faculty appointments



## ARC/ORNL summer STEM programs Hands-on learning at ORNL





# **ORNL** is working with local community colleges to train the workforce of the future



Academics > Academic Divisions > Mathematics and Sciences Division >

### Course Series: Composites Manufacturing

Have you ever seen a car with a cool, custom-designed body?How about a pontoon boat at the lake on a sunny afternoon?Have you ever seen wind turbines on a high hill, their huge blades rotating to create power?

If you have, then you have seen composite materials.

## In collaboration with NETL, ORNL is committed to help establishing an innovation ecosystem in Appalachia







## **Carbon Fiber Composites are widely used in Aerospace Technologies**



### **Boeing 787 fuselage**





Carbon fiber composites have started to be used in high volume in automobiles: BMW i3: mass-produced carbon fiber cars finally come of age



## Imagine fiber-reinforced composite panels and components made in Appalachia being shipped to assembly factories across the USA!







Lara-Curzio et al. (2016)



## **Carbon is used for anodes of most Li-ion batteries**

## GRAPHITE

### There is 54kg of graphite in the battery anode of each Tesla Model S (85kWh)

Benchmark Mineral Intelligence forecasts that the battery anode market for graphite (natural and synthetic) will at least triple in size from 80,000 tonnes in 2015 to at least 250,000 tonnes by the end of 2020. Rising demand will also influence price:

(\$ per tonne)



## Imagine Li-ion batteries with anodes manufactured in Appalachia powering electric vehicles around the world!







## Coal as a Precursor for High Value-Added Products

## Finding use for every molecule that is mined. No molecule left behind!



Lara-Curzio et al. (2016)

## **Discussion**

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## **Additional Slides**



## **ORNL's distinctive facilities bring thousands** of R&D partners to Tennessee each year





## **ORNL** priorities in science and technology

Advance ORNL's science and Innovation culture

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Accelerate the discovery and design of new materials for energy

Advance the science and impact of neutrons

Scale computing and data analytics to exascale and beyond for science and energy Advance the scientific basis for breakthrough nuclear technologies

and systems

of complexity in biological, environmental, and earth systems

Advance

understanding

Discover and develop sustainable and secure integrated energy systems Deliver science and technology to address security challenges



Accelerate deployment of DOE IP and engagement with industry and universities

CAK RIDGE

# Today, ORNL is one of the world's leading science and energy laboratories





# We are committed to strengthening the regional innovation ecosystem

Making our resources available to industry partners Technology licenses

Small business vouchers

Strategic Partnership Projects

Cooperative R&D agreements

Deploying an industry cluster strategy to build regional competitive advantage Contributing to state and local economic development initiatives

LOCAL MOTORS

Carbon fiber

Automotive

Additive manufacturing



## **ORNL** is managed for DOE by UT-Battelle, LLC



An ORNL partner since 1946

State-funded Science Alliance started in 1982, to build programs with ORNL

Shared research and joint appointments

Joint institutes: Advanced materials, biological sciences, computational sciences, neutron sciences, nuclear physics



A 75-year relationship with DOE

Develops and deploys technology worldwide

Manages or co-manages 6 national labs: ORNL (with UT), Brookhaven (with SUNY-Stony Brook), Idaho, Lawrence Livermore (with UC and Bechtel), NREL (with MRI), Pacific Northwest













## Leading the Center for Bioenergy Innovation (CBI)

- 1 of 4 DOE-sponsored **Bioenergy Research Centers**
- Vision: Accelerate domestication of bioenergy-relevant non-model plants and microbes to enable high-impact innovation across the bioenergy supply chain



Massachusetts Institute of

### 2 national laboratories

- 11 academic institutions
- 1 research foundation
- 1 private company

## **CBI science focus areas**

### **Sustainability**

- Mechanistic understanding of crop interactions with biotic and abiotic environments
- Technoeconomic evaluation of biomass to fuels and products

### Deconstruction and Separation

- Feedstock-agnostic deconstruction
- Detailed understanding of plant cell walls during deconstruction
- Improved enzymes and approaches for biomass processing
- Multiscale modeling
   of plant cell walls

### **Feedstock Development**

- Enhanced feedstocks with improved yield, water use, and nutrient use
- Genetic tools and biosystems design approaches
- High-throughput analytical tools
- Field testing of new bioenergy feedstocks
- Quantitative models
   to predict feedstock
   performance

### Conversion to Specialty Biofuels and Products

- High-throughput screens of strains and constructs
- Development of a broader set of platform microbes
- Enhanced microbial tolerance to toxins
- Technologies for CBP
- Improved feedstocks for fuels/products





## Enhancing the reliability and resilience of the electric grid

- Playing a major role in DOE's Grid
   Modernization Laboratory Consortium
- Supporting CURENT, the Center for Ultra-Wide-Area-Resilient
   Electric Energy Transmission Networks, at UT Knoxville
- Working with Chattanooga EPB to develop 21st century electric grid
  - Cyber and physical security
  - Advanced materials
  - Low-cost sensors





## 2017 R&D 100 Awards: 9 ORNL innovations were recognized

ACMZ Cast Aluminum Alloys, with Fiat Chrysler Automobile US and Nemak USA ORNL submittals

Additively Printed High Performance Magnets, with DOE Critical Materials Institute, Ames Lab, Magnet Applications Incorporated, Tru-Design, and Momentum Technologies

Filler Materials for Welding and 3D Printing, with the US Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engine Command

Safe Impact Resistant Electrolyte (SAFIRE), with the University of Rochester

dropletProbe Surface Sampling System for Mass Spectrometry, with SepQuant DOE Critical Materials Institute, ACE: The Ageless Aluminum Revolution (co-developers: Eck Industries, Ames Lab, LLNL)

LANL, dfnWorks: A Computational Suite for Flow and Transport in Subsurface Fracture Networks

Tru-Design, Coating Solutions for Large-Format Additive Manufacturing (co-developer: Polynt Composites)

Techmer PM, Techmer Engineered Additive Manufacturing Materials (co-developer: BASF)



ORNL

partner

submittals



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