

INL Intelligence

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A high-level monthly briefing on operations and activities at the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory
Work at the lab advances the Department's strategic priorities of energy security, nuclear security, scientific discovery and environmental responsibility.

■ Ground Broken for New Lab Facility

On Tuesday, Feb. 1, Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and Rep. Mike Simpson joined U.S. Department of Energy, INL and eastern Idaho government and community leaders in a groundbreaking ceremony initiating construction of a new multipurpose research, testing and demonstration facility on INL's Research and Education Campus. The new Energy Systems Laboratory facility will house three major research programs that share a common goal of advancing energy systems performance. New laboratories will host projects related to bioenergy, advanced battery systems and testing, and new hybrid energy systems that integrate renewable, hydrocarbon and nuclear energy sources.

■ INL Engineer Gains National Recognition

Piyush Sabharwall, a heat transport lead research scientist at INL, has been named one of the New Faces of Engineering by the National Engineers Week Foundation for his "exciting and unique work and the resulting impact on the engineering community and society." Sabharwall develops high-temperature nuclear reactor technologies for hydrogen production applications. The New Faces of Engineering, nominated from organizations nationwide, are young engineers who have been in the workplace five years or less and have shown outstanding abilities in projects that significantly impact the engineering community and also have an impact on development and growth. The National Association of Mechanical Engineers nominated 29-year-old Sabharwall for this award because of his outstanding scientific achievements and his enthusiasm for the profession.

■ National Media Crews Visit Lab

Earlier this month, reporters from CNBC and the Christian Science Monitor visited INL to conduct interviews with lab cyber security and control systems experts. Both media outlets are currently working on stories related to cyber security and cyber crime. During the media event, the laboratory showcased several facilities and capabilities that are operated and managed by INL for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Filming and interviews took place inside INL's malware laboratory, on the cyber emergency response team watch floor, in the power grid modeling laboratory and in a control systems security training facility. A one-hour documentary is expected to air on CNBC May 26, while no firm date is yet known for the Christian Science Monitor's story.

■ Grants Help Accelerate STEM Education

INL's Education Programs group reports that it has distributed more than \$20,000 in grants to help high school students earn technical certificates or college credits in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) courses. INL's Dual Credit Scholarship Program awarded grants ranging from \$600 to \$6,000 to several Idaho school districts. The money covers the extra fees associated with college-level or technical certificate courses, which can cost students \$15 to \$65 a credit to take. Schools applied for money through a competitive application process and were selected based on need and how they planned to disburse the money.

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