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Dear Dr. Goldberg:

It was great to receive the "Physics Matters" newsletter! I enjoyed catching up on the department news and hearing about how old friends are doing.


After graduating, I worked at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory for 8 years in the Reactor Equipment and Computational Materials Science Department. In November 2004, I moved to Brookhaven National Laboratory in the Energy Sciences and Technology Department, Advanced Nuclear Concepts Group. Most recently, I have been working on a new nuclear fuel capable of very high temperature operation. The fuel is fabricated by depositing uranium into the natural porosity in graphite. We successfully manufactured some fuel and have started to characterize the product at the National Synchrotron Light Source.

This is an exciting time at Brookhaven because the Center for Functional Nanomaterials opened recently, we received a large supercomputer and we are planning a new facility - the National Synchrotron Light Source II. These BNL facilities are open to external users and I hope Syracuse University physicists are able to take advantage of these resources.

I pleased to hear that the condensed matter research area has grown at Syracuse University. I would encourage them to consider modeling the 5f electrons in actinide compounds. There is still a lot of interesting theory to be developed that will be beneficial to nuclear engineering!

Also, I had my first child this January and am just returning to work after maternity leave. My husband graduated from the engineering school at SU and is employed as a mechanical engineer for BAE Systems.

Thanks for coordinating the newsletter. I'm looking forward to future issues.


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