Las Positas College For Immediate Release

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Las Positas College and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Kicks Off Seminar Series with Dawn Shaughnessy, Ph.D.

(Livermore, CA) - Las Positas College (LPC) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) begin a new Science and Engineering Seminar Series on Tuesday, March 7.

Chemist Dawn Shaughnessy, PhD will lead Behold Livermorium: A Quest for New Elements. Shaughnessy's work at LLNL is comprised of "pushing the boundaries of the periodic table to discover the locations of the next 'magic numbers' of protons and neutrons, and the possibility of an Island of Stability" with longer-lived nuclides. Throughout the seminar, Shaughnessy will discuss her work in discovering new elements and emerging chemical methods of studying previously unknown properties of heavy elements.

A Chemist and Group Leader with the Nuclear and Radiochemistry Group within the Nuclear and Chemical Sciences Division of LLNL, Shaughnessy has been a staff chemist at LLNL for 16 years. She has been awarded the DOE Office of Science Outstanding Mentor Award (2010), Gordon Battelle Prize for Scientific Discovery (2010) for the discovery of element 117, was inducted into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame for Scientific Discovery (2012) and was named within the top 10 of the 100 most creative people in business by Fast Company (2016). She holds a Bachelor of Science in chemistry and Ph.D in nuclear chemistry from University of California.

Over the past decade, LLNL has collaborated with Flerov Laboratory of Nuclear Reactions in Dubna, Russia to discover six new elements, 113-118. Work is currently underway to develop an automated chemical system that will be used for studying chemical properties of the heaviest elements, including element 114, which currently has unknown chemical properties.

The event, which is free and open to the public, begins at 6 p.m., in Building 2400, Room 2420 at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

About Las Positas College

Las Positas College currently enrolls 8,000 students and offers curriculum for students seeking transfer to a four-year college or university, career preparation, or basic skills education. The College provides university transfer classes, retraining classes for those in need of employment or career advancement, a first-time educational opportunity for many adults, enrichment classes for those seeking a broader perspective, and career and technical training for those entering the technical and paraprofessional workforce.

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