



*Southeastern Universities
Research Association* ®

Press Release

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www.sura.org

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SURA Trustees Formalize Support and Relationship to Jefferson Lab

Washington, DC – The Board of Trustees of the Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) today ratified a resolution expressing its support for the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility and granting the title of Vice President for Jefferson Lab to Christoph Leemann, Lab Director and President of its new management and operating entity, Jefferson Science Associates LLC.

SURA President and CEO Jerry P. Draayer said: “This title as a SURA Vice President is the Board’s endorsement of Christoph Leemann as the right person to lead the Lab under the new entity. Most importantly, the position will enable the Vice President to leverage his unique position in the nuclear physics community through SURA’s access to the leading research universities in the southeastern region, nationally, and internationally.”

The resolution was passed at SURA’s annual meeting held in Washington, May 2 and 3. The statement comes three weeks after SURA and Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) were awarded the contract to manage and operate the Jefferson Lab – a nuclear physics research lab located at Newport News, Virginia – as a limited liability company, for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The resolution grants Dr. Leemann “privileges and responsibilities of a corporate officer of SURA” including space for a JSA office at SURA headquarters in Washington, DC.

The request for proposal (RFP) by the DOE for the management and operating (M&O) contract for the Jefferson Lab was released December 13, 2005. After DOE announced in January of 2004 its intention to recompete seven of its 11 federal laboratories, including Jefferson Lab (JLab), the SURA Board of Trustees unanimously voted in April of 2004 to pursue the new contract for the 700-employee facility. Thereafter, CSC was identified by SURA as an industrial partner to help enhance operations at the facility in moving its science mission forward. The award of the contract was announced by DOE to JSA on April 12, 2006.

Jefferson Science Associates, with SURA as a majority owner and CSC as a minority owner, will be governed by an 11-member Board of Directors. Christoph Leemann will continue to serve as Lab Director and assumes the role of President of JSA and member of its Board after the transition to JSA is complete on June 1. With its principal office in Washington, DC, JSA will form seven committees to help oversee the operations of Jefferson Lab and to advocate for the science mission of the Lab. Those will include a Science Council as well as committees on programs, operations, safety and risk management, relations and outreach, compensation, and finance and audit.

SURA was originally awarded the contract to design the lab in 1983 and has operated it since completion. The coalition of over 60 universities has consistently earned “outstanding” ratings as the M&O contractor of the facility since its first performance-based contract in 1995. Jefferson Lab is a renowned research facility with over 2,000 international users. Nearly one-third of the Ph.D.’s awarded in nuclear physics in the U.S. result from research done at Jefferson Lab. And over 90 new faculty positions in the nuclear physics discipline have been added in universities since SURA brought the Lab to the region.

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The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) is a consortium of over 60 leading research institutions in the southern United States and the District of Columbia established in 1980 as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation. SURA serves as an entity through which colleges, universities, and other organizations may cooperate with one another, and with government and industry in acquiring, developing, and using laboratories and other research facilities and in furthering knowledge and the application of that knowledge in the physical, biological, and other natural sciences and engineering. For more information, visit www.sura.org.