National Security Education Center Dedication
Los Alamos National Laboratory
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Bruce B. Darling
Executive Vice President, University Affairs
University of California

I am very pleased to be here on behalf of the University of California and President Dynes to offer the University's congratulations at this dedication ceremony.

This celebration is a wonderful occasion on which to reinforce the University's deep and continuing commitment to Los Alamos and to its mission of scientific excellence and national security. This commitment is as strong today under LANS as it was during the past 60 years when the University was the sole contractor.

The relationship between science and national security is widely understood and accepted in the U.S. today. However, at the time the Laboratory was founded during

the second World War, the understanding of this relationship was far more tenuous.

Three scientific and technological achievements made abundantly clear to our nation's leaders the power of science in fostering national security and the University of California had a leading role in each of them. The first was the development of radar, a British invention, which played a decisive role in the war effort. Radar technology has long been associated with MIT, where the research and development effort was located. But few people know that Ernest Lawrence, professor of physics at Berkeley, was asked to lead this development effort. He declined the request so that he could focus his attention on developing ever larger cyclotrons, but he agreed to recruit the leadership of the radar effort and he convinced many of his UC colleagues, like Louis Alvarez and Edwin McMillan, to take leadership roles in the radar program.

The second notable science and technology achievement was the amphibious allied troop landings in North Africa, Europe and the Pacific Islands. The oceanographic and meteorological research, as well as the coordination of the amphibious landings, was undertaken by allied scientists at UC San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The third was the development of the atomic bomb at Los Alamos, which helped bring the war to a close. Of course, as all of you know well, Ernest Lawrence recommended to General Leslie Groves that Robert Oppenheimer lead this effort. You know the history of this development so I won't say more about it.

Today, this Center is opening up a broader and enriched relationship between the University and the Laboratory. The Regents and the President are holding the University's representatives on the LANS Board of Governors, including

Regent Parsky, Dr. Frazer, and myself, accountable for ensuring that excellent science continues to underpin the national security mission of Los Alamos.

The establishment of this Center underscores the University's continuing commitment, ensuring not only excellence in science, but also excellence in education, both for our students and for the Laboratory staff. The Center is also mutually beneficial in that the institutes provide educational opportunities for Laboratory staff. Over 100 staff members have enrolled in UC graduate courses in engineering, high performance computing, and materials science. Seven staff members have enrolled in institute graduate degree programs, which offer opportunities for career advancement at the Laboratory and enhancing staff retention.

Laboratory staff will have the opportunity to interact with campus faculty and students and to create exciting new

research partnerships. Joint proposals have already been submitted to industry, NSF, NASA, DoD, and various programs in DOE. And, this is just the beginning!

The University has long been a wellspring for recruiting aspiring scientists and engineers to the Lab. Many UC students spend their summers or parts of the academic year at the Lab. The Laboratory, likewise, affords amazing opportunities for University students through interaction with talented Lab research staff and through access to its unique scientific facilities. These students are energized and excited about the work at the Laboratory, and they spread the word to fellow students on their campuses. Many of these students will choose to make the Laboratory their career home, thus providing a pipeline of exceptional new talent into LANL.

The Center opens up a world to these students that will be important to them for the rest of their lives – a world of

public service and dedication to the nation's security that is truly life-changing in its perspective.

This is an exciting new era in the relationship between the Laboratory and the University. On behalf of the University and President Dynes, I am pleased to join you to dedicate this Center, which further reinforces the incredible promise that this flourishing relationship represents to the scientific underpinnings of our national security.

Thank you. I look forward to the rest of the festivities and to meeting some of the students who may become the future leaders of the Laboratory.