LCLS SCIENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SRD) DIVISION DIRECTOR (Senior / Distinguished Staff Scientist)

The Linac Coherent Light Source (LCLS) is an internationally preeminent science facility, operated by Stanford University at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory on behalf of the Department of Energy, Office of Science. This facility provides world-leading scientific capabilities to a global user community, covering a very broad research portfolio that includes the investigation of advanced materials and chemical catalysts for clean energy systems, drug discovery for modern pharmaceuticals, and fundamental studies of extreme states of matter.

This is a pivotal time for LCLS, and a rare opportunity to shape the scientific nature and direction of the facility. We are nearing completion of LCLS-II, representing more than a billion dollars of investment in a new accelerator complex that will increase the X-ray repetition rate and average power by almost 4 orders of magnitude. LCLS-II will transform our ability to observe electronic and molecular dynamics, with a new suite of end stations being designed to make optimum use of the new sources. A subsequent upgrade to enable the delivery of high energy X-rays (LCLS-II-HE) is also underway, opening up the study of rare, transient and heterogeneous systems with atomic resolution and femtosecond precision. LCLS is renowned for driving continual improvements in the capabilities of its X-ray source, instrumentation and associated technologies, coupled to deep engagement with our domestic and international user community to anticipate and meet their scientific needs in the short-term (via experimental delivery) and in the long-term (via prioritized facility development).

We are now seeking a scientific leader who can sustain and enhance these activities for the LCLS-II and LCLS-II-HE era and lead our Science, Research and Development (SRD) Division. Reporting to the Associate Laboratory Director (ALD) for LCLS, the SRD Division Leader provides top-level leadership to our beamline scientists and associated technical areas, including detectors and sample delivery and functions as a member of the LCLS leadership team. This position will also serve as a senior scientist and define research frontiers and directions in the field of X-ray ultrafast science.

CORE DUTIES:

- Provide scientific direction to the group of ~30 LCLS beamline scientists, to guide and develop their careers and maximize the scientific benefit provided to our experimental user program. Overseer all aspects of hiring, performance management and staff development.
- Oversee and optimize the scientific role of LCLS in the design, planning, execution, analysis and publication of experiments.
- Working with the wider LCLS team and user community, identify prioritized research directions for LCLS that will deliver internationally leading results at a scale commensurate with the level of investment and ambition of our laboratory and sponsors. This includes the identification of facility developments, experimental campaigns, and the use of in-house beam time and research activities.
- Plan, commission and exploit the identified developments, and establish appropriate mechanisms for oversight of optimized deployment, ongoing effectiveness and future improvement to meet the evolving LCLS needs.
- Drive the continual development of in-house scientific excellence, innovation and adventure in our scientific and technical staff.
- Foster a highly collaborative, positive, respectful and inclusive culture in all aspects of our work.
- Arbitrate any proposed changes to the scope of planned or ongoing experiments to optimize scientific impact consistent with operational constraints and the decisions of our peer-review process.
- Ensure the SRD team has the appropriate staff, skills, knowledge and abilities to deliver its mission both now and in the future – consistent with financial and operational constraints.
- As part of the LCLS leadership team, and a senior member of SLAC, provide proactive strategic and operational solutions to deliver the wider LCLS/SLAC strategy.
- Engage all parts of the LCLS user community, including our staff and the local SLAC/Stanford research teams, to solicit advice and active engagement in LCLS scientific objectives, operations and development.
- Reach out to the wider research community to inform and expand the user base for LCLS to ensure long-term alignment to the nation’s most compelling scientific objectives.
- Oversee a complete set of robust, fair and productive working practices and processes to achieve the mission of SRD, including delivery of scope consistent with the agreed budget and schedule.
- Other duties as assigned by LCLS/SLAC management.

Note: This position is a dual posting at the Senior or Distinguished Staff Scientist level. Where appropriate, consideration may be given to a faculty appointment via a separate parallel assessment process. Appointment at the Senior or Distinguished Staff Scientist level is a regular-continuing position and requires an achieved recognition of leadership internationally, as a result of original developments in field of expertise.

Applicants should include a cover letter, a statement of research including brief summary of accomplishments, a curriculum vitae, a list of publications, and names of three references for future letters of recommendation with the application. Potential applicants who wish to discuss the position in more detail may contact the LCLS Director, Prof Mike Dunne at mdunne@SLAC.Stanford.EDU.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Education & Experience:
Ph.D. in a scientific field strongly related to LCLS science, with at least 10 years of post-Ph.D. professional experience including:
- Extensive body of research, development, or applied work that is internationally acknowledged to have defined major advancements in research.
- Substantial experience in delivering complex, multi-year technical projects.
- Extensive experience leading and managing scientific and technical research groups.
- Proven record of independent research including publications in major journals and conference presentations in x-ray science

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:
- Define research frontiers and directions. Innovate, develop, and apply advanced technical principles, theories, concepts, and highly advanced technologies.
- Proven ability to mentor junior staff and peers, with a strong focus on career development.
- Work and communicate effectively with a diverse population.
- Define, prioritize and deliver a complex portfolio of research programs.
- Interpersonal skills that can secure the trust of a broad research community and manage any conflicts in a manner that reinforces our strong commitment to a respectful, inclusive and diverse workplace.
- Successfully manage organizational and cultural change in a complex environment.
- Commitment to safety as an overarching priority. [Apply Here](#)