

## Current NSLS-II UEC Members



**Chair (5/17 – 5/18)**  
**Member term to 5/19**

**Jen Bohon**

**Case Western Reserve University**



**Past Chair (5/17 – 5/18)**  
**Member term to 5/18**

**Don Weidner**

**SUNY at Stony Brook**



**Vice Chair (5/17 – 5/18)**  
**Member term to 5/20**

**Mark Dean**

**Brookhaven National Laboratory**



**Secretary (5/16 – 5/18)**  
**Member term to 5/18**

**Kevin Yager**

**Brookhaven National Laboratory**



**Outreach Officer (5/17 – 5/18)**  
**Member term to 5/19**

**Reeja Jayan**

**Carnegie Mellon University**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/18**

**[Jeff Fitts](#)**

**Princeton University**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/18**

**[Noel Blackburn](#)**

**Brookhaven National Laboratory**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/18**

**[Sandra Gabelli](#)**

**Johns Hopkins University**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/18**

**[Shelly Kelly](#)**

**Honeywell UOP**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/19**

**[Stan Petrash](#)**

**Henkel Corporation**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/19**

**[Amy Marschilok](#)**

**SUNY at Stony Brook**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/19**

**[Hilmar Koerner](#)**

**Air Force Research Laboratory**



**General Member**  
**Member term to 5/19**

**[Matt Dawber](#)**

**SUNY at Stony Brook**

## UEC Bios 2017-2018

[Jen Bohon](#) is an Assistant Professor in the Case Western Reserve University Center for Synchrotron Biosciences and the lead beamline scientist for the NSLS-II XFP beamline (17-BM) recently approved for General User Operations. This beamline is focused on *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies of structure and dynamics of biological macromolecules and is the first of the “partner” portfolio beamlines to come online at NSLS-II. In addition to biological research, Jen is involved in development of instrumentation for x-ray beamlines, including beam diagnostics for several NSLS-II beamlines. She has a long history of service to the synchrotron user community, having served on the UEC since 2009 (chair 2012). She is currently serving as a member of the Society for Scientific User Research Facilities (SSURF, successor of NUFO) operations committee. Jen has participated in numerous outreach and educational events on behalf of NSLS/NSLS-II users to congressional representatives and is a strong advocate for synchrotron science.

[Don Weidner](#) is a Distinguished Professor at Stony Brook University in the Geoscience Department. I have been a user at the NSLS for over two decades and a developer/operator of high pressure beamlines at X17. My research focuses on measuring mechanical properties of Earth materials at high pressure and temperature in order to better understand the workings of the deep Earth. This work will be continued at the NSLS II where my program is a Partner User of XPD. I am interested in representing the user community at the NSLS II to make this new exciting facility accessible while at the same time, state of the art.

[Mark Dean](#) is an Associate Physicist in the X-Ray Scattering Group at Brookhaven. His research program is centered on resonant elastic and inelastic x-ray scattering studies of correlated oxide materials and is supported by a Department of Energy Early Career Award. Mark was a member of the BAT for the SIX beamline and has served as Chair of the Inelastic Scattering Proposal Review Panel at the Advanced Photon Source. His priority, if elected, is to support the communities’ efforts to perform groundbreaking new experiments exploiting the source properties and new instrumentation at NSLS-II.

[Kevin Yager](#) is a materials scientist at the Center for Functional Nanomaterials, with research interests at the intersection of soft-matter self-assembly, and scattering methods development. He managed the CFN's contributing user program on NSLS beamline X9 (SAXS/WAXS/GISAXS), where he was responsible for beamline operations and user support. He has been actively involved in the transition to NSLS-II, acting as spokesperson and BAT chair for the CMS beamline, serving on the BAT for the SMI beamline and is the lead-PI on the CFN's x-ray scattering partner user proposals at NSLS-II. He has been a user of the Canadian Neutron Beam Centre, NCNR, CNMS, APS, NSLS, and NSLS-II. Kevin is interested in reducing the barriers to user access at NSLS-II, including developing new modes of user access.

[Reeja Jayan](#) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering with courtesy appointments in Materials Science and Chemical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. Reeja directs the Far-from-Equilibrium Materials Laboratory (FEMLAB) at Carnegie Mellon. Her work investigates the use of electromagnetic fields to synthesize materials that can access regions of the phase space diagram, which are difficult to access under conventional methods. Her group has been a regular user of the XPD beamline at NSLS-II and is currently setting up in-situ microwave assisted synthesis reactor at the beamline for studying materials for energy storage. She is interested in establishing and facilitating access to more in-situ, in-operando user facilities at NSLS and NSLS-II.

**[Jeff Fitts](#)**: As a Research Scholar in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at Princeton University for the last four years, I have navigated the transition years as a General User by conducting x-ray absorption spectroscopy and diffraction imaging at NSLS's X27A (September 2014), APS's 13IDE (August 2015, February 2016) and most recently NSLS II's Hard X-ray Nanoprobe (March 2016). During the prior eight years as a Geochemist in BNL's Environmental Sciences Department, I worked closely with NSLS scientists and administrators to develop beamlines and mechanisms to support general users. I believe that a productive and healthy NSLS-II will be built on effective communication between the general user community and the dedicated scientists, engineers and administrators who have built and continue to develop a magnificent facility.

**[Noel Blackburn](#)** is the Manager for University Relations and DOE Internship Programs in the Office of Educational Programs (OEP) at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). Noel is responsible for designing, implementing and managing workforce development research programs for undergraduates, graduates, and faculty at BNL, while creating access opportunities for underrepresented groups into BNL and the DOE enterprise with such programs as the Interdisciplinary Consortium for Research and Educational Access in Science and Engineering (INCREASE). Before his present position, Blackburn was a Project Engineer on remediation projects for BNL's Environmental Management Directorate and served in various engineering positions on local, regional and international civil engineering projects. Noel is truly concern in creating access to NSLS II for non-traditional users here in the U.S. and developing partnerships with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**[Sandra B. Gabelli](#)** is an Assistant Professor of Medicine, of Oncology, and of Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She has been a regular user of the macromolecular crystallography program and of Small angle X-ray scattering for biological applications at NSLS since 1996. Her research focuses on intracellular signaling pathways which, due to mutations, become deregulated in disease states. She is interested in making users' access to NSLS-II fast, efficient with minimal bureaucratic burden.

**[Shelly Kelly](#)** is group leader of X-ray techniques and Modeling group at UOP LLC, A Honeywell Company. Her research is focused on understanding catalysis, molecular sieves and sorbents using X-ray synchrotron techniques with emphasis on X-ray absorption spectroscopy. She has participated as a lecturer in XAS workshops, reviewer of general user proposals, and as BAT member for the Inner Shell Spectroscopy (ISS) beamline at NSLS-II. As a UEC member, she will have particular focus on facilitating the collaboration of NSLS-II with academic and industrial users.

**[Stan Petrash](#)** is a Scientific Principal at Henkel Corporation, heading Advanced Characterization Group within Henkel's Materials Science & Engineering R&D platform. Stan conducts both open and proprietary research using an extensive international network of governmental and academic user facilities, with a specific focus on synchrotron light sources in US (NSLS, NSLS-II, ALS, SSRL) and Europe (ALBA, SLS, ESRF). Stan is also a Visiting Researcher at Princeton University and has recently been selected as Henkel Technologist-in-Residence at Brookhaven National Lab. Stan is striving to promote and develop close, mutually-beneficial collaborations between synchrotron scientists and industrial researchers.

**[Amy C. Marschilok](#)** is currently a Research Professor and University Instructional Specialist in the Departments of Materials Science and Engineering and Chemistry, and Center Operations Officer for the Center for Mesoscale Transport Properties (*m2m* EFRC) at Stony Brook University. Her current research goals center on development and investigation of new material and electrode concepts for high power, high energy density, extended life primary and secondary electrochemical energy storage systems; and understanding and controlling electrochemically mediated reactivity in functional systems. She and her research group are frequent NSLS-II and CFN users, and their research effort has been elevated significantly through productive collaborations with several BNL scientists. She would welcome the opportunity to serve the vibrant user community at BNL.

[Hilmar Koerner](#) is a Research Chemist at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, working in the Polymer Matrix Composites research team. Hilmar has been a longtime synchrotron beamline user carrying out research at SAXS beamlines at CHESS, NSLS and ALS working on a number of different projects related to structure and morphology evolution within liquid crystal polymers/thermosets, nanocomposites, nanoparticle growth and photovoltaics. His recent focus is on the development of higher temperature polymer thermosets, hybrid matrix materials and their additive manufacturing and applying scattering techniques to understand processing-structure-property relationships and advance the performance of these systems. He is interested in improving awareness of NSLS-II capabilities for Air Force Research Lab researchers and increase their participation.

[Matt Dawber](#) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Stony Brook University. His research focuses on ferroelectric oxide materials and he runs parallel programs of synthesis and characterization of artificially layered epitaxial thin films in his lab at Stony Brook and the NSLS-II and CFN facilities at BNL. His principal interests in x-ray scattering are surface x-ray diffraction, particularly in-situ during film growth or under applied electrical field, and as such he is part of a Partner User group at the ISR beamline to develop and support a facility for in-situ x-ray diffraction during the growth of oxide thin films. He is interested in finding ways to help users be productive as possible as they gain access to the rapidly increasing capabilities available at NSLS-II.