Monday, May 23, 2011

Department of Alex Zunger, Research Fellow

It is with good wishes that we announce that Dr. Alex Zunger has decided to leave NREL after a long and distinguished career here. In 1978, he joined NREL and founded the Solid State Theory (SST) group, where 75 post doctoral fellows were trained, over 500 original journal articles were published, and continuous funding from both the photovoltaic program (EERE) and the Office of Science (material science division) was established over the last 30 years. His efforts and accomplishments were central in attracting to NREL the new $20M "Energy Frontier Research Center (EFRC) on Inverse Design," which he directed. Dr. Zunger's scientific approach underlying this center will potentially revolutionize the way technology-enabling materials will be discovered in the future. We recognize Dr. Zunger's contributions, through his numerous national and international science awards, and high-impact publications. We thank him for his substantial contributions to NREL's outstanding national and international scientific reputation. We wish Dr. Zunger well and look forward to the possibility of scientific interactions in the future. (Dr. Zunger's forwarding email address is alex.zunger@gmail.com.)

Dan Arvizu