

2025

Annual REPORT



Livermore Lab
FOUNDATION

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A Message from Our Executive Director



What global challenges can we tackle when philanthropy supports national lab innovation?

In reflecting on the past year, a key theme emerges: **when philanthropy supports national laboratory science and technology innovation, we unlock the potential to address our most pressing challenges.** The Foundation was established to promote philanthropic investments in LLNL's scientific ingenuity and impact, advancing science in areas of societal importance, while enhancing the Lab's capabilities in areas critical to its national security mission.

National laboratories are engines of discovery, with unique expertise, cutting-edge technology, and premier facilities that enable world-class research spanning areas from global security to energy resilience to biomedical advancements. But as the scientific research ecosystem continues to evolve, the complexity and urgency of today's challenges require partnerships that combine public support with the vision and risk tolerance that philanthropy brings.

Philanthropic investment **catalyzes high-risk, high-reward science**, and encourages researchers to pursue ideas that might otherwise go unexplored. The capacity to take calculated risks accelerates early discovery, fuels interdisciplinary breakthroughs, and forges new ground.

At LLF, our philanthropic partnership with LLNL is:

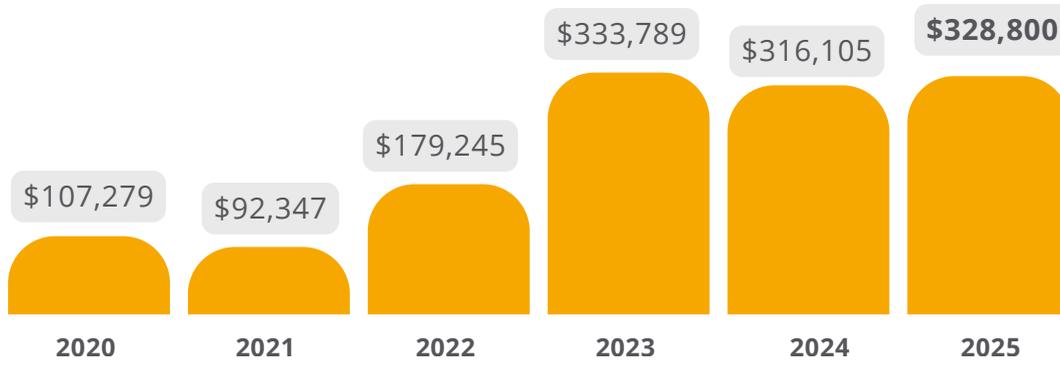
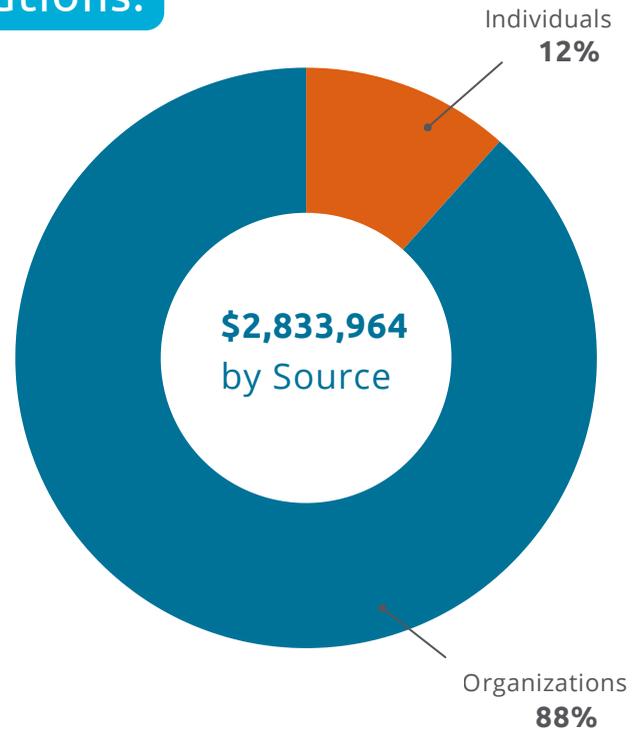
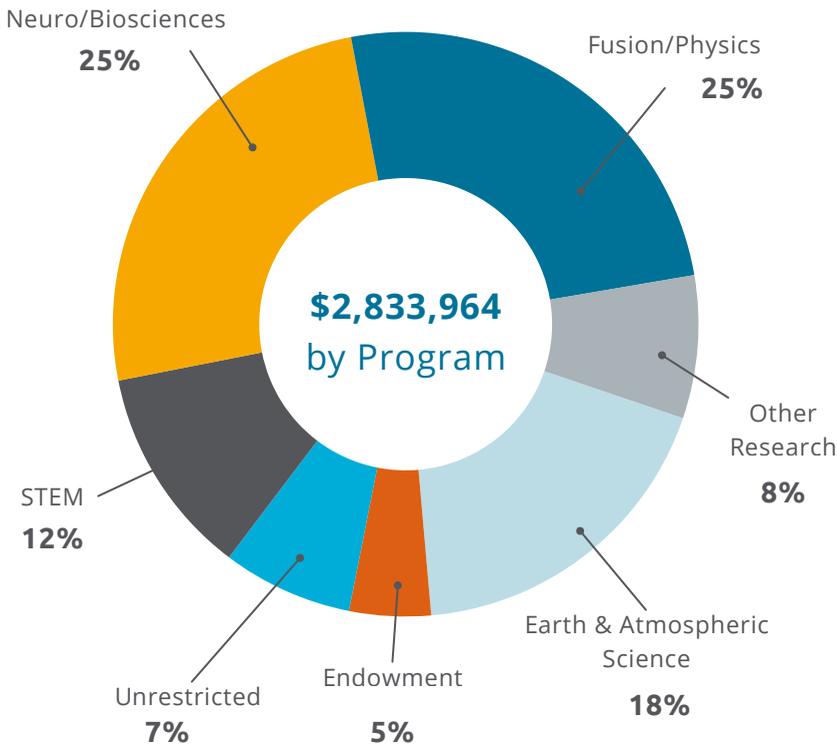
- Advancing collective efforts to diagnose, understand, and treat neurodegenerative diseases like ALS and Parkinson's, with a cross-disciplinary approach that draws from the Lab's unique supercomputing, bioengineering, and biosciences capabilities;
- Applying LLNL's deep expertise in Earth and atmospheric sciences to strengthen efforts around carbon removal and storage solutions in California and beyond;
- Promoting partnerships and public understanding of fusion energy and its potential to address national and global energy goals; and
- Inspiring future science and technology innovators by introducing a growing community of student fellows to science on a mission.

We cannot do this work without the generosity and support of our donors and partners both inside and outside of the Laboratory. And as we **look forward to celebrating the Foundation's tenth anniversary in 2026**, I remain grateful for the trust and commitment of the many individuals and organizational partners who share our belief in the transformative power of science philanthropy.

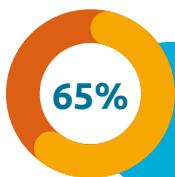
About the cover: 2025 Bakersfield College Fellow, Francisco Javier Hernandez, developing new robotics and automation with LLNL's Engineering Directorate. Photo Credit: LLNL

2025 By the Numbers

Total Contributions:



Annual Totals Raised from Individual Donors



Our donor retention rate remains above national trends

of LLNL research projects LLF has funded since 2019

28

Thank You! Core operating support from the University of California allows LLF to dedicate philanthropic contributions to programmatic impact. We are grateful to all who supported us in 2025, enabling the Foundation to reach more students, facilitate new partnerships and programs, and leverage the Lab's unique capabilities for societal benefit.

Understanding Neurodegenerative Disease



Danny Humphrey, Davis Family Life Sciences Fellow, at the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting in San Diego

LLF is advancing the understanding of neurodegenerative disease to improve diagnoses and treatments by supporting both the next generation of researchers and high-level collaborative science. These efforts were highlighted through two initiatives in 2025.

Empowering Future Leaders: In November, LLF sent Danny Humphrey, one of its 2025 summer fellows, to the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting in San Diego. Participation in the conference enabled Danny to immerse himself in the global scientific community. He described the experience as a vital turning point, noting that it provided "context I didn't even know I needed" regarding the role of behavioral neuroscience in the wider field. Beyond his own learning, Danny acted as a mentor, encouraging other undergraduates to apply for the LLF fellowship to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world research.

Accelerating ALS Research: In parallel with student support, LLF has been a key partner in sponsoring the UC ALS Workshop, which held its second annual meeting in May to address Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). This unique, two-day event brings together physicians and researchers from all five UC medical campuses, national laboratory scientists, industry leaders, patients, and caregivers—with a goal of building new research collaborations that leverage the collective power of data, expertise, scientific capabilities, and empathy needed to drive progress.

Breakthroughs that Drive Impact

The workshop aims to forge new connections across disciplines that can accelerate the development of ALS treatments. As Executive Director Sally Allen noted, "LLF remains dedicated to both accelerating research discoveries and building the scientific leaders of tomorrow."



LLNL Principal Associate Director for Engineering Anup Singh, LLF Board Chair Dona Crawford, ALS CURE Project President Mike Piscotty, ALS Network President Sheri Strahl at the UC ALS Workshop

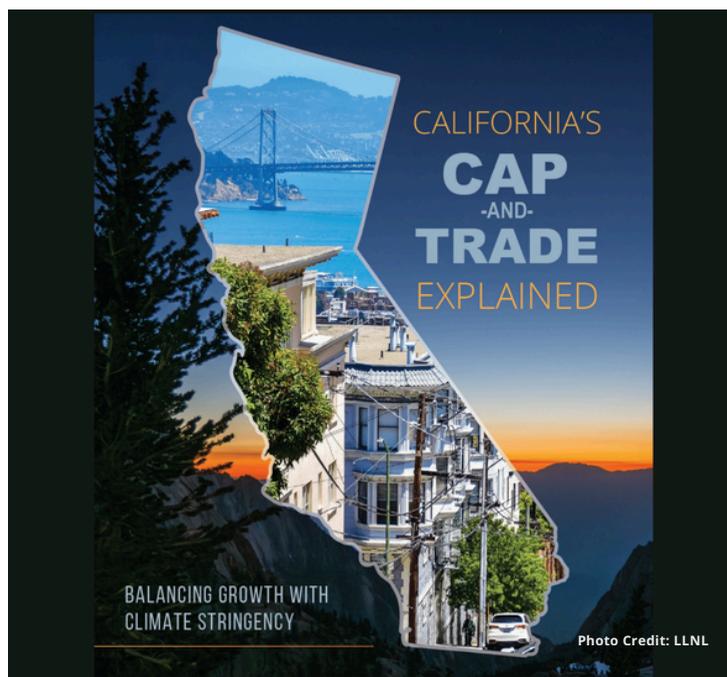
Accelerating Earth & Atmospheric Science

In 2025, LLF worked with key partners to apply LLNL's unique expertise in Earth and atmospheric sciences to inform public understanding and decisionmaking around carbon dioxide removal (CDR) opportunities and related technical, economic and social considerations. These efforts continued the critical climate conversations the Foundation has supported for several years - driven by Livermore's groundbreaking studies, [Getting to Neutral](#) and [Roads to Removal](#).

With support from the ClimateWorks Foundation, LLF funded the first phase of a collaboration among LLNL, the University of Pennsylvania, and others to standardize how carbon removal is measured and verified. The project is developing a consistent "rulebook" for technologies such as direct air capture, enhanced rock weathering, biochar, and ocean-based methods to ensure scientifically rigorous carbon accounting. Work continues in 2026 to harmonize these Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) protocols across industries.

Data-Driven Science Solutions for Society

In partnership with the California Foundation for Commerce and Education, LLF supported a series of briefs on California's Cap-and-Trade Program, outlining science-based strategies to scale innovative carbon removal technologies and strengthen cost-effective carbon management statewide.



LLNL's 2025 California's Cap and Trade Report Cover

This year LLF also supported a new LLNL project seeking to revolutionize seismic monitoring and forecasting using real-time, advanced machine learning technologies. The initiative, known as



Project RECONNECT, aims to improve safety in carbon storage, geothermal energy, and oil sectors in the West Texas/New Mexico region. With workforce development a

key aspect of this project, LLF is helping to advise local community colleges on outreach strategies to highlight emerging energy industries and career opportunities. The Foundation will also support paid summer internships for their students in Summer 2026. RECONNECT's project lead and LLNL Subsurface Energy Associate Program Leader Kayla Kroll notes, "Equipping students for future careers in the energy sector is critical to our collective success. We're pleased to work with LLF to connect these students with transformative learning opportunities like this."

Promoting the Promise of Fusion Energy



LLNL's Tammy Ma moderates a panel highlighting Livermore's collaborative fusion community at the California Fusion Energy Convening in San Diego

Following the historic, repeated achievement of fusion ignition at LLNL's National Ignition Facility (NIF), the fundamental physics basis for laser-driven inertial confinement fusion has been established, laying the foundation for a fusion energy future. LLF is working to encourage broader understanding, awareness, and funding needed to realize fusion's potential as a reliable, safe, and abundant source of global energy.

In August, LLF attended a ribbon cutting for LLNL's new Livermore Institute for Fusion Technology (LIFT), established to strike partnerships that bridge the gaps between breakthrough research and scalable fusion energy solutions. The Foundation is working with LIFT to cultivate public/private partnerships and philanthropic investments that contribute to accelerating fusion energy development and making future deployments a reality.

In November, LLF joined over 200 leaders from government, industry, and academia at California's first statewide summit on fusion energy. The Foundation also co-sponsored a report by the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation that found that California's fusion energy sector could generate over \$125 billion in economic impact and support up to 43,000 jobs over the next decade. Building off this analysis, attendees explored strategies to strengthen the state's fusion ecosystem, from expanding research infrastructure and workforce training to growing the supply chain and enacting policies that attract investment and accelerate the path to commercialization.

Envisioning a Future with Fusion Energy

While commercial fusion energy is still some years away, efforts to build the workforce to sustain it are already underway. LLF's Fusion Fellowships are creating opportunities for emerging scientists and engineers to contribute to fusion R&D, including developing 3D-printed targets, using advanced X-ray imaging and laser diagnostics, and modeling how materials perform under extreme conditions.



LLF Executive Director Sally Allen, LLNL Deputy Director for Science and Technology Pat Falcone, and LLF Board Chair Dona Crawford at the ribbon cutting for LIFT

Inspiring Future STEM Leaders

The Foundation's fellowship program continues to serve as a talent pipeline, providing exceptional early-career researchers with the mentorship and resources they need to thrive. These fellowships often lead to long-term connections with the Lab; many Fellows return for subsequent internships, while others transition directly into full-time roles at LLNL.

In 2025, LLF supported its largest cohort of paid student interns across fusion, life sciences, physics, earth science, data science, and industrial automation—each paired with dedicated LLNL mentors who provide hands-on experience and pathways into STEM careers.

Where Tomorrow's Science Begins

The 2025 fellowship cohort is pursuing solutions to some of the world's most complex challenges, from identifying biological factors that influence PTSD resilience to using GIS modeling to map microbial risk zones across California.

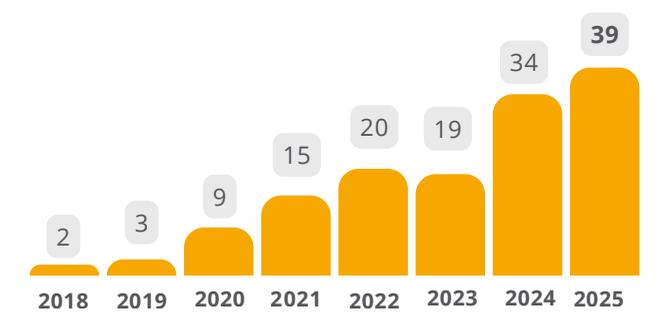
Throughout the summer, LLF hosted enriching activities designed to facilitate peer connections, knowledge sharing, and professional growth. LLF Fellows are now linked to a prestigious network responsible for some of the most significant scientific advancements in history, backed by a community of donors invested in their future success.



John S. Foster Jr. Undergraduate Fellow Kirtana Romfh presents her research to LLF board member Carolyn Zerkle at the annual Summer Showcase

In August, LLF honored these achievements with a poster session and celebration at the annual Summer Social & Student Showcase. This event gave students a platform to demonstrate how their collaboration with LLNL is shaping the future of innovation and discovery.

Looking ahead, this tradition will expand in 2026, coupled with a special 10th anniversary celebration to mark a decade of support for the next generation of scientists and engineers.



LLF Fellowships Awarded

Meet Our 2025 LLF Fellows



James Brague

Colorado School of Mines



Osman Brown

University of Washington



Kylie Cancilla

University of San Francisco



Nicholas Crandall

Las Positas College



Jeevan Dalip

Johns Hopkins University



Audrey Devault

Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Alexis Diaz

University of California, Berkeley



Jhonnatan Gama Vazquez

Stanford University



Travis Hallam

Texas A&M University



Danny Humphrey

University of San Francisco



Francisco Javier Hernandez

Bakersfield College



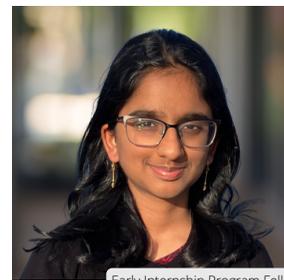
Brighten Jiang

University of Florida



Rayane Kadri

Las Positas College



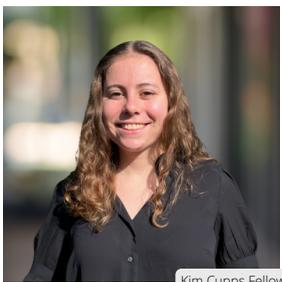
Tanusha Kolli

University of California, Los Angeles



Jeremy La-Porte

Sorbonne Université



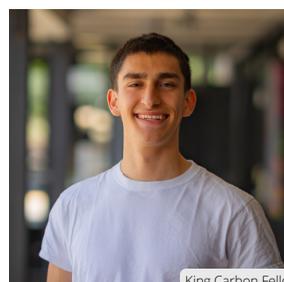
Katherine Meezan

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo



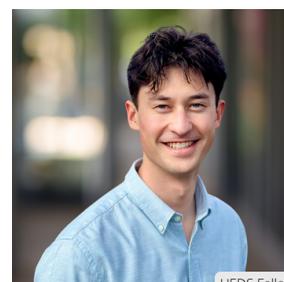
Robert Morgan

California Institute of Technology



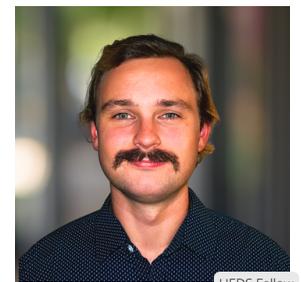
Nathan Nugen

University of California, Merced



Alex Pietrow

University of California, San Diego



Nathan Pulver

University of California, Los Angeles

The Cohort Continues to Grow!



Emmanuel Rabago

University of California,
Merced



Alice Roberson

University of Chicago



Julien Rodriguez

Bakersfield College



Kirtana Romfh

University of California,
Berkeley



Loy Salarda

Bakersfield College



Felizardo Salazar

University of California,
Merced



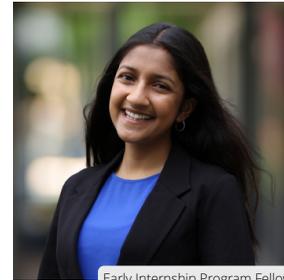
Marcos Salazar-Lopez

Bakersfield College



Perry Samimy

University of California,
San Diego



Prisha Sheth

Harvard University



Jaya Sicard

University of California,
Berkeley



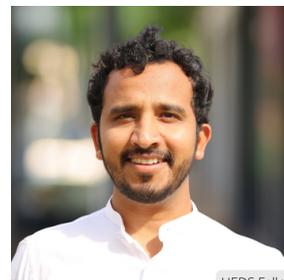
Prerana Somarapu

University of California,
Merced



Ava Staas

University of California,
Davis



Akhilesh Tiwari

University of Texas at Austin



Euleena Trinh

University of California,
Los Angeles



Niels Vanderloo

Massachusetts Institute of
Technology



Mercedes Vasquez

University of California,
Berkeley



Levi Webb

Illinois State University



Jasmine Yang

University of California,
Los Angeles



Sameen Yunus

University of California,
Merced

Carrying Forward a Legacy



The Gowadia Family: Purazar, Jennifer, Dhun, Huban, & Aspie (left to right)

For the Gowadia family, philanthropy is not about recognition—it is about responsibility.

Raised by parents who led by example, Huban and Purazar Gowadia grew up surrounded by strong values shaped by culture, integrity, and a deep sense of collective stewardship. To them, hard work was a matter of self-respect, understanding that personal success carried community responsibility, and **being philanthropic was about noticing the needs of others and giving quietly to the extent they were able.**

Their father, Aspie, an engineer's engineer, fueled a lifelong curiosity about how things work. Hours spent together fixing motorcycles and tackling household repairs became cherished memories—and the foundation for Huban's career in STEM. "My father nurtured my constant curiosity and instilled a belief that learning is both a privilege and a responsibility. STEM gave me a way to turn that curiosity into impact," said Huban. That belief led to nearly eighteen years of civil service and, ultimately, to mission-driven work at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for Huban.

When Huban and Purazar give, they aim to reflect their parents' belief that they are stewards of what they have been fortunate to receive. "**Honoring our father through our giving means turning the lessons he lived into something that continues beyond his lifetime.** He always wanted to contribute to the education of STEM students, but didn't always have the means. So, when he got a very rare form of cancer, and was asked if they could study his blood and tissue to help the cause, he was delighted," shared Purazar.

Today, the siblings honor that intention through their support of the Livermore Lab Foundation. Supporting LLNL science through the Foundation is important to them because it contributes to the core of what makes the Lab exceptional: the people, the ideas, and the enduring mission in service of the nation.

"Great science in the public interest doesn't happen by accident—it requires sustained commitment, thoughtful investment, and trust in people. **The Foundation plays a unique role in enabling work that often sits at the leading edge**—early-stage research, emerging talent, and innovative approaches that may not yet fit neatly within traditional funding structures but are essential to future breakthroughs," observed Huban.

Through their commitments to LLF, Huban and Purazar ensure that their parents' legacy lives on in the next generation of scientists and engineers. We're truly grateful for their example and support!

Powerful Pathways to Impact

Why We Need Science Champions Today

The synergy between LLF, as a philanthropy catalyst, and LLNL as a world-class research institution, does more than just fund science—it creates a powerful pathway to address global challenges. Critical scientific research and student fellowships depend on science champions. Now more than ever, private gifts are essential for scientific research, innovation, and advancements. We also know that we must invest in the next generation to give students the opportunities, knowledge, and networks they need today to become the innovators who will shape tomorrow's scientific discovery and technological breakthroughs.

LLF is proud to work alongside LLNL to apply the Lab's transformative work beyond its core national security mission. The Foundation adds unique value by enabling new types of support, partnerships and programs that amplify the impact of LLNL's cutting-edge research for the greater good and enable important opportunities to cultivate the next generation of STEM leaders. Together, we can unlock solutions that not only advance science but impact the future—locally, nationally, and globally.



Join Us with Confidence

The Foundation's mission belongs to those who fund it. We welcome designated or unrestricted gifts of any size, and offer a wide range of giving opportunities to make it easy and convenient for you to make your donation. We're happy to help you develop a giving plan that best meets your philanthropic goals. Our team is here to help! Whether you have questions, need assistance making a donation, or want to discuss a unique giving opportunity, we're happy to support you. Please contact us at info@livermorelabfoundation.org



GIVE TODAY



The Livermore Lab Foundation is honored to have earned top ratings from both Candid / Guidestar and Charity Navigator, and is a proud member of CalNonprofits, acknowledging our commitment to industry best practices and transparency. These recognitions enable donors to give with confidence, assuring that their gifts contribute effectively to advancing our mission.

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Greg Suski

Board Secretary & Treasurer, Former LLNL Associate Deputy Director for Science & Technology

Catharine Baker

Former California State Assemblymember (CA-16), Director, UC Student & Policy Center

Kim Budil

Ex Officio Director, LLNL Director

Michael Carter

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Emily Pezzutti

Marketing & Communications Manager

Terry Damm

Financial Controller

Susan Houghton

Research Portfolio Manager

Lori Taylor

Operations Manager

Mission

Livermore Lab Foundation advances scientific knowledge and inspires the next generation of science and technology leaders by leveraging philanthropic investments in world-class research, education, and innovation at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy national security laboratory.



LLF Leadership Greg Suski, Lori Souza, Sally Allen, Dona Crawford, Kim Budil, Michael Carter at Summer Social & Student Showcase

