



Dr. Kevin W. Bieg

Senior IP Counsel at Sandia National Laboratories

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Dr. Kevin Bieg is currently Senior IP Counsel at Sandia National Laboratories specializing in technical areas of patent prosecution in microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), nanotechnologies, sensors, optics, amongst other topics. Within this position, Dr. Bieg is additionally responsible for management of cooperative research agreements, technology licensing agreements, and other intellectual property matters.

He received a B.S. in chemical engineering and a BS in mechanical engineering at Iowa State University. After this, he received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign in 1976 for studying pressure effects on optical properties of solid-state materials under the advisement of Harry George Drickamer.

After completion of his PhD, Dr. Bieg performed research at Sandia National Laboratories from 1977 – 1990 on polymer chemistry and materials for inertial confinement fusion. After this, he became a Science Adviser with the U.S. Department of Energy to develop varied science and technology programs while also receiving his MBA from George Washington University in 1993. He then returned to Sandia National Laboratories as a program manager to develop and transfer laboratory technologies for commercial use in industry.

In 1996 he was awarded an American Institute of Physics (AIP) Fellowship to advise Congress on scientific issues and participated in oversight of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and implementation of the Government Performance and Results Act. Continuing in this path, he acted as a Science Adviser to the DOE from 1997 – 1999 and received his J.D. from George Washington University Law School in 2001.

He returned to Sandia National Laboratories in 2000 where he has continued to act on technology outreach, intellectual property protection, and employment law litigation.



Dr. Margaret E. Gordon

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Dr. Margaret Gordon is a Senior Member of the Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories in the Department of Materials, Devices, and Energy Technologies. Dr. Gordon received her PhD from Northwestern University where she studied hydrothermal chemistry under the advisement of Dr. Kenneth R. Poeppelmeier. After receiving her PhD in 2002 she joined Sandia National Laboratories to study thin film materials and ceramics. She continues to work in the area of methane hydrate formation on clay surfaces, and the interactions of molecules at surfaces. In addition to her materials research, she aids in modeling efforts of the economy of toxic industrial chemicals and is an organizer with the Sustainability Innovation Foundry. In this position, she assists Sandia National Laboratory to realize internal sustainability goals with regards to energy and water use across the campus, and to develop a broader external program in studying and facilitating institutional changes toward improved energy efficiency and sustainability.



Dr. Ilia A. Guzei

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Dr. Ilia Guzei the Director of Crystallography at the University of Wisconsin Madison where he teaches practicums and manages and operates X-ray diffractometers. In this position, Dr. Guzei crystallographically studies small molecule systems. Prior to University of Wisconsin he received his M.S. in 1992 from Moscow State University and his PhD at Wayne State University. He was shaped as a crystallographer by working with Yu T. Struchkov in 1992 and subsequently while performing postdoctoral research with Professor Arnie Rheingold at the University of Delaware from 1996 – 1998.

At the University of Delaware he studied a variety of detailed crystal structures of organometallics and small molecules. He has participated in diverse national and international service activities to the crystallography including co-editorship of Acta Crystallographica C, developer of crystallographic nomenclature for the IUCr, and visiting professor at the University of Johannesburg in Johannesburg, South Africa. He has recently presented on topics of pseudo-merohedral twins, phase transformations within systems, and non-routine crystallography.



Professor Joseph Orgel

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Dr. Joseph Orgel is an Associate Professor within the Department of Biology and Biomedical Engineer at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and the Associate Director of BioCAT at Argonne National Laboratory. Professor Orgel received his bachelors of science in biochemistry at the University of Stirling in the UK and subsequently received his PhD there in Biology (Structural Biology) with research upon Collagen.

Following this, he began his independent career as a Research Assistant Professor and X-ray Lab Manager at the Rosalind Franklin Structural Biology Laboratories in the Department of Chemistry at the Chicago Medical School. He additionally has acted as the Associate Director for fiber crystallography and subsequently was made Associate Director in 2012 for Biophysics CAT at Argonne National Laboratory. He joined the faculty at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in 2005 and received tenure within the department of Biology Chemical and Physical Sciences in 2011. During his time at IIT, he has acted as a visiting scientist at the Weizmann Institute of Sciences and as a visiting professor in the Department of Applied Health Sciences at University of Illinois – Chicago. His research focuses on cell architecture and structural biology - particularly on collagen within tissues. Other research of Professor Orgel addresses protein chemistry, enzymology, macromolecular crystallography, collagen and extracellular matrix structures, and synchrotron radiation sources for (bio)structural characterization.

In addition to his University and National Laboratory Academic positions, he is on the Board of Directors at the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Chicago. In 2009, he founded Matrix Odyssey LLC in Chicago, Illinois. He additionally provides his support for medical practice as a volunteer Scientific Consultant for Advanced Neurodiagnostics. He further supports the scientific and crystallographic communities as an editor for PLoS ONE, an organizer for NSF programs, as Chairs for the ACA conferences, and other varied crystallographic organizational activities.



Dr. Jim Pflugrath

Research Scientist at Rigaku

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Dr. Jim Pflugrath is a Senior Fellow at Rigaku Americas where he has been for almost twenty years. He received his PhD from Rice University under the advisement of Dr. Florante Quiocho. His doctoral research addressed the crystal structure of sulfate-binding protein involved in active transport in gram-negative bacteria. He then performed research as a postdoctoral under Prof. Robert Huber at the Max-Planck-Institut für Biochemie where he solved the structure of alpha-amylase inhibitor tendamistat and wrote software for X-ray area detectors. He then joined the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory as a Senior Staff Investigator. In his current position at Rigaku he develops software for diffraction image data processing, troubleshoots diffraction data collection with customers, and helps teach crystallography at various courses around the world. He additionally has performed protein crystal structure solutions at Rigaku for customers and specializes in macromolecular crystallography.



Professor Claudia J. Rawn

Associate Professor at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

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Dr. Claudia J. Rawn is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) and Director of the Center for Materials Processing at University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Prior to joining the MSE faculty full time she was a Senior Research Staff Member in the Materials Science and Technology Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and a Joint Faculty with the Materials Science and Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee. From 1987 – 1992 Dr. Rawn worked in the Ceramics Department at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) studying phase equilibria of high temperature super conducting materials. In 1995, she obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in the department of Materials Science and Engineering under the advisement of Professor Dunbar P. Birnie, III. After her PhD, she completed Postdoctoral Research in the Ceramics Department of the Jozef Stefan Institute in Ljubljana, Slovenia wherein she studied single crystal grown and solid state synthesis for x-ray and neutron diffraction. She joined the Materials Science and Technology Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory in 1997 with an Oak Ridge Associated Universities Postdoctoral Fellowship. Dr. Rawn's current research interests include in-situ X-ray and neutron diffraction studies of various oxide systems.