In this series, we will hear ~15 minute talks from each scientist on their research, followed by an informal Q&A. This series is for graduate students and post-doctoral researchers to learn more about life at national laboratories.

Keegan Kelly did his undergraduate work at the State University of New York at Geneseo researching inertial-confinement fusion, and earned both his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill studying experimental nuclear astrophysics at the Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory. At Los Alamos National Laboratory working the Los Alamos Neutron Science Center, he has studied neutrons emitted from the neutron-induced fission of actinide targets as well as neutron scattering cross sections and angular distributions first as a postdoc, and now as a staff scientist in Physics Division. His interests also include development of new techniques of cross section variation in Monte Carlo simulations, covariances and correlations in experimental measurements, and research into new detector capabilities for dual neutron-gamma detection experiments.

In 2014, Ralph received his Ph.D. for studies on the effects of nuclear deformation and strength functions in photon scattering and neutron-induced reactions from the Dresden University of Technology, Germany, while working in the Nuclear Research Centre in Dresden-Rossendorf, Germany and Duke University, NC. As part of the EFNUDAT and ERINDA project of the European Union he had the chance for beam times and scientific visits at TUNL, Budapest, IRMM Geel, Grenoble, and LNGS. In 2014, he joined LANL and the MAJORANA DEMONSTRATOR experiment, first as a post-doc and since 2016 as a staff scientist leading the calibration efforts for LEGEND. His research interests are neutrino physics (MAJORANA, LEGEND, BEST), ultra-low background experiments and techniques, low-energy nuclear physics, nuclear transmutation and astrophysics. He is working on experiments that perform in various underground laboratories world-wide.