

Joanna Casson is the Laser Safety Officer at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. She earned an A. B. in Physics from Bryn Mawr College and an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Mexico. Her research has included using lasers to study the nonlinear properties of both ices grown under stratospheric conditions and organic thin films and to characterize small integrated lens/scanner devices and waveguides. Her current projects include imaging quantum dots with a TEM, making waveguide-based biosensors for pathogen detection. She has been an LSO for 12 years and became LANL LSO in 2008. She helped develop two of the three required laser safety courses for laser users. She has been chair and vice-chair of DOE's EFCOG Laser Safety Task Group. She is currently a voting member of the Accredited Standards Committee and the ANSI Z136 Standards Subcommittees on the Safe Use of Lasers (SSC-1) and R&D and Testing (SSC-8).