

## Biological Sciences Division

### Brockman leads new Joint Genome Institute program

Fred Brockman, a Pacific Northwest National Laboratory microbiologist, was appointed to lead a new Laboratory Science Program (LSP) for DOE's Joint Genomes Institute (JGI). The LSP was created to provide DOE national laboratory biologists broader access to JGI's high-throughput nucleic acid sequencing, and to more tightly align the sequencing capacity with selected DOE missions.

The LSP will serve the national laboratories in two major ways: 1) fostering large-scale, cross-national-laboratory, strategic sequencing projects aligned with future funding opportunities in DOE's biology programs; and 2) providing small-scale sequencing that meets the needs of individual investigators at the national laboratories. The LSP is expected to use 15-20% of JGI's sequencing capacity (currently 35 billion bases per year).

During his 3-year tenure, Brockman will be responsible for developing, coordinating, and managing the LSP. The sequencing within LSP projects will include genomes of individual microbes and plants, and microbial communities, useful for production of "green" energy such as hydrogen from conversion of plant materials. Sequencing will also focus on characterizing the variation in human susceptibility to nucleic acid damage by ionizing radiation.

The new position started October 1. Brockman was selected from among nominees from JGI's five member labs: PNNL, Lawrence Berkeley, Lawrence Livermore, Los Alamos, and Oak Ridge. He reports to JGI director Eddy Rubin.



Fred Brockman,  
fred.brockman@pnl.gov