



Two EMSL Researchers Honored for Role in Safety

Two EMSL researchers who exhibited exemplary performance in environment, safety, and health during the past year were honored by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), on whose campus EMSL resides. Their diligent attention to workplace safety supports Laboratory Director Len Peters' quest to cultivate a best-in-class safety culture.

Honorees were Heather Mottaz, a biochemist in the High-Performance Mass Spectrometry Facility, and Nancy Foster-Mills, Technical Group Leader for EMSL's Environmental Spectroscopy and Biogeochemistry Facility.

Mottaz was one of five cognizant space managers (CSMs) across PNNL to be named "CSM of the Year." In this role, she manages experimental risks in EMSL's Proteomics Core Laboratory and helps PNNL achieve its annual outstanding performance rating. In her lab, approximately 20 researchers are involved with preparing samples for mass spectrometry and developing new analysis techniques for mass spectrometry instruments used to analyze proteins.

Foster-Mills—also one of five recipients—earned the title "IOPS Technical Group Manager of the Year." IOPS—or Integrated Operations System—is a PNNL-wide system, first developed by EMSL, that assists staff and users with establishing and communicating safe laboratory practices, identifying and controlling workspace hazards, identifying and obtaining appropriate training, and controlling workspace access. Foster-Mills provided consummate support to her CSMs and staff and effectively demonstrated responsibility to provide a safe workplace.

Mottaz and Foster-Mills were nominated by Monty Rosbach, EMSL Operations Manager, and were selected by Don Boyd, Deputy Laboratory Director for Operations.

"EMSL recognizes the contribution to workplace safety by these individuals as well as their contribution to science," says Rosbach. "Heather and Nancy are two shining examples of how safety in the workplace should be managed."

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