

Mark Herrmann

Dr. Mark Herrmann is the director of the National Ignition Facility (NIF), the world's largest laser and a key experimental facility for the National Nuclear Security Administration's science-based Stockpile Stewardship Program (SSP) located at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In this role Mark has leadership and management responsibility for the NIF and the 650 person team that operates, maintains, and develops its new strategic capabilities. Dr. Herrmann works closely with the leaders of the Stewardship program and the national Inertial Confinement Fusion and Experimental Science programs, as well as the National Security Applications and Discovery Science communities, to ensure NIF is delivering for the Stockpile Stewardship Program.

Mark returned to LLNL to become the NIF Director in October 2014 after 9 years at Sandia National Laboratories, where he led research on the use of large magnetic fields generated by the Z facility to create and control high energy density matter. While at Sandia, Dr. Herrmann held a series of staff and management positions, including Director of the Pulsed Power Sciences Center. Prior to joining Sandia in 2005, Mark was a physicist at LLNL, where his research focused on Inertial Confinement Fusion and high energy density science. Dr. Herrmann was awarded a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the American Physical Society Award for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Plasma Physics, three NNSA Defense Programs Awards of Excellence, and the Fusion Power Associates Excellence in Fusion Engineering Award. Mark is a fellow of the American Physical Society. He received his undergraduate degrees from Washington University in St. Louis, and his Ph.D. from the Program in Plasma Physics at Princeton University.