

**Biographical Summary:****Vera Potapenko, Chief Human Resources Officer, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab**

Vera Potapenko, a first-generation Ukrainian-American, Potapenko (pronounced po-TUH-pen-ko), joined Berkeley Lab as the Chief Human Resources Officer and Department Head for Human Resources in November 2006. She brings almost 30 years of experience in both public and private sectors and brings a broad base of experience and accomplishments in human resource management and strategic planning, organizational design and effectiveness, and leadership development.

Her own diverse resume includes human resources roles with Kraft Foods, W.W. Grainger, Inc. (international industrial products distributor), and G. D. Searle and Co. Research & Development (pharmaceuticals); and, in the non-profit side, Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Northwestern University in both Evanston and Chicago, IL.

She welcomed the return to California where she received her PhD in Organizational and Interpersonal Communication from the University of Southern California and taught part-time in Los Angeles-area universities. In coming to the Lab, she said, "Berkeley Lab is the optimal organization for me at this point in my career. It is an organization of brilliant challenging individuals who value the strategic support of Human Resources in a building a renowned organization."

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