Pacific Northwest
NATIONAL LABORATORY
Proudly Operated by Battelle Since 1965

Dr. Daniel Stephens | Director

National Nuclear Security Administration
National Security Directorate

Dr. Daniel Stephens is the Director of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Programs in the National Security Directorate at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). Daniel is responsible for the development and implementation of the sponsor engagement strategy for NNSA programs.

Most recently, Daniel was acting Chief Science and Technology Officer for the National Security Directorate, where he was responsible for the research and development investment strategy across the directorate, including the portfolio of Laboratory Directed Research and Development and the portfolio of strategic initiatives. Daniel has served as in the position of Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the Radiation Portal Monitor Project using radiation sensors at the nation's borders and ports of entry, providing scientific and technical expertise to design, deploy, maintain, and operate these systems for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He has also served in an offsite assignment to the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Office of Nonproliferation Research and Development (NA-22), where he served as a Technical Advisor to the Advanced Materials and Special Nuclear Material Movement Detection programs.

Daniel joined PNNL as a research scientist in February 2003. His career at PNNL has focused on the development and deployment of novel radiation detection instruments with an emphasis on national and homeland security applications. Research topics of interest include advanced spectroscopic identification algorithms, sensor networking, novel radiation detector development, field operations, and operational testing and evaluation.

He is the recipient of seven PNNL Outstanding Performance Awards as well as the Department of Homeland Security S&T Undersecretary's Team Award. He has published scientific work in a variety of national and international journals with an H-index of 11, and a large record of formal government reports. Daniel is a member of the American Physical Society, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers – Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Daniel holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics at Georgia Southern University, a Master of Science degree in both Physics and Nuclear Engineering, and a Doctorate of Nuclear Engineering degree from the University of Tennessee.