

Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Wigner Fellowship Program

Claus Daniel

Wigner Fellow

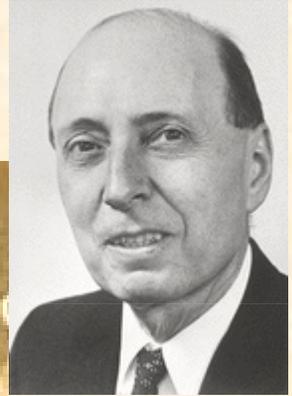
2005 – 2007

Materials Science and Technology Division

History of the Wigner program



- **Established in 1975 to honor ORNL's first Director, Nobel Laureate Eugene P. Wigner**



- **Opportunity for outstanding engineers, life, physical, and social scientists to select and pursue research in an area related to national energy problems and interests**
- **68 former Wigner Fellows**
- **6 current Wigner Fellows (8 positions)**
- **Will be raised to 10 Fellows soon.**

How Fellows are selected



- **Candidates submit application, resume, research proposal, and three references to Committee Secretary**
 - **Packages are reviewed against certain criteria**
 - **Within three years of Ph.D.**
 - **Top 5%**
 - **No more than one post-doc position held**
 - **Research area must match ORNL's scientific thrusts**
- **Downselected packages are sent to appropriate divisions to review candidate's technical strength and determine research match**
 - **If the division wants to pursue a candidate, a letter of interest is sent to Secretary**
- **Further downselected candidates are reviewed by the Wigner Fellowship Selection Committee**

Responsibilities



- **Fellows are expected to bring expertise to help develop a new or growing area of research with strong interest by the sponsoring division**
 - Strategic decision by the division
- **A two-year appointment; ORNL employee**
 - 70-75% retention after appointment ends
- **Commitment by the sponsoring division to provide equipment/space necessary to perform work**
 - Lab space, essential materials, appropriate travel, etc.

Benefits



- **ORNL staff member – NO POST-DOC**
 - Interview expenses
 - Relocation expenses
 - Competitive salary
 - Health insurance
 - Pension
 - Paid vacation

- **Full staff responsibilities**

- **Can be PI on proposals!**

Being flexible...



How to prepare your Fellowship application?



- **Visit ORNL and look for opportunities through scientific contacts**
- **Meet other scientists at ORNL**
- **Discuss your plans in GREAT DETAIL with your scientific contact**
- **Discuss internal support with potential mentor: equipment, travel, other funding**

- **Before you start and once you started:
Talk, Talk, Talk, Talk, Talk, Talk**
- **Working here as a scientist means being flexible!**

How to survive the Wigner Fellowship?

Year one

Year two

**Meet people,
discuss plans,
present**

Produce data, publish

Prepare collaboration

**Prepare follow-on funding,
write and participate in proposals**

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY



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attracting the best

Oak Ridge National Laboratory seeks applicants for its most prestigious Eugene P. Wigner Fellowship Program, established in 1975 to honor the Nobel Laureate (1963) and first Director of Research and Development at ORNL (1946-47).

The Wigner Fellowship provides an opportunity for outstanding new life, physical, computational, and social scientists and engineers from around the world to select and pursue fundamental or applied research in areas of global interest. It also offers competitive salary and benefits.

Fellows must be exceedingly well qualified, be no more than three years beyond the doctorate, and have not engaged in more than one post-doctoral position.



making a mark

Since 1975, ORNL has attracted over 70 outstanding young scientists through this two-year Fellowship, which offers a unique early-career opportunity at the Department of Energy's largest and most diverse science and energy Laboratory.

Two-thirds of those awarded Fellowships continue to pursue ongoing research of national and international importance at ORNL in highly diverse fields. The other third are still providing outstanding service to ORNL, some at the highest levels of leadership.

The Laboratory has eight Fellows in residence and will support nine Fellows in 2006 and ten in 2007. As current Fellows rotate out, about 4-5 new Fellows are selected throughout the year. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.

Former Wigner Fellow Named New Division Director at ORNL... (Full Story)

Claus Daniel has been awarded the Dr. Eduard Martin Prize from his former university... (Full Story)

ORNL REVIEW



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Thank you.

Any more questions? Ask now or Contact me later

ORNL Wigner Fellowship contact and secretary

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