Meet the Presenters...

Dr. Luther McDonald

Professor McDonald joined the University of Utah in January 2014 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

and the Nuclear Engineering Program. His research lab focuses on three primary topic areas: environmental radiochemistry, spent nuclear fuel reprocessing, and nuclear forensics. While these topics may seem quite diverse, they are all interrelated and devoted to our core research philosophy of improving our fundamental knowledge of basic radionuclide material properties to aid in the rapid detection of hostile nuclear materials, remediate

and dispose of radioactive materials in an environmentally responsible manner, and develop advanced processes for the recycling of spent nuclear fuel. Since joining the University, Dr. McDonald has been awarded over \$5M in funding to improve nuclear forensics capabilities in the U.S. This funding is supporting 10 new Ph.D. students in areas relevant to nuclear forensics including: nuclear engineering, environmental engineering, and computer science. Prior to joining the University of Utah, McDonald performed a post-doctoral fellowship at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in National Technical Nuclear Forensics, worked as a visiting scientist at the Commissariat à lénergie atomique, and completed his Ph.D. at Washington State University in Radiochemistry. He currently serves at the Secretary of the American Chemical Society's Division of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology.

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