



## ***Press Release***

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**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Governor Applauds Recent GDCP Appointment at JLab**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – After being appointed deputy director for science at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility earlier this year, Robert D. McKeown was congratulated by Virginia Governor Robert F. McDonnell last week for the “distinction” he brings to the Newport News-based laboratory.

In addition to his position with JLab, McKeown received an appointment as a Governor’s Distinguished CEBAF Professor (GDCP) through the College of William & Mary in its Physics Department.

“The distinction of receiving the GDCP appointment dates back 25 years when the first professorship was named, demonstrating the close partnership the Commonwealth of Virginia has had with Jefferson Lab, formerly the Continuous Electronic Beam Accelerator Facility, for the past quarter century,” Governor McDonnell wrote. “Virginia’s ability to assist the Southeastern Universities Research Association in making the decision to locate the research lab in the Commonwealth was due to its financial commitment to help insure the best quality researchers would be attracted to be part of the world class science conducted there.”

The GDCP program continues to help attract distinguished, uniquely qualified individuals to JLab. The process for the awarding of these honors starts with a nomination by the Lab Director to the SURA President, who then works to secure the consent and endorsement of the host university. In hosting the GDCP honoree at the College of William & Mary, President Taylor Reveley noted, “Dr. McKeown’s candidacy has occasioned especially great enthusiasm among our physics faculty. His position here and at the Jefferson Lab will strengthen the critical ties between the Lab’s science program and the academic community.”

Over his career, McKeown’s work has been recognized with many awards. He received a National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator award in 1984, was the Alexander M. Cruickshank Lecturer at the 1999 Gordon Conference on Nuclear Physics, and is a Fellow of the American Physical Society. Most recently, he received the 2009 Tom W. Bonner Prize in Nuclear Physics from the American Physical Society. The former California Institute of Technology professor started his duties at the Jefferson Lab on May 1.

For more information on Dr. McKeown’s appointment, see:  
[http://www.jlab.org/news/releases/2010/JLab\\_Names\\_Deputy\\_Director%20.html](http://www.jlab.org/news/releases/2010/JLab_Names_Deputy_Director%20.html)

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*The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) is a consortium of over 60 leading research institutions in the southern United States and the District of Columbia. It operates the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility for the U.S. Department of Energy through Jefferson Science Associates – a SURA/Computer Sciences Corporation joint venture. SURA was established in 1980 as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation. SURA serves as an entity through which colleges, universities, and other organizations may cooperate with one another, and with government and industry in acquiring, developing, and using laboratories and other research facilities and in furthering knowledge and the application of that knowledge in the physical, biological, and other natural sciences and engineering. For more information, visit [www.sura.org](http://www.sura.org).*