

## Karpen Named as Director of Life Sciences Division

Gary Karpen, a senior scientist at Berkeley Lab and UC Berkeley Adjunct Professor in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, has been appointed Life Sciences Division Director by Director Alivisatos. Gary has served 11 months as Acting Division Director following 6 years of service as Life Sciences Deputy Division Director. Gary has served as Head of the Genome and Computational Biology Department and is recognized as a leader in the Nuclear Structure and Function Program. He co-Directs the *Drosophila* Genome Center and the Berkeley Screening Center. Karpen currently serves as DOE Low Dose Radiation Biology SFA Lead.

“I am thrilled that a scientist of Gary’s caliber will lead the Life Sciences Division,” said Lab Director Paul Alivisatos. “There is a rich history and bright future at Berkeley Lab in the space where fundamental biological research for energy and human health applications intersect. This powerful synergy will be at the heart of the initial activities of the LBNL second campus, and I look forward to working with Gary and the Life Sciences Division to make this vision a reality.”

In the Berkeley Lab tradition of the scientist-as-leader, Karpen has a vigorous personal research portfolio that will continue during his tenure as Division Director. The Karpen lab’s current research continues a long-standing interest in chromosome structure and function, with a special emphasis on how epigenetic mechanisms and genome dynamics impact chromosome inheritance, nuclear architecture, and genome stability.

Karpen received his PhD. from the University of Washington, Department of Genetics, in 1987. He performed postdoctoral work with Allan Spradling at the Carnegie Institute, and was on the faculty at The Salk Institute (La Jolla) from 1991–2003, before moving to LBNL and UC Berkeley. Karpen is the author of more than 85 papers, book chapters, and review articles and holds 4 patents.