



Delivering
Unexpected
Solutions

**General Frequently Asked Questions
(Or, those that should be asked more frequently than they are)**

1. What's the 3 minute version of "What is ASL?"

Maybe it's counterintuitive, but let's start with what ASL is not. It's not a contract (like the UARC—University Affiliated Research Contract), and it's not a grant. NASA Ames and UCSC, through its Silicon Valley Initiatives (SVI) activity and Vice-Provost Miller, have entered into a partnership for ASL. This partnership is spelled out in a Space Act Agreement (SAA, see below). Signed by both parties in February 2008, the SAA describes the mutual contributions that both partners are investing in ASL.

ASL's Vision is to create a first-of-its-kind strategic alliance between two exemplary research and engineering organizations; Ames Research Center (ARC) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Santa Cruz campus of the University of California (UCSC). This alliance enables major advances in forefront research leading to the creation of important new knowledge, concepts, technology and other forms of intellectual property, advancing the generation of applications with direct and immediate value to the public.

Our Mission is to implement shared-resource cooperative facilities in support of our Vision, with vigorous integrated education, research and technology development activities.

2. What's a Space Act Agreement?

The National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (the 'Space Act'), as amended (42 U.S.C. § 2451 et seq.), authorizes NASA "to enter into and perform such contracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or other transactions as may be necessary in the conduct of its work and on such terms as it may deem appropriate, with any agency or instrumentality of the United States, or with any State, Territory, or possession, or with any political subdivision thereof, or with any person, firm, association, corporation, or educational institution" (emphasis added). Under this Space Act authority, NASA has entered into a great number of agreements with diverse groups of people and organizations, both in the private and public sector, in order to meet wide-ranging NASA mission and program

requirements and objectives. Agreements entered into under the "other transaction" authority in the Space Act are termed 'Space Act Agreements' and establish a set of legally enforceable promises between NASA and the other party to the Agreement.

3. How is ASL organized? What does it do?

ASL is a consortium. In addition to the formative partners, NASA Ames and UCSC's Silicon Valley Initiatives, ASL welcomes other academic and non-profit research institutions and private industry. Projects join the ASL consortium as 'Affiliates'. ASL's Management Team assists by navigating the policies and requirements of both parent organizations to deliver balanced and cooperative management solutions for Affiliates. ASL supports the science, engineering, and education aspects of the consortium through services commonly associated with research institutes: seminars and workshops, inter-project interactions, library services, lab management guidelines, central facilities, logistical operations, etc. Using our critical leverage points, ASL opens pathways for the engagement of private industry with public-sponsored research and technology projects and expands these partnerships to stimulate unique educational opportunities.

4. How do I become a member of ASL?

Contact the Director or Assistant Director:
Rose Grymes, ragrymes@ucsc.edu
Patty Ponzini, pattyp@ucsc.edu

They will discuss your interest with you, and can provide you with an Affiliate Application Package. This contains information about ASL and a template for proposing your affiliation. ASL is based on a consortium model—members are termed 'Affiliates'. Projects become Affiliates, and the 'Principal Investigator' is the Affiliate Lead. Associated students, collaborators, and staff are members of the Affiliate Team, or Affiliate Staff.

5. What happens to the application when I submit it?

Before you get that far, you will have had extensive discussions with the Director, Assistant Director, and Operations Manager. We want to be sure that your association will work for you and for ASL.

At that point, we become advocates for you. During our discussions, we will introduce your project to ASL's lead partners, NASA Ames and UCSC's Silicon Valley Initiatives. We will also discuss your interest with the Liaison Working Group and the ASL Operations Council (see other FAQs on these groups). With your completed proposal, we will brief both partners and seek their concurrence in making you an Affiliate. When that is received, the Director will approve your submission, and your project will become an ASL Affiliate.

YOUR AFFILIATION APPLICATION MAY BE SHARED WITH OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, AND, IF APPROVED, WILL BE USED TO CREATE OUTREACH MATERIALS. DO NOT SUBMIT PROPRIETARY OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

If it is necessary to include such information, contact the ASL Director to ensure proper handling.

6. How long does this process take?

As little as a couple of weeks, but it really depends on the 'fit' between your project and ASL, the depth of information you provide, and the availability of folks involved in our advocacy and briefing process.

7. Who can become an Affiliate?

Four types of Affiliates contribute to ASL's shared environment, leveraging their goals, expertise, student involvement, contributed equipment, and access to facilities:

UCSC-associated Affiliates: Participation is supported by the Space Act Agreement (SAA) between NASA Ames and UCSC.

NASA Affiliates: Appropriate NASA projects are welcomed, and supported by NASA Ames.

Third party Affiliates: Academic, Non-profit or Commercial: ASL facilitates the negotiation of additional SAA's, Extended Use Lease Agreements (EULAs) and/or other agreements, as necessary. Agreement terms are based on the foundational SAA establishing ASL.

Non-resident Affiliates: These Affiliates, such as international partners and seasonal programs, will occasionally use ASL Common areas.

8. What are the costs of affiliation?

You probably expected this answer: It depends. Here's how:

UCSC-associated Affiliates: Costs for these projects are supported by UCSC, through the reimbursable nature of the Space Act Agreement (SAA) between NASA Ames and UCSC as defined in the associated Support Agreement. Some costs may be assessed as 'institutional' or 'developmental' and supported by the university through Silicon Valley Initiatives, others may be assessed as individual, and chargeable to the project. This should be discussed with the ASL Director/Assistant Director during the application/consultation period.

NASA Affiliates: Costs for NASA projects are supported through NASA Ames. Some costs may be assessed as 'institutional' or 'developmental' and supported by the Center, others may be assessed as individual, and chargeable to the project. This should be discussed

with the ASL Director/Assistant Director during the application/consultation period.

Third party Affiliates: Academic, Non-profit or Commercial: Costs will be allocated during the negotiation of the appropriate Reimbursable Space Act Agreement, Extended Use Lease Agreement, or other appropriate agreements. Terms are based on the foundational SAA establishing ASL.

Non-resident Affiliates: These Affiliates incur no significant costs, and are not charged.

9. What facilities does ASL operate? I've heard of ASL Central, the ASL Commons, an ASL Nanocharacterization Facility, and the ASL Shared Equipment/Prep Room?

It's very simple:

ASL Central	= ASL Management Team, see below
ASL Commons	= Office/Meeting space in Rm. 138
ASL Nanocharacterization Facility	= Lab space in basement of N239, primarily rooms accessed from Rm. B030
ASL Shared Equipment/Prep Room	= Rm. 178

All of ASL's spaces are presently within Building N239 on the NASA Ames campus.

ASL Management Team (see Points of Contact for contact information)

Director: Rosalind (Rose) Grymes, Ph.D.

Assistant Director: Patty Ponzini

Operations Manager: Jay Nuez

Executive Assistant: Patricia Gregory

Intern: Naphtalie Squier

10. What individual laboratory spaces are available? How are they assigned?

ASL currently occupies about 10,000SF of space in N239. Of this, about 5000SF is assignable to individual projects. Additional space will be negotiated from NASA Ames; these discussions take place quarterly.

Assignments are made based on the facilities available and what is necessary to support the proposed research.

11. What is an ASL badge, and what access to NASA Ames does it provide?

You, and all the folks identified by you on your Team, may receive an ASL badge. This is a hard badge issued by Ames Protective Services at our

request. It will gain entry to both the NASA Research Park Main Gate and the NASA Ames campus gates. You must wear/display this badge at all times when on the NASA Ames campus (i.e. in N239 and the Ames cafeteria). This badge has an embedded identifier chip that will operate the cardkey reader locks controlling the external doors to N239 and internal ASL operated spaces.

Access with the ASL badge is strictly limited to the Ames cafeteria and N239—and to those areas within N239 that are operated by ASL (or are in common use such as corridors, restrooms, stairs and elevators). N239 is now designated a 'shared' or 'collaborative' facility by Ames. Therefore, in addition to accessing common or ASL spaces, an individual with a NASA Ames hard badge (for example, a civil servant or NASA contractor) may host an ASL badge holder in their laboratory or office, at their discretion. For the non-ASL residents of N239, life is now like constantly attending a conference, interacting with many persons who have not been vetted through NASA screening and badging procedures. They can, and must, determine when information sharing and facilities access is appropriate, and when not, in the areas they control.