

Gloria Mei Grows Through Her Involvement with ORSSAB and the Oak Ridge Community

A visit to Gloria Mei's office at ORNL shows that she likes to surround herself with the things that matter to her most. Photos of family, home, and hobbies occupy prominent spots on her office walls and roll across her computer in screen saver mode.

An obviously dedicated professional at work, she is equally focused in her personal life, as evidenced by the wide variety of family and community activities she engages in.

One pursuit that has occupied much of her spare time for almost four years is the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board. Gloria joined in 2005 as a way of continuing her ongoing interest in serving the community and to know more about the DOE cleanup activities. She says she has always liked to volunteer – at her children's schools, at the Senior Center, and elsewhere.

"It's been a good experience for me," she says of her time on the board. "I like to learn and be involved in the community. I have learned a lot by being on the board and through its Environmental Management Committee. Before I joined the board I didn't know too much about the cleanup program details on the Oak Ridge Reservation. Just by reading materials and participating in the board meeting discussions and making recommendations I've learned a lot and helped my goal to serve my community."

Gloria grew up in Taiwan, where she received her bachelor's degree in physics and where she worked for several years after graduation for the Institute of Nuclear Energy Research. She came to Kansas in 1983 and earned her doctoral degree. She and her family moved to New Jersey in 1986 where she worked

for Teledyne Isotopes as a radiation dosimetry scientist for three years. She later moved to Oak Ridge to work at ORNL, where she has been employed for 20 years. She was familiar with Oak Ridge through her association with several individuals at the University



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of Tennessee and the lab, and was impressed with the educational opportunities in the area for her children.

She is a Radiation Safety Specialist and Program Manager at the lab, where she conducts program activities in radiological design and radiation

control. Her recent work includes radiological design projects for hot cells operation, High-Flux Isotope Reactor upgrades, and the Spallation Neutron Source accumulator ring.

She is certified by the American Board of Health Physics and serves as an adjunct associate professor of the Nuclear Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Gloria resides in Oak Ridge with her husband Donald, who is recently retired from the nuclear industry. They have two grown children: a daughter, who is a lawyer, and a son, who works in Internet design.

She belongs to several organizations, including the American Nuclear Society, Health Physics Society, Women in Nuclear, and the Organization of Chinese Americans. She is a dedicated exerciser who enjoys gardening, movies, and cooking, but most of all volunteering her time and skills.

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Board members Bill Bass, left, and Ron Murphree, center, join Downtown Sertoma Club President Tim Curbow following Bill's presentation to the club on May 20. ORSSAB members have given 21 presentations and briefings this year about the Oak Ridge cleanup program and the role the SSAB plays in the DOE-Oak Ridge cleanup decision-making process.

