

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



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Elizabeth R. Cantwell (Betsy) is Director for Economic Development at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Dr. Cantwell spearheads the Laboratory's progressive strategy to accelerate innovation and enhance national economic competitiveness. She returned to LLNL in 10/2010 after serving as Deputy Associate Director for Global Security at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. In her role at ORNL, she provided strategic leadership to develop business with the United States Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration, the United States Department of Defense, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, the Center for Radiation Detection, and many others. Prior to joining ORNL, Dr. Cantwell served as the Director for the Threat Reduction Directorate Office of Strategy at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Dr. Cantwell spent a decade at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where she helped stand up the Homeland Security organization after 9/11. She spent several years at NASA HQ as a Program Manager for the life and microgravity sciences. Dr. Cantwell is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School (MBA, 2003); the University of California, Berkeley (PhD, Mechanical Engineering, 1992); and the University of Chicago (BA, Human Behavior 1976). She is a current member of the National Academy of Sciences Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences as well as the Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board, and has served as Chair or Member of a number of National Academies studies pertaining to human space exploration.