

*Richard Slansky (1940-98)*

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*Richard Slansky, Director of the Theoretical Division of Los Alamos National Laboratory, died on 16 January following a brain aneurysm. Initial studies at Harvard and Berkeley were followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at Caltech and five years at Yale. Slansky came to Los Alamos in 1974 to join the newly-formed elementary particle physics theory group set up by Peter Carruthers (who died last year). He worked on the phenomenology of particle production and moved on to the symmetries and problems of the unification of the forces of nature, including neutrino masses. In 1989 he was named division leader. A fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he was also an adjunct professor of physics at UC Irvine. Dick was a great believer in the quality of science and worked hard to build a strong workforce in his division through a consistent series of outstanding postdoctoral and Oppenheimer fellowship appointments. His dedication to and deep interest in fundamental scientific questions was characterized by a boyish sense of enthusiasm and wonderment about science. He also strived to improve communication and collaboration that cut across scientific boundaries. He was also a regular visitor to CERN's Theory Division.*