Faces of Science: Karissa Sanbonmatsu

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Discovery of gigantic molecules makes huge impact on gene research

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Karissa Sanbonmatsu says that research is like solving a complex puzzle. Karissa cannot stop “digging” at a problem until she knows the answer. For her, there is nothing more incredible than the feeling of moving into uncharted territory.

Karissa’s research right now involves researching how DNA is reprogrammed during life. The missing link on how genes are switched on and off could be gigantic RNA molecules. In 2012, Karissa and her team published the first structure of such a molecule.

Read more:

Sanbonmatsu team website » Scientists ratchet up understanding of cellular protein factory »

Sanbonmatsu works for T-6's Theoretical Biology & Biophysics group.

Los Alamos National Laboratory **www.lanl.gov** **(505) 667-7000** **Los Alamos, NM**

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