



Glenn T. Seaborg Center Special Seminar

3rd Annual Burriss Cunningham Actinide Science Seminar

**“My Fifty Years in Actinide Chemistry at Berkeley,
from UCRL to LBNL”**

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Wednesday, November 5, 2014

Reception at 3:30 pm

Seminar 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Bldg. 50 Auditorium

It has been fifty years since I joined the Cunningham group in November, 1964. In this talk I will start by speaking of some of my recollections of Professor Cunningham and his group. My knowledge of actinide chemistry at the time was minimal but in the Cunningham group there were many helpful people.

My first project at the “rad lab” was to grow, measure, and analyze the electron paramagnetic resonance spectra (EPR) of actinide ions in fluorite crystals (CaF_2 , SrF_2 , BaF_2). I will describe some of these experiments and the information derived from them. Then I will review some of the other projects that we pursued over the last 50 years including the measurement of the magnetic susceptibility of $^{248}\text{CmO}_2$. Finally I will discuss one of my present projects, the analysis of plutonyl optical spectra.