**Jeffery Blackmon** is a Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Louisiana State University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1994. He was a research staff member at the Holifield Radioactive Ion Beam Facility (HRIBF) at Oak Ridge National Laboratory from 1997-2007 and a recipient of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers in 2002. He has served as chair of the Users’ Executive Committee of the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, as a member of the Subatomic Physics Experiment Evaluation Committee at TRIUMF-ISAC, and also on the Program Advisory Committee for the HRIBF. In 2012 he chaired the Nuclear Physics Subpanel for the Committee of Visitors for the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate of the National Science Foundation. His research interests include experimental studies of the properties of short-lived nuclei that are important for understanding astrophysical phenomena and the role of neutrinos in astrophysics. He is the author of more than 50 publications in leading peer-reviewed scientific journals.