

DoD Names 2010 National Security Science and Engineering Faculty Fellows

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (JAN. 25, 2010)

The Department of Defense announced today the selection of 11 distinguished university faculty scientists and engineers forming the 2010 class of its National Security Science and Engineering Faculty Fellowship program. NSSEFF provides grants to top-tier researchers from U.S. universities to conduct unclassified, basic research that may transform DoD's capabilities in the long term.

"These distinguished researchers have a demonstrated record of success in fields of strategic importance to the DoD. Their NSSEFF work will not only contribute to preparing DoD and the nation for an uncertain future, but will also develop the necessary high-quality science, technology, engineering, and mathematics talent that will be essential to the department's continued success," said Zachary J. Lemnios, director, Defense Research and Engineering.

The fellows conduct basic research in core science and engineering disciplines that are expected to underpin future DoD technology development. For this competition, the research proposals are in the areas of high-temperature superconductors; resilient networks; synthetic biology; computational electromagnetics; quantum information science; waves in random media; image acquisition, analysis, and integration; attosecond electron processes in solids; theoretical and computational design of light and force-driven molecular materials; and emergence of shape and patterns in biomolecular assemblies in ionic solutions.

Lemnios noted that "the NSSEFF program ensures these research leaders and their students are actively engaged with DoD, in addition to conducting this unclassified research." Students of NSSEFF Fellows will also be afforded opportunities to present to DoD audiences and to further develop and broaden their research experiences through internships at DoD laboratories.

In response to the NSSEFF Broad Agency Announcement issued by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, 800 nomination letters from academic institutions resulted in the technical review of 670 white papers. Twenty-one semifinalists were selected from the authors of these white papers, and invited to submit full proposals outlining their research plans. Upon successful completion of negotiations between their home academic institutions and DoD, grant awards will be made to the faculty members' universities for support of their research.

For more information about this program, go to <www.ndep.us/ProgNSSEFF.aspx>.

DoD 'Wiki' Increases Technical Collaboration

SPECIAL TO AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (FEB. 1, 2010)

Christen N. McCluney

WASHINGTON—Scientists traditionally share information by publishing their completed research studies in academic journals. But the pace and nature of technological change renders that process much too slow.

That's why in 2008, the Defense Technical Information Center launched a scientific and technical "wiki" Web site to increase real-time exchanges between experts across the Defense Department. Access to the wiki also is granted to scientists working in related government agencies and contracting firms. There now are more than 11,000 monthly users.

"DoD Techipedia is a site that we created to provide a forum for DoD scientists, engineers, policy makers, as well as contractors to have a more open, collaborative environment to discuss things as they [are] developing," R. Paul Ryan, administrator of DTIC, explained during a Jan. 28 interview on The Pentagon Channel podcast, "Armed with Science: Research and Applications for the Modern Military."

The Techipedia works like the well-known Wikipedia, Ryan said.

"Somebody has a topic out there that is of interest to them," he said. They write up a short blurb [or] a description of that, and then the people come in and the discussion grows from there."

Hot topics include sensors, traumatic brain injury, biometrics, advanced materials, and energy reduction strategies. "You name the subject and it's eligible to become part of Techipedia," Ryan said.

The site's content includes other features of mutual benefit to the department and its contractors, he said. One feature highlights member organizations; another aims to find solutions to tough problems.

For example, Ryan said, defense leaders may use Techipedia to throw out a challenge and ask, "What can you do for us? What can you do to help us?"

Out of some 100 ideas submitted in the past year, four have resulted in awarded contracts, with two more in the works.

Ryan expects the number of users and the features offered on Techpedia to grow. "We've got this pool of information," he said, "We're looking to take next steps."

One challenge is to maintain the free flow of information while enforcing proper security. Protection is provided by parsing data into several levels based on sensitivities and also by vetting users before granting access.

So far, Ryan has been pleased with the "gardening" done by users—that's wiki talk for the self-regulating style of Web communities. In this case, he says, users are doing a good job of cultivating reliable information.

DoD Techpedia has received recognition from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy for its transparency and also has been recognized for outstanding information technology achievement by *Government Computer News*.

McCluney works for the Defense Media Activity's emerging media directorate.

DoD Adds Blog to Military Science Dialogue

SPECIAL TO AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (FEB. 18, 2010)

Ian Graham

WASHINGTON—Science has seized the popular imagination. There are magazines, popular books, Web sites, webcasts, blogs, documentary films, and even television channels devoted to science and technology.

The practical applications of science and technology also can be found in almost every aspect of military operations, a topic that is discussed in great detail in the award-winning weekly webcast, "Armed with Science: Research and Applications for the Modern Military," produced by the Defense Media Activity.

The popularity of the Armed with Science webcast in its first year has prompted the Defense Media Activity to expand its online presence. A new Armed with Science blog, <<http://science.dodlive.mil>>, premiered in late January. The new blog includes articles, archived webcast episodes, transcripts, images, and videos.

"Expanding into the blogosphere will allow us to develop a dialogue between our listeners and the scientists, engineers, operators, and administrators who are involved in DoD science," said Brian Natwick, general manager of The Pentagon Channel and acting director of DoD's Emerging Media Directorate. The new blog will provide a better forum to highlight the critical role of science and technology in military

operations, Natwick said, while demonstrating how research conducted to meet military requirements often benefits society as a whole.

Les Benito, director of the Defense Media Activity's Public Web Directorate, said the blog also will provide an opportunity to experiment with emerging social technologies and implement strategies that better engage the public. It will bolster a social media portfolio that already includes efforts on Twitter, Facebook, and BlogTalkRadio.

"We hope to develop a more user-centric and interactive Web site that evolves over time to meet the needs of our audience," Benito said. "Consider this is an experiment in progress."

John Ohab, a new technology strategist at the Defense Media Activity's Public Web Directorate and host of the weekly webcast, said the blog will place specific emphasis on the men and women who are involved in research, development, and education at the Defense Department. By focusing on their individual stories, Ohab hopes the blog will help break down traditional myths about science and technology that hinder some people from pursuing related careers.

"Science isn't just for scientists," Ohab said. "Not only does science and technology help make our servicemembers safer and more effective, they also impact virtually everything we do in civilian life."

Graham is assigned to Defense Media Activity's Emerging Media Directorate.

Mullen Helps to Honor Ward, Other Black Engineers

SPECIAL TO AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (FEB. 22, 2010)

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Elizabeth Vlahos

BALTIMORE, Feb. 22, 2010 - The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff helped to honor the accomplishments of Army and Navy members here Feb. 20 during the 24th Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards gala.

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen presented Army Gen. William E. "Kip" Ward, commander of U.S. Africa Command, with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his leadership and mentoring throughout his 39 years in the Army.

Ward is the only active-duty four-star African-American general, and is only the fifth African-American to achieve this rank. Mullen spoke warmly of Ward as he presented the award, saying he represents "the best of the best."

"I've watched him influence [and] lead people in peace and war," Mullen said, "and everyone I know thinks the world of who he is and who and what he represents. He's a dear friend, an exceptional soldier, [and] a wonderful family man."

"It's truly humbling to enter the ranks of the Lifetime Achievement Award winners," Ward said, crediting his success to the "women and men who make our nation great by the contributions they make each and every day."

Ward stressed the importance of a strong education.

"This is a time when we see so many challenges, but in those challenges reside such great opportunities," he said. "Those opportunities are at the hands of these men and women who, having a sound education, can achieve success in life because of mastering that fundamental. A college education teaches people how to unlock the totality of their potential."

Maria V. Thorpe, head of the avionics system integration branch at Naval Air Systems Command, was the first Navy Department employee to be honored at the gala, receiving the Community Service Award for her volunteer efforts.

Jeremy D. Laster, a structural engineer for the Army Corps of Engineers' New Orleans district, was recognized as the Most Promising Engineer or Scientist in Government for his work in the design and development of the Hurricane Risk Reduction System in New Orleans.

"Jeremy Laster is a bright young star in the Corps of Engineers," said Army Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp, commander of the Army Corps of Engineers, as he presented the award. "He's emerging as one of our most outstanding young engineers and leaders."

Van Antwerp recited a litany of Laster's many projects, including the development of structural designs, flood walls, coffer dams, and the evaluations of foundation requirements for difficult soils in southern Louisiana.

"When I was in high school," Laster said in his acceptance speech, "my tenth-grade chemistry professor told me something that changed my life. 'If I were in your shoes, I would go to Jackson State University [and] major in engineering.' ... Well, I took his advice, and I stand before you tonight, and I will continue to stand before you, as a structural engineer for the Corps of Engineers," he said.

Steffanie Easter, assistant commander for acquisition at Naval Air Systems Command, and Sharon Smoot, assistant

deputy commander of Naval Sea Systems Command, received Professional Achievement in Government awards.

"It's an extreme honor. ... I am humbled," Easter said. "An individual has to work hard and prove themselves, but it's also very helpful to have people that support you. I've had great mentors throughout my career who have encouraged me to do things that I would never have even considered doing—people who have pushed me out of my comfort zone and challenged me to do more than I had ever dreamed of. I am thankful to all of them for this honor, because it's really theirs as well as mine."

Smoot noted that she and Easter do some speaking engagements together. "We take everything that everyone has poured into us in our careers and we try to pour it into the workforces here, in encouraging our children to enter into [science, technology, engineering, and mathematics] careers and STEM fields," she said. "We really do go out and reach out to community—those we oversee in our day job, and even further out from that to ensure that we have a future workforce out there to support the Navy's requirements."

Davede Alexander, former director of strategic outreach at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., received the Diversity Leadership in Government award.

"[Davede's] outstanding record led to his nomination as director of the newly established Strategic Outreach Office [in 2005]," said Navy Adm. Gary Roughead, chief of naval operations, who presented the awards to all the Navy honorees. "Today, this department has generated dramatic results, increasing awareness and interest in the Naval Academy, and producing a spectacular 40 percent rise in applications for the Class of 2013 over the previous year."

"Through nationwide marketing campaigns, encouraging young people to become leaders and professional engineers at the Naval Academy," he continued, "Davede is helping young people find the Navy and all its great opportunities."

Alexander noted that he and his mother started in humble surroundings in Savannah, Ga.

"God—ironically, through the U.S. Army—issued us a tremendous husband and father," he said. "Our new life experiences spanned from Germany to Washington, D.C. Through those experiences, I learned that diversity means more than trite descriptions like race or ethnicity."

"It goes far beyond that," he continued. "It includes varied talents, unique experiences, intelligence, perseverance, con-



Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, left, and retired Army Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, right, present Army Gen. William E. "Kip" Ward, commander of U.S. Africa Command, with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 24th Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards gala in Baltimore, Feb. 20, 2010.

U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Elizabeth Vlahos

fidence, [and] leadership. Those terms are the ones that actually legitimize the concept of diversity. ... When you look beyond color, and actually go after talent, the outcome really isn't that surprising."

The Black Engineers of the Year awards program recognizes servicemembers, students, executives, educators and professionals who demonstrate outstanding performance and help to shape the course of engineering, science, and technology for the future.

Vlahos serves at Defense Media Activity Anacostia.

ESC Garner Two Top Air Force Acquisition Awards

AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 16, 2010)

Chuck Paone
HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass.—An Electronic Systems Center group commander and a key program team within his group both received Air Force Acquisition and Transformation Leadership Awards March 10.

The awards, to Col. Cordell DeLaPena, commander of the 653rd Electronic Systems Group, and to the Battlefield

Airborne Communications Node Joint Urgent Operational Need Team, were presented at the Acquisition Leadership Forum in Atlanta.

"These awards were richly deserved and bring great credit to the center and to our Air Force," said ESC Commander Lt. Gen. Ted Bowlds. "I am very proud of Colonel DeLaPena and of all the people who have worked so hard to get the life-saving BACN capability out to our warfighters."

The BACN Joint Urgent Operational Need Team received one of two John J. Welch Jr. Awards for Excellence in Acquisition Leadership. The Welch Award, according to the Leadership Forum guide, "is the most prestigious Air Force acquisition award."

DeLaPena was named one of two Air Force Outstanding System Program Directors.

As commander of the 653 ELSG, DeLaPena leads more than 700 people working on 34 programs worth more than \$18 billion. According to the award citation, "his impact spans Air Force networks and integration systems for the President



Anniston Army Depot received funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 due to its ability to use the stimulus dollars quickly and its sound plans for facility upgrades and increased production operations. Repairs to the Stryker reset production shop (shown here) are complete. U.S. Army photo by Mark Cleghorn

and Secretary of Defense, as well as theater, and naval, air, and space warfare forces.”

The colonel was also cited for leading rapid acquisition efforts used to support Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. His leadership on the rapid deployment of BACN was noted as a particular highlight.

The BACN team was cited for rapidly executing the Joint Chiefs of Staff Deployment Order, known as the DEPOD, fielding the experimental system to an operational theater where it could support urgent warfighting needs.

“The program office delivered the BACN system in minimum time, literally putting the ‘rubber on the ramp’ in less than six weeks following DEPOD direction,” the citation reads. “In-theater commanders are now planning combat operations around the availability of BACN, which has shortened the kill chain and ultimately saved lives of our coalition forces.”

Paone writes for 66th Air Base Wing Public Affairs.

Depot Uses Recovery Act Allocations to Upgrade Facilities, Utilities

ARMY NEWS SERVICE (MARCH 18, 2010)
Miranda Myrick

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT, Ala.—Four construction projects here have been funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. A total of \$4.19 million has been accepted by Anniston Army Depot for the upgrades and renovations to facilities and utilities on the installation.

One project—renovations inside a facility housing some of the depot’s Stryker reset work—was completed in December 2009, while three other infrastructure projects have a scheduled completion date of June 30. Other ANAD projects, Recovery Act allocations are:

- Industrial Area Electrical Upgrade \$1.2 million
- Steam Line Repairs \$2.2 million
- Restricted Area Water Line Repairs \$0.33 million
- Repairs to Production Shop for Stryker Reset \$0.46 million

Myrick writes for U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command Life Cycle Management Command (TACOM LCMC).

Aviation Supply Personnel Merger Seeks Efficiencies AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (MARCH 23, 2010)

Debra R. Bingham

RICHMOND, Va.—The overall success of a business initiative starts with the human factor, especially when it means change for employees.

Acquisition & Logistics Excellence

Air Force Col. Vic Wager, the director of aviation customer operations at the Defense Supply Center Richmond here, understands the importance of communicating change and engaging stakeholders in the process.

The Richmond center is a component of the Defense Logistics Agency that's based at Fort Belvoir, Va. Wager is meeting with local union leaders and agency employees across the nation this month to discuss a phased realignment plan that will merge DLA aviation personnel at Navy, Air Force, and Army industrial sites into his directorate.

Change is a sensitive issue for many of the employees who transferred to DLA within the past two years as part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law, which directed consolidation of service-run supply, storage and distribution operations, and depot-level reparable procurement management functions under DLA. As a result, more than 1,500 employees at three Navy readiness centers and three Air Force logistics centers became part of the DLA team.

Along with Wager, the visitation team includes Gus Liggon, deputy director of customer operations; Brenda Matthews, a DLA labor relations specialist; and other staff. They met with employees and representatives from the American Federation of Government Employees at DLA Jacksonville, Fla., March 8; DLA Warner Robins, Ga., March 10; and DLA Cherry Point, N.C., March 16. They held similar meetings March 22 at DLA North Island, Calif. Other meetings are to be held at DLA Ogden, Utah, and at DLA Oklahoma City, Okla.

"The purpose of this merger is to achieve efficiencies and meld retail and wholesale operations within a standard organizational construct," Wager said. "It makes sense to consolidate aviation demand and supply chain employees who face our customers."

DLA and its field activities have been on a transformational journey during the past few years. Though BRAC 2005 was a catalyst for some changes, the agency also modernized its business and information technology processes. Workforce development and training are part of the transformation process.

At a town hall meeting attended by more than 100 Defense Logistics Agency employees held at Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., Wager said new job roles would be developed to match the agency's new tool sets and processes, moving employees from Navy position descriptions to DLA position descriptions. Employees asked questions about job classification, seniority, work environment and



Air Force Col. Vic Wager, aviation customer operations director at the Defense Supply Center Richmond, Richmond, Va., talks to Defense Logistics Agency employees based at Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., about their upcoming merger into his directorate during a town hall meeting held March 8, 2010. Photo by Debra R. Bingham

technology enhancements, promotional opportunities within DLA, training, and job security.

Wager provided an overview of the current and future organizational structure. The mission, he said, wouldn't be impacted by the merger, noting care was being taken to consider the impact on individuals affected by the change.

"We owe you information as the steps to reorganize take shape, and we'll work to keep your commanders and supervisors informed so they can share that information with you," Wager said.

Defense Supply Center Richmond is the Defense Logistics Agency's aviation demand and supply chain manager, employing nearly 3,000 people in the Richmond area. It serves within the Department of Defense as the primary source for more than 1.3 million aviation repair parts and operating supply items, supporting more than 1,300 major weapons systems.

Bingham writes for Defense Supply Center Richmond.

Fiscal 2009 Department of Defense Value Engineering Achievement Awards Announced

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 24, 2010)

The Department of Defense (DoD) announced the winners of the fiscal 2009 Department of Defense Value Engineering Achievement Awards. A ceremony will be held on May 12 at the Pentagon auditorium to recognize the recipients' outstanding achievements through the application of Value Engineering.

Value Engineering (VE) is a function analysis process to identify actions that reduce cost, increase quality, and improve mission capabilities across the entire DoD enterprise. During fiscal 2009, 3,347 in-house VE proposals and 43 contractor-initiated VE change proposals were accepted with actual and projected savings/cost avoidance in excess of \$1.94 billion. The DoD value engineering program continues to be an incentive for government and industry partners to improve the joint value proposition by promoting innovation and creativity. Innovative VE proposals seek best-value solutions as part of a successful business relationship.

Award winners from each DoD component are eligible for selection in the following five categories: program/project, individual, team, organization, and contractor. Additional "special" awards are given to recognize innovative applications or approaches that expand the traditional scope of value engineering use. The VE awards program is an acknowledgment of exemplary achievements and encourages additional projects to improve in-house and contractor productivity.

For a list of awards and awardees, go to <<http://rtoc.ida.org/ve/FY2009DoDVEAwardWinnersRev7Final.pdf>>.

\$38.7 Million Awarded to Universities for Research Equipment

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (MARCH 26, 2010)

The Department of Defense today announced plans to award \$38.7 million to academic institutions to support the purchase of research instrumentation. The 166 awards to 96 academic institutions are being made under the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP). The awards are expected to range from \$50,000 to \$930,000 and average approximately \$235,000. All awards are subject to the successful completion of negotiations between DoD research offices and the academic institutions.

DURIP supports the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment that augments current university capabilities or develops new university capabilities to perform cutting-edge defense research. DURIP meets a critical need by enabling univer-

sity researchers to purchase scientific equipment costing \$50,000 or more to conduct DoD-relevant research. Researchers generally have difficulty purchasing instruments costing that much under research contracts and grants.

These planned awards are the result of a merit competition for DURIP funding conducted by the Army Research Office, Office of Naval Research, and Air Force Office of Scientific Research. Each office requested proposals from university investigators conducting science and engineering research of importance to DoD. This includes research underpinning advances in surface chemistry and physics, scientific computing and networks, electronics and electro-optics, neuroscience, fluid dynamics and propulsion, and ocean science and engineering. In response to the requests, the research offices collectively received more than 840 proposals requesting \$267 million in support for research equipment.

The list of winning proposals can be found at <[www.defense.gov/news/Fiscal 2010 DURIP Winners List.pdf](http://www.defense.gov/news/Fiscal%202010%20DURIP%20Winners%20List.pdf)>.