



Media Contact:  
Cristina Crowson  
Director of Communications  
Directed Energy Professional Society  
(505) 998-4910  
[Cristina@deps.org](mailto:Cristina@deps.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **DEPS Establishes the Dr. Samuel Blankenship Directed Energy Scholar Award**

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Oct. 3** – The Directed Energy Professional Society (DEPS) is pleased to announce the establishment of a new scholarship in honor of its' previous Executive Director, DEPS Fellow and esteemed leader, Dr. Samuel Blankenship.

The Dr. Samuel Blankenship Directed Energy Scholar Award will be granted annually to the individual with the most outstanding scholarship application that not only demonstrates the highest degree of technical acumen, but also shows the greatest promise of significant contributions to the Directed Energy Technical Community. The awardee for the 2018-2019 academic year is Raymond Wambold of the University of Wisconsin.

It is awarded in honor of Dr. Samuel Blankenship, who has dedicated his professional career to the directed energy (DE) community. Dr. Blankenship was instrumental in the establishment and growth of DEPS, as well as its numerous educational outreach activities. As a result of his efforts and years of dedication, DEPS is now the largest professional society in the world that is dedicated to the advancement of directed energy capabilities.

"I personally want to thank Dr. Blankenship for his contributions to the Directed Energy Professional Society," said DEPS Executive Director, Mark Neice. "Without his shepherding of the community toward a common vision, we would not be in a position today to see DE technologies transition into war-fighting

capabilities. I also deeply appreciate his role as a mentor to our younger generation. That is the foundation which will make DEPS strong for many years to come.”

The Directed Energy Professional Society has awarded nearly 1.5 million dollars in Graduate scholarships since 2004.

The Directed Energy Professional Society fosters research, development and transition of directed energy (DE) technologies, including high energy laser (HEL) and high-power microwave (HPM) technologies, for national defense and civilian applications through professional communication and education. For more information, visit [www.deps.org](http://www.deps.org).

**END**

**###**