



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

DEPS Announces New Fellows

ALBUQUERQUE, NM, March 19 – Announced on Friday, CAPT (Ret.) Dave Kiel of the Office of Naval Research and Dr. Martin Richardson of the University of Central Florida, are the newest candidates to be elevated to the rank of Fellow of the Directed Energy Professional Society (DEPS) for their extensive contributions and distinguished service to the directed energy (DE) community. Candidates must have at least 10 years of active practice in DE-related fields such as high power lasers, optics and high power microwave technologies to be considered for Fellow.

CAPT (Ret.) Dave Kiel, Division Director of the Air Warfare & Weapon Systems for the Office of Naval Research, was recognized for his exceptional leadership and enduring contributions that spearheaded the introduction and adoption of DE technologies into the US Navy's portfolio. Under Kiel's leadership, the development of the Laser Weapon System (LaWS) was initiated and ultimately deployed as the world's first-ever high energy laser (HEL) system on a Naval Combatant which invigorated significant increases in Navy DE funding and focused DE development.

Dr. Martin Richardson, Director of the Laser Plasma Laboratory as well as the TISTEF College of Optics & Photonics at the University of Central Florida, was recognized for his nearly 50 years of strong technical contributions to the DE community through globally-recognized academic research in high energy lasers and laser-interaction science. Dr. Richardson's longstanding commitment has made and continues to make major impacts on producing generations of DE focused graduate students, many under the DEPS Scholarship program, leading to dozens of DEPS conference presentations and publications.

“DEPS Fellow is a distinction reserved for select DEPS members whose accomplishments and impacts to Directed Energy are deemed fitting of this prestigious grade elevation. The accomplishments and impacts of this year’s awardees range from the highly technical to the highly strategic and programmatic. DEPS is honored to acknowledge Mr. Dave Kiel and Dr. Martin Richardson as a pioneer and lifelong educator who represent decades of leadership spanning multiple technology solutions for the DE community,” said Dr. Diana Loree, DEPS Board of Directors Liaison to the BSEA.

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

END

###