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Membership Elects McKinnie, Re-elects Aberle, Behre and Miller to DEPS Board of Directors

ALBUQUERQUE, NM, March 18- To be officially recognized at the upcoming Annual Directed Energy Science and Technology (S&T) Symposium in Mobile, AL, the Directed Energy Professional Society (DEPS) is pleased to introduce one new addition to their Board of Directors, Dr. Iain McKinnie, as well as announce the re-election of Mr. Adam Aberle, Mr. Chris Behre, and Dr. Stephanie Miller.

Having been both nominated and elected by the DEPS membership, these individuals will join the existing leadership that sets the course for DEPS activities as directed energy (DE) systems mature into transition for the next three years.

Dr. Iain McKinnie, S&T Director at Raytheon Intelligence and Space, has devoted his career to a range of technical, business and leadership roles in lasers and optics, and has been a strong advocate for DE with the DoD and Congress for the last 20+ years. Having served in leadership roles on many DE programs/pursuits [including the Army's DE-MSHORAD and HEL-TVD (now Valkyrie), Navy's HELIOS, and the Air Force's SHIELD LANCE], Dr. McKinnie intends to play a highly active role in support of the Society's efforts to advocate for the vital contribution that DE can make, in the near term, to the protection of US troops.

Mr. Adam Aberle, Director of the DE Directorate, US Army Space and Missile Defense Command Technical Center, has worked as a civil servant for the Army for 30 years and has spent nearly his entire career researching, developing, and managing S&T efforts relating to high energy lasers (HEL). In the last three years, Aberle has successfully transitioned HEL and beam control technology into four major HEL prototype weapon systems being assembled and fielded by the Rapid Capabilities and Critical Technology Office (RCCTO). As an incumbent Board member, Aberle is committed to keeping the “proverbial ‘ball’” rolling in the right direction and ensuring that the DE community (cross-service, cross-organization, and across industry) is working together for the benefit of our warfighters.

Mr. Chris Behre, DE Weapons Technical Specialist to the Director for Electronic Warfare in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment [OUSD (A&S)], has been working in DE for 20+ years, and is known for playing an integral lead role in the Navy’s Laser Weapon System (LaWS), Solid State Laser - Technology Maturation (SSL-TM) and Ground Based Air Defense (GBAD) programs. Behre continues to serve as a Principal Engineer at Dahlgren and provides oversight and guidance to the Navy Laser Family of Systems (LaWS), which will deploy ten laser weapon systems in the next three years. While on the DEPS BoD, Mr. Behre will focus on continued outreach to our warfighters, working to increase their membership “so that they fully understand the deployed capability we have today, and the potential of future systems given consistent investment.”

Dr. Stephanie Miller, Chief of the Bioeffects Division at the 711 Human Performance Wing for the U.S. Air Force (AF), has been working in the DE community for 30+ years and is best known for her expertise in radio frequency (RF) bioeffects and non-lethal weapons (NLWs). Dr. Miller, both an AFRL and DEPS Fellow, defines, leads, and manages the AF bioeffects research portfolio, and is credited with having built an internationally recognized team whose work has positively modified the overly restrictive international safety standards associated with DE exposures, maximizing the DoD's ability to fully exploit the electromagnetic spectrum for operational use. While on the BoD, Dr. Miller will advocate for the importance of an integrated proactive approach to facilitating the transition of these game-changing technologies.

Dr. Dave Stoudt, President of the DEPS BoD added, “Iain brings a wealth of experience and leadership in HEL development across industry and is a great addition to the DEPS team. I look forward to seeing his contributions and the continued leadership and engagement of Adam, Chris, and Stephanie, who have

significantly helped to advance the field of directed energy and bring in their military branch perspectives of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, respectively.”

The Directed Energy Professional Society fosters the research, development and operational transition of directed energy (DE) technologies, including high energy laser (HEL) and high power microwave (HPM) technologies, for national defense and civil applications through professional communication, education and outreach. For more information, visit www.deps.org

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