



**2009**

***Department of the Navy***

***Dr. Delores M. Etter  
Top Scientists and Engineers  
of the Year***

***Awards Ceremony***

***Friday, July 23, 2010  
Pentagon Auditorium***



## **Department of the Navy**

### **Dr. Delores M. Etter**

## **Top Scientists and Engineers of the Year**

Welcome to the 2009 ASN RD&A Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Scientists and Engineers of the Year Awards Ceremony.

The Department has more than 35,000 scientists and engineers pursuing research, development, acquisition and sustainment. These awards were established to honor the Department's scientists and engineers for superior technical achievements and to promote continued excellence. Of the 58 nomination packages submitted from across the Naval acquisition enterprise, 15 were selected for recognition, representing 18 scientists and engineers. The recipients come from coast to coast, and represent the best minds working for the Department of the Navy. The excellence demonstrated by each of the award winners will provide foundations for the success of all future Department of the Navy acquisition programs.

Dr. Etter served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition from November 2005 through November 2007; she also served as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Science and Technology from June 1998 through July 2001.



She currently resides in Dallas, and holds the Texas Instruments Distinguished Chair in Engineering Education, and is the Director of the Caruth Institute for Engineering Education.

## **Ceremony Events**

0830-0930 Area open to general public to review poster boards

0930-1030 Awards Ceremony

Presentation of Colors and National Anthem

Welcome:

*Mr. James E. Thomsen  
Principal Civilian Deputy to the Assistant  
Secretary of the Navy, Research,  
Development & Acquisition*

Opening Remarks:

*Hon. Sean J. Stackley  
Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Research,  
Development & Acquisition*

Guest Speaker:

*Hon. Zachary J. Lemnios  
Director, Defense Research & Engineering  
(DDR&E), Department of Defense*

Presentation of Awards

1030-1200 Reception (in auditorium hallway)

**The Honorable Zachary J. Lemnios**  
**Director, Defense Research & Engineering,**  
**Department of Defense**



The Honorable Zachary J. Lemnios was confirmed by the United States Senate on June 19, 2009, and sworn in as Director, Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E) on July 2, 2009. The DDR&E is the principal staff advisor for research and engineering matters to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)) and the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense.

In this capacity, Mr. Lemnios serves as the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) for the Department of Defense charged with the development and oversight of DoD technology strategy in concert with the Department's current and future requirements.

The goal of DDR&E is to extend the capabilities of current war fighting systems, develop breakthrough capabilities, hedge against an uncertain future through a set of scientific and engineering options and counter strategic surprise.

In cooperation with the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology (DUSD(A&T)), DDR&E also provides advice and assistance in developing policies for rapid technology transition.

Mr. Lemnios is a Principal member, Committee on Technology of the National Science and Technology Council; Advisor, Defense Acquisition Board; Chairman, Radiation Hardened Oversight Council (RHOC); Chairman, Defense Science and Technology Advisory Group (DSTAG); Chairman, Armed Services Biomedical Research Evaluation and Management Committee; Chairman, DoD Combat Feeding Research and Engineering Board (CFREB); and Chairman, DoD Biometrics Executive Committee.



## **The Honorable Sean J. Stackley** **Assistant Secretary of the Navy Research,** **Development & Acquisition**

Sean J. Stackley assumed the duties of Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN) (Research, Development & Acquisition (RDA)) following his confirmation by the Senate in July 2008. As the Navy's Acquisition Executive, Mr. Stackley is responsible for the research, development and acquisition of Navy and Marine Corps platforms and warfare systems which includes oversight of more than 100,000 people and an annual budget in excess of \$50 billion.

Prior to his appointment to ASN (RDA), Mr. Stackley served as a professional staff member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. During his tenure with the Committee, he was responsible for overseeing Navy and Marine Corps programs, U.S. Transportation Command matters and related policy for the Seapower Subcommittee. He also advised on Navy and Marine Corps operations & maintenance, science & technology and acquisition policy.

Mr. Stackley began his career as a Navy Surface Warfare Officer, serving in Engineering and Combat Systems assignments aboard USS John Young (DD 973). Upon completing his warfare qualifications, he was designated as an engineering duty officer and served in a series of industrial, fleet, program office and headquarters assignments in ship design and construction, maintenance, logistics and acquisition policy.

From 2001 to 2005, Mr. Stackley served as the Navy's LPD 17 program manager, with responsibility for all aspects of procurement for this major ship program. Having served earlier in his career as production officer for the USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) and project Naval architect overseeing structural design for the Canadian Patrol Frigate, HMCS Halifax (FFH 330), he had the unique experience of having performed a principal role in the design, construction, test and delivery of three first-of-class warships.

Mr. Stackley was commissioned and graduated with distinction from the United States Naval Academy in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He holds the degrees of Ocean Engineer and Master of Science, Mechanical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Stackley earned certification as professional engineer, Commonwealth of Virginia, in 1994.



**Mr. James E. Thomsen**  
**Principal Civilian Deputy,**  
**Assistant Secretary of the Navy,**  
**Research, Development & Acquisition**

Mr. Thomsen is currently the Principal Civilian Deputy Assistant Secretary (RD&A). His responsibilities include leadership of the acquisition workforce and systems engineering.

Previously, Mr. Thomsen served as the Program Executive Officer for Littoral and Mine Warfare. As PEO LMW, he had life cycle responsibility to design, produce, field, and support war fighting capability for the littoral battle space and for the global war on terrorism. Mr. Thomsen led seven program offices that comprised 224 programs ranging from ACAT I through ACAT IV and included several developmental programs that addressed urgent war fighting needs for OIF and OEF.

In 2003, Mr. Thomsen was selected as the Executive Director for the Program Executive Office, Littoral and Mine Warfare where he executed the Navy's material acquisition programs for Integrated Undersea Surveillance, Naval EOD/JCREW, Naval Special Warfare, Mine Warfare Surface and Aviation, Unmanned Maritime Vehicles, Naval Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Ashore and Afloat, and LCS Mission Modules for ASW, Mine Warfare, and ASUW.

Prior to this position, Mr. Thomsen was assigned as Head of the NAVSEA Dahlgren Division's Weapons Systems Department, directing over 550 scientists, engineers, technicians, and advancing key technical achievements in Naval Surface Weapons systems.

Mr. Thomsen was selected as a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) in November 1998 and then named as Head, Coastal Warfare Systems Department directing all of the Littoral Warfare RDT&E programs at Naval Surface Warfare Center (Panama City) which included 360 scientists, engineers, technicians, and military personnel.

Prior to November 1998, Mr. Thomsen served as Program Manager for Mine Warfare programs, for which he was awarded the NDIA Bronze Medal for his achievements in Mine Warfare; Senior Systems Engineer for the Shallow Water Mine Countermeasures program; Project Manager for the ACAT 1D Joint US/UK Surface Ship Torpedo Defense (SSTD) program for which he received the Commanding Officer/Technical Director Award for special achievement in technical management; and Head, Torpedo Defense Systems Development Branch and served as the System Integration Agent in Submarine Torpedo Defense Countermeasure programs for PMS 415.

In the early years of his 27 year career, he held engineering positions including design engineer, test engineer, project engineer, and systems engineer for several undersea warfare programs at Carderock, Panama City, and NAVSEA Headquarters.

Mr. Thomsen received his Bachelor's degree in Ocean Engineering from Florida Atlantic University in 1981 and his Master of Science degree from Florida State University in 1986.



## 2009 Award Recipients

Mario G. Ancona  
El Sayed Arafat  
Brian R. Bennett  
John Bradley Boos  
Brian J. Hankla  
Robert Huggins  
Dexter T. Kan  
Christine D. Knott  
Joseph P. Macker  
Thomas McKenna  
Christine M. Michienzi  
David J. Moretti  
Andrew C. Nicholas  
William C. Nickerson  
Russell Shannon  
Thomas Staley  
Karen Swider-Lyons  
James Waterman



***Congratulations  
to the  
2009 Awardees***