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ABOUT THE INSA INTELLIGENCE CHAMPIONS COUNCIL (ICC)

The ICC enhances the ability of the Intelligence Community, including its partners in industry and academia, to accomplish their missions by advising, mentoring, and educating individuals who are interested or engaged in intelligence-related careers.
Welcome and Keynote Remarks
Dr. Stacey Dixon, Deputy Director, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
4:30 PM ET

Awards Ceremony
5:00 PM ET

Closing Remarks and Celebratory Toast
Deb Davis, Vice President and General Manager, Mission Solutions and Service Sector, General Dynamics Information Technology
5:50 PM ET
The Intelligence and National Security Alliance (INSA) is the leading nonpartisan, nonprofit forum for driving public-private partnerships to advance intelligence and national security priorities. A 501(c)(6) membership organization, INSA strives to identify, develop, and promote collaborative approaches to national security challenges. INSA has more than 160 organizations in its membership and enjoys extensive participation from leaders and senior executives in the public, private, and academic sectors. Learn more at www.insaonline.org.

Since 2010, INSA has presented the Achievement Awards to recognize outstanding leadership, mentorship, and contributions to U.S. intelligence, national security, and homeland security. The recipients are early and mid-career professionals, for whom the Achievement Awards often represent the first formal, public recognition of their service to the nation.

Although missions and requirements vary within respective award categories, common selection criteria includes leadership, team building, mentorship, exceptional proficiency, and outsized influence within one’s organization.

The six awards recognize meaningful contributions from all sectors of the national security community:

- **JOAN A. DEMPSEY**
  Mentorship Award
- **SIDNEY D. DRELL**
  Academic Award
- **EDWIN H. LAND**
  Industry Award
- **JOHN W. WARNER**
  Homeland Security Award
- **WILLIAM O. STUDEMAN**
  Military Award
- **RICHARD J. KERR**
  Government Award
In June 2019, Dr. Stacey Dixon became the eighth Deputy Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). Prior to taking on this role, Dr. Dixon served as IARPA's fourth director from September 2018 to June 2019, after serving as Deputy Director from January 2016 to August 2018 at the same organization. Previously, she was the Deputy Director of NGA's Research Directorate and spent time as the Chief of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Deputy Director of NGA's Office of Corporate Communications.

Before joining NGA, Dr. Dixon was a staff member for the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence from 2007-2010 and worked for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), where she completed an assignment at the National Reconnaissance Office’s (NRO) Advanced Systems and Technology directorate.

Dr. Dixon holds both a doctorate and master’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University. Dr. Dixon is a native of the District of Columbia, where she currently resides.
JOAN A. DEMPSEY is a trailblazer for women entering the senior executive ranks of the defense and intelligence communities. She spent 17 years as a senior civilian in the Department of Defense, serving as Deputy Director of Intelligence at the Defense Intelligence Agency, amongst other leadership roles. Ms. Dempsey also was a political appointee of both major political parties, serving as the first Deputy Director of Central Intelligence for Community Management under President Bill Clinton and later as Executive Director of the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board under President George W. Bush. Ms. Dempsey is currently a senior executive advisor at Booz Allen Hamilton.
MEGHAN FLANNERY HAYES

Complex Systems Monitoring Department Head, 
Applied Research Laboratory at Penn State

As a Department Head at Pennsylvania State University’s Applied Research Lab (PSU/ARL), Meghan Flannery Hayes has transformed her workplace, empowered colleagues, and brought about positive organizational change.

A consummate champion for equality, she is the lead member of the Applied Research Lab’s strategic plan development team on the topic of workforce recruiting and retention diversity, equity, and inclusion. Meghan ensures equitable screening and hiring and facilitates a “Lean in Circle” that creates a platform and space for those who have faced the challenges of balancing work and home schooling.

Meghan played a key role in the planning for a diversity, equity, and inclusion town hall that sparked discussions and new ideas among more than 400 attendees. She also brought a renowned expert on battling burnout to facilitate a 2019 discussion that drew over 100 attendees and that still stimulates conversation today.

Additionally, Meghan takes proactive steps to transform work environments. In 2018, she co-founded and led the Applied Research Lab Women’s Strategic Synergy Group, which, successfully championed the extension of paid parental leave benefits organization-wide to all new parents.

Meghan is a true supporter and mentor for others. She gives generously of her time and contributes to national organizations, such as the Society of Women Engineers; helps at recruiting events; and serves her local community as a board member of CentreSafe, which helps survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Centre County, Pennsylvania.

Meghan Flannery Hayes is innovative and brave. She believes in people and brings out their best. She is eminently deserving of the Joan A. Dempsey Mentorship Award.
Dr. Sidney D. Drell (1926 - 2016) was a groundbreaking theoretical physicist, passionate arms control champion, and trusted government advisor who helped shape U.S. policies on nuclear deterrence and nonproliferation at the start of the Cold War. He is also recognized as one of the founders of satellite reconnaissance as a space discipline. Dr. Drell's wide-ranging technical expertise informed the national security policies of U.S. presidents for more than 50 years. He served on the President's Science Advisory Committee under Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon during the Vietnam War and on the Intelligence Advisory Board for President Bill Clinton. He also served on or chaired numerous panels advising Congress, the military and the Intelligence Community.
Meg Guliford embodies what it means to be a dedicated scholar, engaged community member, and esteemed role model. Her intellectual contributions, dedication to her work, and commitment to the nation make her an invaluable member of the national security community.

While a PhD candidate at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, Ms. Guliford brought service as a defense analyst for the U.S. government and on-the-ground experience in a war zone to her work on the complex dynamics of foreign intervention. The strength of her research, which investigates how external intervention impacts the victimization of civilians in civil wars, has been recognized by the broader community, earning her a seat at conferences and public discussions, as well as a prestigious multi-year fellowship to be in residence at Perry World House from the University of Pennsylvania’s Provost.

Committed to improving diversity and inclusion in public service, Ms. Guliford engages in policy debates about what it means to be an underrepresented minority in the disciplines of international relations and national security. To highlight her own lived experience of these challenges, she publicly shares her academic and career journey and provides guidance to the academic community on how to combat discrimination towards and mistreatment of women and minorities in the field.

Meg Guliford is not one to sit in the “Ivory Tower.” Rather, she prefers to work alongside her colleagues and students to build a stronger national security community, epitomizing all that the Sidney D. Drell Achievement Award represents.
EDWIN H. LAND (1909 - 1991) was an American scientist and inventor whose contributions to the fields of light polarization and photography revolutionized American culture as well as intelligence gathering. Mr. Land’s pioneering research led to the development of the Polaroid film, an invention that would lead him to co-found what would become the Polaroid Corporation. Mr. Land and his company developed several tools for the U.S. military leading up to and during World War II, including an early version of night-vision goggles and the Vectograph, a viewing system that revealed enemy camouflage in aerial photography. Mr. Land and Polaroid also spearheaded aerial reconnaissance at the start of the Cold War, playing a major role in the development of the Lockheed U-2 spy plane and the first spy satellites.
As Principal Engineer for Algorithms, Darek Kawamoto has been instrumental in demonstrating how inexpensive commercial small satellite technology can be used to produce world-class geolocations—a game-changer to a world in which such capabilities were principally possessed only by government agencies. He developed sophisticated algorithms that underpin how his company geolocates high quality radio frequency (RF) data. A pioneer in this emerging field of commercial RF GEOINT, Darek’s name appears as an inventor on two of HawkEye 360’s patents.

Darek’s rapid prototypes and early successes are able to shift his team’s focus from feeling daunted by complex and ill-defined problems to feeling empowered by the possibility of a solution. Additionally, his willingness to pursue the less glamorous aspects of development work and his humility to collaborate with a larger team, set him apart from other outstanding engineers.

The quality of his work has led the U.S. Government to recognize the value of commercial RF GEOINT for intelligence analysis. Unclassified and easily sharable RF GEOINT also enables intelligence agencies and other government users to collaborate more effectively with foreign allies, state and local authorities, and other key partners, and permitted intelligence analysts who could not access secure facilities to continue providing insights to policymakers and other customers.

Darek multiplies his influence through mentorship, education, and support of both technical and non-technical members of the organization. Darek Kawamoto’s sharp analytical mind, commitment to excellence, and strict adherence to the highest standards of work strengthen the capabilities of his company, the Intelligence Community at large, and the security of the nation.
THE HONORABLE JOHN W. WARNER was a prominent, influential voice on national security during his 30 years in the U.S. Senate. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services for three periods; he was also Vice Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence and a member of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Prior to public office, he served as Secretary of the Navy under President Richard Nixon. Senator Warner’s unique understanding of intelligence collection and analysis and the critical role of intelligence to inform policymakers made him a highly respected champion of intelligence budget and policy matters. In 2008, Senator Warner became the first recipient of the National Intelligence Distinguished Public Service Medal.
Victoria Rossi’s dedication to the mission, can-do attitude, and exemplary service are the perfect embodiment of CISA’s mission to “Defend Today, Secure Tomorrow.” Whether assessing known cyber threat actors or malign foreign influencers targeting U.S. elections, she provides insightful intelligence information that drives operations to protect U.S. critical infrastructure.

As an intelligence analyst for CISA’s Integrated Operations Division, Intelligence Division, Ms. Rossi made significant contributions to the safety and security of the 2020 presidential election. She delivered briefings at weekly ODNI-led elections synchronization meetings, ensuring inter-agency decisionmakers had the most current and accurate information available, and provided dozens of intelligence briefings for CISA executive leadership on cyber and physical threats to national critical infrastructure.

Ms. Rossi spearheaded the acquisitions process for systems and equipment supporting not only the elections team but the entire CISA Intelligence Division. Her efforts to codify standard operating procedures for recurring CISA intelligence tasks improved the organization’s efficiency. Her contributions to the working group tasked with creating CISA Intelligence’s future operational concept ensure that the agency is well-positioned for the future.

Ms. Rossi’s hard work and commitment are infectious. She is a mentor, counselor, confidante, and cheerleader for her colleagues. She leads by example and seeks out opportunities to support those around her—even boosting morale by making homecooked meals for her team.

Victoria Rossi’s demonstrated initiative, ability to lead and support a multi-faceted team, and outstanding mastery of her responsibilities directly contributed to the success of CISA’s mission and the security of the 2020 elections.
ADMIRAL BILL STUDEMAN has had a decorated career in the U.S. Navy, the Intelligence Community, and the private sector. He served as director of the National Security Agency from 1988 to 1992, following three years as director of Naval Intelligence. He then joined the CIA, serving as deputy director, with two extended periods as acting director. In 1995, he retired from the U.S. Navy after 32 years. In 2004, President George W. Bush appointed him to the commission examining the intelligence on weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. He retired from Northrop Grumman Corporation, where he was vice president and deputy general manager of mission systems, in 2005.
Maj. Arturo A. “Jay” Tibayan, Jr., USA
Duty Officer, White House Situation Room, National Security Council, The White House

A highly effective problem solver and leader, Major Arturo “Jay” Tibayan, Jr. has repeatedly been handpicked for some of the most complex and demanding intelligence jobs within the DoD and interagency. He has led with poise and maturity beyond his years in support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretary of Defense, and the White House.

Major Tibayan spearheaded efforts on two of the Secretary of Defense’s “4+1” challenges. He was a lead planner for the Defense Department’s response to North Korean provocations and the White House DPRK Pressure Campaign and the architect behind intelligence inputs into sixteen high-level wargames that influenced discussions at the highest levels of the military and decisions by the President of the United States.

Major Tibayan engineered a framework for deconfliction and streamlined more than 5,000 requirements from eight war plans into a single intelligence support plan for North Korea, reducing requirements by a remarkable 80 percent.

As a Joint Staff J-5 briefer, Major Tibayan’s briefing on missile threats prompted an Integrated Air and Missile Defense Working Group to address existing vulnerabilities and guide modernization efforts.

In his current role, Major Tibayan provides the White House with 24-hour awareness and strategic warning regarding threats to homeland and U.S. national security. He leads interagency collaboration in managing crises and facilitates rapid, secure communications with world leaders in direct support of the President, the National Security Advisor, and National Security Council staff.

Displaying impressive character, intellect, vision, and leadership, Major Arturo A. Tibayan, Jr. is eminently deserving of the William O. Studeman Military Award.
RICHARD J. KERR served as deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency from 1989 to 1992, including a term as acting director. He offered critical insight and leadership at a time of global uncertainty that included the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the beginning of U.S. military operations in Iraq. Mr. Kerr began his career at CIA as an analyst at the height of the Cold War in 1960, rising to associate director for intelligence in 1982 and then deputy director for intelligence in 1986. Mr. Kerr served as president of the Security Affairs Support Association (SASA), from which INSA was founded, from 1996 to 2001.
Jessica Van Cleaf’s admirable work ethic, astute decision-making, and effective interpersonal communication skills make her a valued member of the U.S. Coast Guard’s Intelligence Program.

From 2019-2020, Ms. Van Cleaf served as the U.S. Coast Guard’s Signals Intelligence Program Manager, taking on the role of a higher-grade civilian position for a $225 million program office. Her leadership and technical experience enhanced the Coast Guard’s ability to address national security challenges at sea, including transnational organized crime and threats from state and non-state actors. Ms. Van Cleaf’s management enabled at-sea Cryptologic Operations responsible for interdicting 42 metric tons of cocaine valued at over $1.6 billion.

Ms. Van Cleaf led a team to refine the legacy Coast Guard Cryptology organizational design by creating a new operating concept, Coast Guard Distributed SIGINT Operations. The new network approach to operations provided intelligence that better informed cutter commanders’ decisions and improved ship-to-shore rotations for deploying servicemembers.

Through her exemplary leadership, Ms. Van Cleaf facilitated multiple working groups resulting in the establishment of a Coast Guard Cryptologic Office, the creation of a joint Coast Guard-Navy Signals Analysis Laboratory, and new Memoranda of Agreement between Navy and Coast Guard to create integrated Information Operations Centers at multiple locations worldwide.

Detailed and mission-oriented, she helped transform the Coast Guard’s operational culture to reflect the Service’s embrace of data-centric decision-making, which expanded maritime awareness at a fraction of the cost of current approaches.

Jessica Van Cleaf has proven to be an outstanding public servant who has contributed significantly to the national security of the United States.
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