# **Open Session Speaker Biosketches**

### **Dr. Travis King**

# Director for Basic Research

Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army Research and Technology (DASA(R&T)) Dr. Travis King serves as the Director for Basic Research and STEM Outreach in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research & Technology) (DASA(R&T)). In this role he is responsible for Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) oversight and coordination of the \$446M Army Basic Research portfolio. He represents the portfolio within HQDA, to Congress, to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, to other Defense Services and Agencies, and to external stakeholders.

From 2017 until 2019, Dr. King served as the Deputy Director for Integration in the Office of the DASA(R&T), assisting the Director for Integration in coordination and oversight of the Army's Technology Maturation Initiative, Manufacturing Technology, Red Teaming, and Joint Capability Technology Demonstration (JCTD) programs. Dr. King also assisted in development of Army-wide Science & Technology policies, coordination of briefings to senior Army and OSD leaders, and other activities requiring coordination across DASA(R&T) technical portfolios.

From 2009 until 2017 Dr. King served in various roles within the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC). As ERDC Liaison Officer to DASA(R&T), he facilitated the exchange of information between ERDC, DASA(R&T), and other HQDA entities. Specific responsibilities included assisting in the preparation of annual budget cycle documents and briefings, and explaining and defending high priority ERDC programs. Dr. King served as a researcher at the ERDC laboratory in Champaign, Illinois from 2009-2015, investigating bioinspired sensors and responsive materials for chemical sensing of environmental contaminants to protect Army ranges and installations.

Dr. King received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for his research into fluid transport and chemical reactivity in micro- and nanofluidic systems, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Ohio Northern University.

# Dr. Vallen L. Emery, Jr.

*Outreach Program Manager, US Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (CCDC), Army Research Laboratory* 

Dr. Vallen L. Emery, Jr. currently serves as the outreach program manager for the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command's Army Research Laboratory (ARL). His efforts have contributed to the development of ARL's strategic planning and educational outreach strategies regarding the shortfall of engineers and scientists entering the Federal workforce. Dr. Emery has configured ARL's educational outreach program into two areas (i.e. Workforce and University Outreach & K-12 Outreach); all of which support and compliment ARL's research and development (R&D) vision and strategic plan.

Prior to joining ARL, Dr. Emery served as a Research Biologist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station (WES), located in Vicksburg, Mississippi. While at WES, Dr. Emery helped establish a R&D program that focused on aquatic bioassay test development, aquatic toxicity testing of military unique compounds and ecological risk assessment. Several chronic bioassays were developed by the R&D team and are nationally used to assist local governments in determining the impact of low level contaminant exposures on ecosystems. Dr. Emery also served as the Director of Special Projects and Marketing at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Maryland, before serving in his position at WES. Dr. Emery established professional training programs for the marketing and customer service staffs at Johns Hopkins, and instituted customer survey instruments that assessed the quality of all HMO services. In addition, Dr. Emery assisted in the creation of the Johns Hopkins HMO advertising campaign that won several awards and was later emulated by other area HMOs.

Dr. Emery holds a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Morgan State University, a Master's degree in Marine Estuarine and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and a Doctorate degree in Marine, Estuarine and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland College Park.

# **Rear Admiral Lorin Selby**

#### Chief of Naval Research, Office of Naval Research

Rear Adm. Lorin Selby is a native of Baltimore, Maryland and graduated from the University of Virginia with a Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering and earned his commission through the Navy's Reserve Officers Training Corps program. He also holds a Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering and a Nuclear Engineer degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

His shipboard tours include USS Puffer (SSN 652), USS Pogy (SSN 647) and USS Connecticut (SSN 22). From July 2004 to May 2007 he commanded USS Greeneville (SSN 772) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. During these assignments, Selby conducted several deployments to the Western Pacific, Northern Pacific, Northern Atlantic and Arctic Oceans. Ashore, Selby's staff assignments include duty as a company officer and instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy, service as the deputy director of the Navy's liaison office to the U.S. House of Representatives and duty as the Submarine Platforms and Strategic Programs branch head in the Submarine Warfare Directorate on the Navy Staff. Following selection as an acquisition professional, he served as the program manager for both the Submarine Imaging and Electronic Warfare Systems Program Office (PMS 435) and the Advanced Undersea Systems Program Office (PMS 394). As a flag officer, Selby served as commander, Naval Surface Warfare Centers (NSWC) from October 2014 to August 2016. In this position, he led more than 17,000 scientists, engineers, technicians and support personnel, both civilian and active duty, within eight NSWC divisions located across the country.

From June 2016 until May 2020, he served as the Navy's chief engineer and the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Deputy Commander for Ship Design, Integration and Naval Engineering (SEA 05), where he led the engineering and scientific expertise, knowledge and technical authority necessary to design, build, maintain, repair, modernize, certify and dispose of the Navy's ships, aircraft carriers, submarines and associated combat and weapons systems.

In May of 2020, he assumed command of the Office of Naval Research as the 26th Chief of Naval Research. Selby is authorized to wear the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (three awards), Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (six awards) and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards) in addition to various unit awards.

#### Dr. Reginald G. Williams

Program Manager, Basic Research, Office of Naval Research

Reginald Williams is the Office of Naval Research program officer for the Laboratory and Enterprise Research Initiatives. As program officer he oversees the ONR's Young Investigator Program (YIP), Research Opportunities for Program Officers (ROPO), In-house Laboratory Independent Research (ILIR), Naval Research Enterprise Internship Program (NREIP) for undergraduate and graduate students, and the Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program (SEAP) for high school students.

Previously he held managing and research roles in the Propulsion and Power Engineering competency at the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) Patuxent River, MD. His assignments included managing the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer Research (STTR) programs, high-speed engine technology demonstrators, and turbine engine analysis.

In private industry, Dr. Williams managed engineering programs and conducted research in advanced propulsion integration for industrial, commercial, and military applications. Dr. Williams received his PhD, MS, and BS in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland at College Park.

#### Mr. Anthony C. Smith, Sr.

Director, Department of Navy's Historically Black Colleges & Universities/Minority Institutions Program, Office of Naval Research

Mr. Anthony C. Smith, Sr. joined the Office of Naval Research (ONR) in October 2014 as a Program Manager and the Director for the Department of the Navy's (DoN) Historically Black Colleges Universities and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program. In this role, he provides the Chief of Naval Research (CNR) with guidance on utilizing HBCU/MI's to solve Naval Science and Technology (S&T) gaps/challenges by performing university research, student internships and faculty fellowships.

Prior to this role, he was the, Flight Upgrade Integration Manager at Program Executive Office (PEO) Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) within Program Management Ships (PMS) 501. He was responsible for overseeing the execution of PMS 501's \$100M Science and Technology portfolio and the \$30M Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) portfolio. Prior the this role, he was the Director of Science and Technology for PEO LCS, PMS 501, where he was directly responsible for the management of 35 SBIR projects, 40 S&T projects and providing guidance to 25 Technical Points of Contact tasked with making final determination of technology phases, development of topics, and execution of technology transfers for LCS. Mr. Smith also held positions as Director of Future Technologies and Technical Director within PMS 501 Program Office.

Before reporting to PEO PMS 501 Program Office, Mr. Smith was a Senior Science and Technology Liaison for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) working as a Department of the Army Systems Coordinator (DASC). He was responsible with managing four S&T programs within a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) for the Secretary of the Army, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology-Systems Special Programs (SAAL-SSP) Technology directorate. Mr. Smith also worked as a Naval Analyst for Resource Consultants Incorporated (RCI) where he was the Lead Consultant who wrote, reviewed and submitted the Preliminary Ship's Manning document (PSMD) and Watch Quarter Station Bill (WQSB) for the Littoral Combat Ship.

Mr. Smith is an Active Drilling Reservist, Captain (0-6) in the United States Navy. He is assigned to the Director of Naval Staff (DNS) within the Pentagon. Mr. Smith holds a BS in Biology from Texas Tech University. He is DAWIA Level III S&T qualified. He volunteers as a youth basketball coach, a member of Blacks in Government (BIG) and a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. He is married to the former Janeifer Claud and they have to virulent boys, Anthony Jr. and Joshua.

# **Colonel Michelle Ewy, Ph.D.**

Deputy Director/Det 14 Commander, Air Force Office of Scientific Research

Colonel Michelle Ewy is the Deputy Director and Detachment 14 Commander of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), Arlington, VA. In this role she helps lead the management of the United States Air Force's global basic research investment. AFOSR has a staff of 200 scientists, engineers and administrators in Arlington, Virginia and foreign technology offices in London, Tokyo and Santiago, Chile. In this role, Col Ewy ensures the success of a \$500 million/year basic research investment portfolio and the transition of resulting discoveries to other components of the Air Force Research Laboratory, to defense industries and to other federal agencies. The office's annual investment in basic research is distributed among roughly 200 leading academic institutions worldwide, 100 industry-based contracts, and more than 250 internal AFRL research efforts.

Colonel Ewy received her commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps in August 1995. After her initial assignment as an Air Force chemist at the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, she was selected to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology Civilian Institution program and earned her Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. Her follow-on assignment at the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) involved investigating microbial contamination of aviation fuel. Col Ewy was then assigned as an instructor at the Air Force Academy in the chemistry department, followed by an Intermediate Developmental Education (IDE) tour at Argonne National Laboratory as an Air Force National Technical Laboratory Fellow. Concurrent with her tours at AFRL and the Air Force Academy, Col Ewy also served two 120-day rotations as the Lab Chief of the deployed Aerospace Fuels Laboratory, Al Udeid AB in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. After IDE, she transitioned to the Air Force Office of Scientific Research and supported the Air Force basic research program, first as a Program Manager and then as a Program Element Monitor at the Pentagon. From the National Capital Region, she moved to Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX, and took command of the Headquarters Air Force Drug Testing Laboratory. Col Ewy was then assigned as the Director of the Department of Research and Publications at the Air Command and Staff College. Following this assignment, she was a Senior Developmental Education student assigned to the Air War College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL. Prior to her current assignment, Colonel Ewy was the Military Assistant to the Chief Scientist of the Air Force, Washington, D.C. She is married to Colonel Todd Ewy, PhD, USAF.

#### Mr. Edward J. Lee

Program Coordinator, Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Serving Institutions Program, Air Force Office of Scientific Research

Mr. Edward J. Lee is the Program Coordinator for Historically Black Colleges and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI's) for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) in Arlington, VA, one of the 9 directorates that comprise the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL). He is responsible for coordinating activities that provide funding support to minority institutions across the nation. Mr. Lee provides leadership, strategic direction, and oversight to universities to help make them aware of opportunities and facilitates introductions and guidance to ensure institutions of higher education are well represented within the minority community. He has a unique way of communicating and can talk to everyone to make them feel special, from students to university Presidents. Mr. Lee has recently taken on the task of coordinating activities with the small business programs of SBIR and STTR geared towards fostering the commercialization of products to the warfighter for the Department of Defense.

Mr. Lee has worked for the AFOSR since 1997, initially overseeing the University Research Initiative program. He is now working to enhance communications between HBCU's and MI's to be able to compete for contracts/grants at a larger scale. Working in private industry prior to coming to AFOSR and owning his own business since 1987, EJL Associates, Ed has helped to establish and support black-owned businesses in the Washington Metropolitan area. Ed is also a graduate from an HBCU, Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland and in 2013 authored his first book, The Soul of Man.