

2019

# MID-ATLANTIC AWARDS

## **NOVEMBER 6**

The Universities at Shady Grove Rockville, MD

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**Dr. Jack Pevenstein** Mid-Atlantic **Regional Coordinator** National Institute of Standards and Technology



**Carmen Krieger** Mid-Atlantic Deputy **Regional Coordinator** Environmental Protection Agency

### WELCOME TO THE 2019 FLC MID-ATLANTIC **REGIONAL AWARDS**

Thank you for joining us as we honor our newest group of award winners. With the epicenter of the federal government sitting within our region, we are in the unique position of being home to dozens of laboratories and facilities that create innovative technologies. As reflected in this year's theme, "Building Bridges and Infrastructure to Support Federal Technology Transfer," today's honorees have worked hard with their partners in industry, academia, and state and local governments to convert their technologies into applications that not only strengthen the economy regionally, but also on a larger scale.

#### This year, the Mid-Atlantic Region is pleased to honor individuals and organizations in the following categories:

**Educational Institution and Federal Laboratory Partnership Award** - Recognizes the efforts of federal science and technology employees and educational institutions in the Region who have collaboratively accomplished outstanding work in the process of transferring a

technology.

Excellence in Technology Transfer Award – Recognizes laboratory employees and their partners in the Region who have accomplished outstanding work in the process of transferring federally developed technology to the marketplace.

Outstanding Technology Transfer Professional Award - Recognizes the efforts of an FLC laboratory technology transfer professional in the Region who has demonstrated outstanding work transferring a technology in a manner significantly above and beyond what was called for.

Laboratory Director of the Year Award - Recognizes a Laboratory Director in the Region who has made outstanding contributions to support technology transfer activities in his/her organization and the communities he/she serves.

We congratulate the winners on their well-deserved success.

## **EXCELLENCE IN** TECHNOLOGY **TRANSFER AWARD**



### Solid Decontamination (Decon) Blend

#### Department of Defense – U.S. Army

**U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center** 

The Army-patented Solid Decontamination (Decon) Blend offers superior capability to neutralize biological and chemical threats such as nerve agents, opioids, and anthrax pathogens. A collaborative research team created by the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center (CCDC CBC) developed and tested the dry decontamination blend as part of the Army laboratory's ongoing search for easily deployed advanced countermeasures against harmful chemical and biological agents. It is effective against a broad spectrum of microorganisms and chemicals that have the potential to harm military and civilian populations.

The CCDC CBC team was largely responsible for transferring the Decon technology to a new startup company, MQM Solutions, Inc., of Cleveland, Ohio, which was created specifically to commercialize the Army technology. A Patent Licensing Agreement (PLA) and Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA), both signed in early 2019, quickly led to further research and development and field testing to yield the Army-patented decontaminant now on the commercial market.

The speed with which the Decon tech transfer succeeded was exceptional by any measure. The two partners signed the CRADA January 30, 2019, the PLA February 25 and, in June MQM Solutions sold its first Decon-based commercial product. The impressive timeline of Decon's transition to commercial on-the-shelf product not only personified the CBC's technology transfer (T2) culture of agile responsiveness, it also reflected the laser-focus determination of the MQM cofounders and their resolute belief in the technology's value to commercial users. Both partners in this transfer quickly seized the opportunities presented, refusing to allow a promising but neglected

technology to languish unused.

The unique Decon chemical formulation-now available in packets as a dry powder easily reconstituted with any water source-reduces weight and volume by 90 percent compared to most conventional liquid decontamination products like hypochlorite solutions (bleach) or hydrogen peroxide-based products. The Decon technology also addresses other problems with available decontaminant liquids, namely, the use, storage, and transport of such liquids, which create logistical and hazmat challenges. Many are typically corrosive to multiple materials, can prove less efficacious, exhibit unsatisfactory materials compatibility (e.g., plastics, paints), require measuring multi-part additions to activate, mandate special packaging, or are unstable without controlled transportation and storage systems.

The need for an effective, more advanced, and efficient decontaminant was great. The Army CCDC CBC and its industry partner, MQM Solutions, answered the call in record time.



Left to right: Kevin Morrissey, Amanda Schenning, Matthew Jones

Winners not pictured: Marti Elder, Timothy Meilander, Lawrence Procell, Dr. George Wagner Contact: Amanda Hess, (410) 436-5406, amanda.l.hess9.civ@mail.mil

#### **EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARD**









FR Decon in use at a fire and police training session



FR Decon mix kit



Left to right: Blake Saionia. Jain McVev

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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AND FEDERAL LABORATORY PARTNERSHIP AWARD



## Advanced Studies in Technology Transfer Graduate School Program

Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health | Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) Graduate School at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has developed, in conjunction with technology transfer professionals at NIH, a unique low-cost Advanced Studies in Technology Transfer Program. This program serves the needs of scientists or engineers who wish to gain expertise in patenting, licensing, collaborative agreements, and other fundamental intellectual property transactions, as well as provides additional training to professionals already in the field.

The program culminates in an independent Capstone Project through which students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of the theory and practice of technology transfer by completing a project of their design and choice at the NIH or in the regional community.

The Advanced Studies in Technology Transfer Program is open to persons with a bachelor's degree in science or engineering. Courses are offered in the evenings, making it convenient for working professionals and postgraduate fellows to seek additional training or gain expertise and experience in patenting, licensing, collaborative agreements, and other fundamental intellectual property transactions. The course instructors and guest speakers are leading practitioners in the field, including many from various federal laboratories in the FLC Mid-Atlantic Region, so students can simultaneously gain the necessary knowledge and build professional networks. It is rare to find a laboratory in the Mid-Atlantic Region that does not have a technology transfer professional who has participated in this program as either a student, guest speaker or course faculty member.

The program comprises a 15-credit curriculum that may be completed in approximately two years, although students can complete the requirements at their own pace. In addition, for those technology transfer professionals who would benefit from a formal degree based on their technology transfer courses taken at the FAES Graduate School at NIH, FAES has entered into partnerships with area universities to offer unique academic opportunities and pathways of study toward degree completion.



Left to right: Lynn Johnson Langer, Ph.D., MBA; Steven M. Ferguson, CLP

Contact: Steven Ferguson, (301) 435-5561, sf8h@nih.gov

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AND FEDERAL LABORATORY PARTNERSHIP AWARD



FAES

Technology transfer courses at FAES Graduate School at NIH

## OUTSTANDING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROFESSIONAL AWARD



### Dr. Robert J. Griesbach

## U.S. Department of Agriculture **Agricultural Research Service**



Dr. Robert J. Griesbach currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) Office of Technology Transfer (OTT), where he facilitates the adoption of ARS scientists' research, methods and

technology, and promotes the development and transfer of new technologies while minimizing constraints on scientific creativity. Dr. Griesbach oversees the Agreements Section of OTT, which is responsible for execution and implementation of intellectual property (IP)-based collaborations, including Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) and Material Research Transfer Agreements (MRTAs).

In fiscal year 2018, Dr. Griesbach oversaw the review and execution of 51 new CRADAs, 63 amendments, and 118 other IP-based collaborative agreements. He also advises on non-IP-based collaborative research agreements that touch on IP-related issues. In accomplishing this goal, he interacts with scientists at 90 USDA locations nationwide and technology transfer professionals located in 5 ARS area offices.

Outside of the office, he served as the FLC Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator for three and a half years. In that capacity, he not only highlighted USDA's technology transfer, but also coordinated events to showcase all laboratories in the Region. His dedication and hard work led to four regional meetings with record attendance (2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017) and nine Technology Forums on various topics, including Doing Business with the Federal Labs and Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR).

To encourage the next generation of the science, engineering, technology, and mathematics (STEM) workforce, Dr. Griesbach regularly serves as a mentor to graduate students, as well as middle and high school students. He has been an instructor at one-day workshops OTT has conducted in high schools, providing genetics instruction and presenting his very popular talk entitled "Thanking USDA for Dinner." He has represented ARS at the Smithsonian Innovation Festival and provided youngsters with knowledge about career opportunities in ARS while conducting handson experiments. He serves as a volunteer judge for science and history fairs in the Washington metropolitan area.

Beyond his scientific achievements, Dr. Griesbach has served as an unofficial historian for the agency and published several peer-reviewed papers on ARS science history. He has also authored a USDA publication on the history of plant introduction and breeding.

Dr. Griesbach exemplifies outstanding service and professionalism. His impact on ARS research and his enthusiasm for and commitment to encouraging science education are unparalleled. He will leave his mark on generations of scientists and technology transfer professionals to come.

Contact: Dr. Robert Griesbach, (301) 505-6905, robert.griesbach@ars.usda.gov

### OUTSTANDING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROFESSIONAL AWARD



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## LABORATORY **DIRECTOR OF THE** YEAR AWARD



### Dr. Eric L. Moore, Ph.D.

#### Department of Defense – U.S. Army

**U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center** 



Dr. Eric Moore has energized technology transfer (T2) at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center (CCDC CBC) since his appointment as director in late 2017. He contributes in-depth understanding of T2 needs from his

decades of federal service to counter potential chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) threats to national security and public safety. Prior to this role, Dr. Moore had already built an impressive career of both educational and professional achievements, with a long list of CBRNE-linked activities that undoubtedly contributed to his deft leadership of the Army laboratory and its technology transfer efforts.

With a Ph.D. in neurophysiology, Dr. Moore began his meritorious federal service in 1992 as a principal investigator on bioweapon countermeasures at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. Additional positions as director of the Army's Forensic Toxicology Drug Testing Laboratory, senior officer with the Defense Intelligence Agency, and senior science and technology manager for chemical medical countermeasures in the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) preceded his move in 2016 to director of CBC's Research & Technology Directorate. Collectively, these experiences reinforced Dr. Moore's commitment to the crucial technology transfer of Army innovations to best achieve field-ready products.

Within the Army laboratory, Dr. Moore quickly strengthened technology transfer by establishing CBC's Strategic Initiatives Group (SIG) to include the Technology Transfer Office. He realigned the

Contact: Dr. Eric Moore. (410) 436-5501

more quickly.

On January 30, 2019, Dr. Moore signed CBC's CRADA agreement with startup MQM Solutions to conduct collaborative research and development in evaluating decontaminant formulations for the neutralization of opioids. A Patent Licensing Agreement executed February 25 granted MQM the use of Army patents 9,724,550 and 9,700,644, both entitled "One Part, Solids Containing Decontamination Blend Composition." By June, the company sold its first product kit to non-Department of Defense customers-an exceptionally short transition timeframe.

### LABORATORY DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD





SIG to directly report to him, regularly meeting with T2 staff, signing all T2 agreements to remain personally involved, and encouraging CBC technical personnel to engage in T2 activities. Outside the laboratory, he is highly active among industry and academic stakeholders in CBRNE countermeasures, facilitating the transition of needed CBC technology to commercialization to put better tools in the field

To promote the transfer of CBC innovations and support technology transfer in general, his external T2-related outreach is extensive. He was an invited panel participant at the 2018 Maryland Technology Transfer Summit hosted by the state's governor and senators. He attended the 2017 FLC Mid-Atlantic regional meeting to acknowledge CBC's T2 awards. As director, he provides financial support to the CBC ORTA's promotion and advertising efforts to showcase CBC technologies through forums, exhibits, publications, social media, and ORTA travel to engage prospective and established T2 partners. To expand CBC's international T2 presence, Dr. Moore has interacted with RDECOM (now CCDC) Forward Element Centers, the Engineer and Scientist Exchange Program, Data Exchange Agreements, and the Technical Cooperation Program.



### FLC MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL AWARDS **JUDGING PANEL**

Representing several federal laboratories, the members of the judging panel enthusiastically devoted their time and efforts to judging the nominations submitted for this year's awards. Selecting the winners was a difficult task, but these evaluators admirably rose to the challenge.

The FLC Mid-Atlantic Region recognizes their tireless efforts and expresses its gratitude.

Donna Cannella U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command -Chemical Biological Center

**Brian Darmody** Association of University Research Parks

Patricia Doutriaux U.S. Agency for International Development

**James Mitchell** U.S. Geological Survey

Maria Restrepo-Hartwig USDA Agricultural Research Service

**Damien Walsh** U.S. Joint Forces Command

### **2019 FLC MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL MEETING – PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Special thanks to the following individuals for their contributions in making this year's regional meeting a great success.

Mojdeh Bahar U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Cristy Blake** Montgomery County

Cathleen Cohn U.S. Department of Agriculture

John Emond National Aeronautics and Space Administration (retired)

John Frasier National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Rob Griesbach U.S. Department of Agriculture

Fizie Haleem Montgomery College

**Ronald Kaese** TEDCO

Chuck Na National Institute of Standards and Technology

Sarwat Naz National Institutes of Health

**Dr. Jack Pevenstein** National Institute of Standards and Technology

**Ben Solomon** FedTech

Dr. Thomas Stackhouse National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health

Samantha Kilgore NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Kelly Wright National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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### 2018 INTERAGENCY PARTNERSHIP AWARD WINNER

Connecting Space to Village – NASA and USAID's SERVIR Program

U.S. Agency for International Development; National Aeronautics and Space Administration

National Aeronautics and Space Administration "Each year we never cease to be amazed at the high level of innovation and commercialization coming from our laboratories. This is only possible through the commitment of our scientists, inventors, technology transfer professionals, and their partners. The FLC Mid-Atlantic Region is pleased to have the opportunity to give these individuals the recognition they truly deserve."

> - **Dr. Jack Pevenstein** Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator



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