

## Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs - December 2014 Constituent Newsletter

### **Baldrige Performance Excellence Program seeks 2015 Examinars**

The [Baldrige Performance Excellence Program](#) (BPEP) seeks applicants for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Board of Examiners for the 2015 award cycle. Baldrige examiners are part of an elite group of more than 400 professionals who commit their knowledge, skills, and time to help evaluate applicants for [the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award](#)—the only Presidential award for organizational performance excellence. The board is composed of senior leaders and experienced management professionals from across all sectors of the U.S. economy, including manufacturing, service, small business, health care, education, government, and nonprofit. Examiners make a major contribution to the national effort to recognize and promote performance excellence, and they benefit from an unparalleled networking and educational experience.

BPEP has a particular need for examiners who are physicians; senior leaders of medium and large organizations; community college faculty and administrators; K-12 principals, administrators, and superintendents; and financial professionals. In addition, BPEP is seeking individuals with senior-level experience in nonprofit organizations, particularly utilities and other government organizations, as well as charities. More information on the BPEP program including an application is available [here](#). Applications will be accepted until 6:00 pm EST January 8, 2015.

### **Applications for 2015 Summer Undergraduate Fellows (SURFs)**

Undergraduates and their colleges or universities are invited to apply to participate in NIST's 2015 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program for students majoring in science, mathematics and engineering. Applications for participation in the SURF program are only accepted from colleges or universities, and not from individual students. NIST anticipates providing meaningful research opportunities for approximately 130 students at their Gaithersburg, Maryland campus. The NIST site in Boulder, Colorado, also operates a SURF program with a distinctly separate application. The SURF Programs are anticipated to run between May 26 – August 9, 2015 or June 8 – August 9, 2015 at the Gaithersburg campus; and May 18 to July 31, 2015 at the Boulder campus. Adjustments may be made to accommodate specific academic schedules.

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, February 13, 2015. Complete information on the SURF programs as well as separate application forms can be found at the [Gaithersburg SURF website](#) and the [Boulder SURF website](#).

### **Recent NIST Webcasts**

On November 13, 2014, thirty thought leaders and experts from across the nation's energy sector gathered in Gaithersburg, Maryland for an Electric Sector Issues Roundtable: Grid 3.0 and Beyond discussion. The day-long event, hosted and webcast by NIST, featured a wide-ranging exploration of key interoperability-related issues expected to influence the direction of the electricity sector over the next 10 to 20 years. More information about the Grid 3.0 roadmapping project is posted at this [website](#). The archived webcast can be accessed [here](#).

On December 3-4, 2014, NIST hosted a two-day symposium showcasing forensic science research. NIST scientists gave presentations on the many forensic science disciplines on which they conduct measurement research including computer forensics; forensics biometrics; forensic genetics; firearm and tool-mark forensics; and statistical measurements. An archived webcast of the symposium will be available in mid-December at this [website](#).