



Federal Information Systems Security Educators' Association
AWARENESS • TRAINING • EDUCATION

NOMINATION FORM

Note: The names of those nominating the candidate and contact information are anonymous.

FISSEA Educator of the Year

Name of Nominee: Gretchen Ann Morris, CISSP

Employing Organization: DB Consulting/NASA John H. Glenn Research Center

Position or Title: Trainer

Qualifications Statement: (What has the nominee done to warrant this nomination?)

We nominate Gretchen A. Morris, DB Consulting/NASA John H. Glenn Research Center, for the Federal Information Systems Security Educators' Association (FISSEA) Educator of the Year for 2015 which will be awarded at the 29th Annual Conference on March 15, 2016.

Gretchen has been a valuable member of the FISSEA Technical Working Group since being elected to the FISSEA Executive Board in March 2004. She has coordinated the FISSEA Security Contest, updating rules and accepting entries, enlisting an impartial judging team, and then preparing a presentation to share with conference attendees. It was Gretchen's idea to have peers vote on the entries at the conference and it is interesting to see if the judges and peers select the same entries. She is always willing to contribute and holds FISSEA in the highest regard. In addition to coordinating the Security Contest and introducing speakers at the conferences, Gretchen also presented several times at the annual FISSEA conferences:

- 2016 "Awareness: An Anti-virus Program for Humans"
- 2014 "Significant Security Responsibilities and Training Discussion"
- 2013 Pecha Kucha session participant
- 2010 "Navigating the Path from the NIST SP 800-16 to a Role-Based Course"
- 2007 Panelist: "Perils, Problems and Triumphs in Security eLearning"
- 2006 "Role-Based Training and Your Agency"
- 2004 "If We Build it, They will Come!"

Gretchen has been nominated several times before for the FISSEA Educator of the Year Award. In 2010 her colleague shared details of her experience with NASA.

Gretchen has been instrumental in the development of online, role-based information security courses for NASA and the Federal Government. Because of her unique qualifications (as both an educator and a certified IT Security specialist), Gretchen served as team lead for the NASA IT Security and Awareness Training Center. Under her leadership, role-based courses at the beginning level were developed for the IT Security roles mandated by NASA:

- System Administrators
- Chief Information Officers
- Certification Agents
- Authorizing Officials
- System Owners
- Organizational Computer Security Officials

Gretchen is the owner of the beginning level courses, which means that she makes final decisions on course content and layout/presentation. As the course owner, Gretchen also responds to users' questions and comments after a course is posted and monitors users' feedback provided by the NASA learning management system. Gretchen was also instrumental in the development of two intermediate level role-based courses for NASA:

- System Administrators
- Chief Information Officers

Although she is not the course owner of the intermediate level courses, her guidance and input were vital to their development.

Gretchen's dedication to creating and improving role-based courses for the Federal Government was recognized in April 2009 when the ISSLOB announced that NASA had been chosen as a T2T shared service provider. Her record includes:

- Sharing NASA's courses with around 60 persons within 45 government agencies and 2 universities in the U.S. and Canada.
- Completing updates and improvements to the role-based courses.
- Working closely with NIST and reviewing and providing feedback on their IT Security documents and publications.
- Serving on the FISSEA Executive Board.
- Supporting the annual FISSEA conference by coordinating the conference contests.

Gretchen has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Resource Management degree with a major in electronics from Troy State University, is a CISSP, and is certified as an Instructional Designer/ Developer from Langevin. She has over twenty years' teaching and troubleshooting experience on a variety of software packages and hardware configurations. Gretchen also has a solid and diverse background in computer software/hardware, electronics troubleshooting, training, course development, and management. Additionally, she earned the Master Training Specialist designation while serving as a Navy Instructor and has maintained CISSP certification since June 2002.

In her position with DB Consulting, Gretchen is a vital part of the NASA IT Security Awareness and Training Center team, which supports over 55,000 users across the Agency. Gretchen's vast knowledge base, high work ethic, and dedication to the improvement of information security awareness and training make her the perfect candidate for the award.

Gretchen Morris has been a strong supporter of FISSEA for at least twelve years and it is our honor to recommend her as the FISSEA Educator of the Year. We appreciate that DB Consulting and the NASA IT Security Awareness Training Center teams are also long-time FISSEA supporters.