

NIST Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs

December 2015 Constituent Newsletter

New NIST Associate Director for Laboratory Programs

NIST Director Dr. Wilie May has announced his selection of [Dr. Kent Rochford](#) to serve as the NIST Associate Director for Laboratory Programs (ADLP) effective January 10, 2016. Currently, Kent serves as the Founding Director of NIST's [Communication Technology Laboratory](#) (CTL). Prior to returning to NIST to lead the CTL start-up in 2014, Dr. Rochford served as an R&D Director at Sharp Laboratories of America. Before that, he served as Chief of NIST's Quantum Electronics and Photonics Division and the Optoelectronics Division, Acting Director of the Electronics and Electrical Engineering Laboratory, and [NIST Boulder Laboratory](#) Operations Director.

The ADLP assists in the direction of NIST's seven [laboratory programs](#) and serves as Principal Deputy. Additionally, the ADLP provides direction and operational guidance for the scientific and technical mission-focused laboratory programs of the Institute; serves as lead for program and budget development for laboratory programs; coordinates interagency and outreach activities; represents NIST and the laboratory programs to external audiences and undertakes the ultimate line management responsibility for measurement services that meet the needs of industry, academia, and other government offices.

2016 Baldrige Award Applications Now Available

To improve the competitiveness and performance of U.S. organizations for the benefit of all U.S. residents, the [Baldrige Performance Excellence Program](#) is a customer-focused federal change agent that manages the [Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards](#). The 2016 Baldrige Award application forms and guidance are now available online [here](#). Award eligibility certification applications are due February 22, 2016. The deadline for award application packages is April 26, 2016.

The Baldrige Program is also seeking applicants for its [Board of Examiners](#). These experts from around the United States give their time generously and enthusiastically to the Baldrige Program by utilizing the Baldrige Excellence Framework to evaluate organizations that are applying for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and to provide carefully crafted feedback to help these organizations improve. [Applications](#) will be accepted until 6 pm EST January 7, 2016.

2016 NIST SURF Applications

NIST is soliciting applications from eligible colleges and universities in the U.S. and its territories, nominating undergraduate students to participate in the 2016 [Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship](#) (SURF) Program. The SURF Program will provide research opportunities for undergraduate students to work with NIST scientists and engineers, to expose them to cutting-edge research, and to promote the pursuit of graduate degrees in science and engineering. The 2016 SURF Program is anticipated to run between May 23 – August 5, 2016 or June 6 – August 5, 2016; adjustments may be made to accommodate specific academic schedules. Details of the application process for both the student and the university are posted online [here](#). An upcoming December Federal Register FFO Notice will list the mid February 2016 deadline date for application submissions. Students interested in competing for the 2016 award may find the [FY 2015 Announcement of Federal Funding Opportunity](#) helpful. More information on the SURF program is posted online [here](#).

Public Comment requested on Data Integrity White Paper

The [National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence \(NCCoE\)](#) at NIST seeks comments on a new project to help organizations prepare for, and recover from, cybersecurity attacks that might compromise their data. Businesses face a near-constant threat of destructive malware, ransomware and malicious insider activities that can alter or destroy critical data. Even honest mistakes can alter data in ways that cause a significant loss to a company's reputation, business operations and bottom line. To reduce this risk, organizations need to be able to recover quickly from a data integrity attack and trust the accuracy and precision of the recovered data.

The NCCoE project is described in a draft white paper: [Data Integrity: Reducing the Impact of an Attack](#), which describes the technical challenges of ensuring accurate and complete back-up data when recovering systems after an attack. It was developed with members of the business community, the [Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) and cybersecurity solutions vendors. The deadline for public comments is January 22, 2016. More information on the project is available online [here](#).

November 2015 NIST Webcast Meetings Available in Archive Online

The NIST [Community Resilience Panel](#) met on November 9, 2016 at NIST's Gaithersburg, Maryland campus. Information on the NIST Community Resilience Planning Guide is posted online [here](#). The archived meeting webcast is available for viewing online [here](#).

The [Global City Teams Challenge 2016 Kick-Off Conference](#) was held at NIST's Gaithersburg, Maryland campus on November 12-13, 2016 . An overview of the Smart America/Global Cities Challenge is posted online [here](#). The archived webcast of the conference is available for viewing online [here](#).



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