Recipients of the ITEA Annual Association Recognition Program

2022

2022 Board of Directors Award
Peter H. Christensen

Each year the ITEA leadership selects an individual who has contributed to the growth, development, and mission of the association. During the past year, as Chairman of the Professional Development committee, Mr. Pete Christensen has led a team of volunteers as they overhauled ITEA's T&E certification. This significant undertaking led to the successful launch of our new two-tiered program. He also initiated a strategy to bring the ITEA technical courses to the Ranges, our industry partners, and the T&E community at large. Pete, while retired, is an educator, a consultant in the T&E community, and provides ITEA outstanding leadership in the growth of our educational programs. It is our pleasure to present Mr. Pete Christensen with the 2022 ITEA Board of Directors Award.

2022 President's Award
Dr Adrian 'Ade' Britton

Dr Adrian (Ade) Britton has been an active member of ITEA and has served as president of the Western Europe Chapter since 2014. Ade's commitment to this organization has been outstanding and this past year, under my term as president, I witnessed how he tirelessly ensured that the "I" in ITEA was upheld and highlighted during our 2021 and 2022 annual symposia. Ade was one of the key contributors to the success of the ITEA's virtual symposium last year and his recommendations and follow-through to bring speakers and technical presenters to the program proved quite successful for ITEA. His passion for test and evaluation in his career with Qinetiq only further strengthens his commitment to the future workforce in the United Kingdom. Due to his volunteering efforts, he was responsible for his Chapter to receive a scholarship for their local High School's STEM program. The time difference never seemed to be an issue with Ade as he called in to participate in planning meetings, Board meetings representing his Chapter, and answering emails during all times of the day and night. It gives me great pleasure to present the President's award to a man whose positive attitude and professionalism inspires others within the association.

2022 Energizer Award
Shelby L. Pearce

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Recognized as our “behind the scenes” volunteer, Shelby Pearce’s contributions over the past year have supported the Test and Evaluation community and this Association. Never hosting a workshop in her career and then taking on the responsibility of chairing the Cybersecurity Workshop, being held this October, was a challenge accepted by Shelby early in the process. Her leadership skills along with her positive energy inspired her team of volunteers to work along side her as she cultivated a technical program that has gained momentum and will surely be highly successful. Her efforts and service to the Association permit her Chapter to reap the benefit of additional scholarship dollars to be awarded to local students in the engineering field, thereby enabling visibility into the future T&E workforce. We are proud to recognize Shelby Pearce for her role, behind the scenes, in ITEA.

2021

2021 Board of Directors Award
Charles R. Garcia

The ITEA Board of Directors presents their award to Mr. Charles “Charlie” Garcia for his contributions to the growth, development, goals, and mission of the Association. Mr. Garcia has over 56 years of experience in Test and Evaluation spanning from his career in the federal government to his leadership roles within industry. His commitment to ITEA is unwavering, most notably in 1987 serving as the Founder and former President of the White Sands Chapter to his leadership role serving as an elected Board Member for two[1]terms from 2011 to 2017. Mr. Garcia volunteered as a Subject Matter Expert in the establishment of the Certified T&E Professional program and orchestrated the 2017 ITEA System of Systems workshop and the third Offset Environment Engineering Conference – Charlie Garcia has a proven track record of being a highly regarded advocate for this organization. The Board would like to recognize Charlie’s most recent accomplishment as he worked tirelessly to reinvigorate the White Sands Chapter by pulling together, nearly single-handedly, the successful Test and Evaluation in Multi-Domain Operations Workshop in El Paso in July. Charlie’s contributions during this difficult year have been extraordinary and we are grateful for his ongoing commitment to ITEA. It is with great pleasure that the Board of Directors recognize Mr. Charlie Garcia for his outstanding contributions to ITEA.

2021 President’s Award
ELK Management Group

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Established in 1996, this award is presented by the President of the Board of Directors to recognize exemplary contributions to ITEA. This year, the President's Award is bestowed on Eileen Redd, Lena Moran, and Kathi Swagerty of ELK Management Group for their exceptional efforts in transitioning the operational structure of ITEA to a more rigorous, accurate, and robust foundation. This transition included changing ITEA's day to day operations from an Executive Director to an Association Management Company, managing the transition of ITEA's fiscal management from cash basis accounting to accrual accounting, establishing a certified public accountant bookkeeping process, overseeing the review and reconciliation of past tax issues, and updating all aspects of the ITEA By-Laws and Operating Policies. This team also supported Chapter and Committee Chairs to accomplish their missions through the year. These outstanding individuals accomplished all of this during a Global Pandemic that devastated our normal operations and demanded incredible flexibility in meeting the demands for ensuring ITEA's financial solvency. Eileen, Lena, and Kathi demonstrated amazing resiliency and tremendous abilities in overcoming the numerous obstacles to achieving success in 2021. It is with great appreciation that I award the President's Award for 2021 to Eileen Redd, Lena Moran, and Kathi Swagerty of ELK Management Group.

2021 Energizer Award
Wendy M. Peterson

High energy and enthusiasm go hand in hand and describe Ms. Wendy Peterson perfectly. She was appointed President of the Antelope Valley Chapter at the start of 2021 and stepped up to host the virtual 24th Annual Test Instrumentation Workshop with only 5 months to plan it. Wendy Peterson overcame major obstacles in orchestrating the event and her positive attitude motivated her team through the process. The Test Instrumentation Workshop has a solid reputation within the T&E community for being an event with stellar presenters and technical tracks, and this year, thanks to Ms. Peterson, was no exception. During a year of isolation, she showed the community that we could continue to network and share knowledge regardless of what is occurring in the world around us. Behind the scenes, Wendy Peterson has made one of the biggest impacts on the Test and Evaluation community and the ITEA membership. The leadership of ITEA expresses gratitude to the Director of the 812th Test Support Squadron for her commitment to the organization and Test and Evaluation

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2020

The Board of Directors Award
Eileen A. Bjorkman, PhD.

A lifetime member of ITEA, Dr. Eileen Bjorkman has contributed her time and skills generously and effectively to our Association and has been a mainstay in its growth, development, goals, and mission. Most recently, her term as Treasurer was distinguished by a long overdue analysis and overhaul of ITEA's financial management structure. Dr. Bjorkman was instrumental in identifying numerous improvements in the financial controls and was the driving force in updating ITEA's accounting system to provide more insight into revenues and expenses over time for ascertaining the impact of financial results from ITEA events, tracking understanding ITEA's financial position, and managing the cash flow in ITEA. After completing her term as Treasurer, Dr. Bjorkman served as Chair of the Ways and Means Committee to continue the financial rehabilitation of ITEA. Her service on the Board is ending this year but ITEA will be indebted to Dr. Bjorkman for years to come. Her persistent leadership and dedication have been instrumental in securing the future of ITEA. It is with great pleasure that the Board of Directors recognize Dr. Eileen Bjorkman for her outstanding contributions to ITEA.

President's Award
Ms. Jeong Min Kim

Min Kim has been making a positive impact on ITEA and its membership for several years. As past president of the Emerald Coast Chapter, Min was instrumental in bringing the ITEA Cyber Workshop to Eglin in 2018 and continues to lead her team of volunteers as they plan and execute this highly successful event. Motivated to make a positive impact on the T&E community, she was responsible for creating a new Lunch and Learn Series to serve the ITEA membership and benefit the T&E community. Her innovative concept generates a broader audience – grows ITEA; promotes T&E education – aligns with the mission of ITEA; and builds enthusiasm for the community – bringing ITEA into the future. It is my distinct honor to recognize Jeong Min Kim as the recipient of the 2020 ITEA President's Award.

2020 Energizer Award
Danielle Kauffman

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As a relatively new member at ITEA, Danielle Kauffman has earned the Energizer Award for her behind the scenes work on the ITEA Journal of Test and Evaluation. Whenever needed, Danielle quickly helps the Journal Committee with creative flair. With tough deadlines and constant need for information, Danielle is always ready and always has an answer. Her fresh and innovative ideas will help launch the Journal into the new phases for 2021 and beyond. ITEA is proud to recognize Danielle Kauffman for all of her efforts.

2019

2019 ITEA Board of Directors' Award
posthumously
Doug Armstrong, George Washington Chapter

For nearly thirty years, Doug played a keen role behind the scenes in fiscal health and well being of the Association. Doug's steadfast and substantial financial support through EWA and his dedication to encouraging his employees to volunteer their time and talent for the success of the organization has been significant through the years. National President, Board Members, Chapter Presidents, writing articles for the Journal, volunteering at events, exhibiting at every Annual Symposium and other ITEA events and sponsoring them as well – Doug's commitment has proved to strengthen the organization and its leaders. Within the industry, Doug was also considered to be the quite giant helping to shape the successful future of T&E. Whether on the Hill or in the halls of the Pentagon, Doug brought his influence to the decision makers because he understood the value of those working tirelessly on the Ranges making the warfighters safe with weapons that work.

2019 ITEA President's Award
Doug Messer, White Sands Chapter

The President's Award is presented to an individual who has contributed to the growth, development, goals, and mission of the Association. The 2019 ITEA President is pleased to recognize Doug Messer for his proven leadership and guidance throughout the years to the Association and the Board of Directors. From service at the Chapter level with the White Sands Chapter, running WSMR workshops, coordinating Exhibits, and as the Events Committee Chair, he has been a champion for ITEA and our membership. Doug has worked and continually championed 12 WSMR Chapter workshops starting back in 2007 when the Modeling and Simulation Workshop was held in Las Cruces, followed by the Live Virtual and Constructive workshop starting in 2009 and continuing through the present with the

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System of System workshop in El Paso. Doug has served for the past 10 years as the President of the White Sands Chapter. Doug served for three years as the National Exhibits chair and coordinator when we lost Milt Strickland and before we were able to hire Bill Dallas. Doug also served for 4 years as the National Events Chair. Doug has worked in some capacity in all of the Annual Conferences over the past 10 years. Doug is a "Can Do" guy and no job is too large or small when he is asked to serve. Finally, Doug is just a pleasure to work with. He has the heartfelt appreciation of the ITEA Board of Directors for his service to our organization. We look forward to his continued presence at the ITEA meetings, and look forward to his participation with ITEA for many more years to come. Doug will always have our gratitude for all he has done. Thank you, Doug, for a job well done!

2019 Energizer Award
Doresa Ringer, Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI)

The 2019 ITEA Energizer Award is presented to Doresa Ringer for her dedicated support of the Association. For the past seven years, Doresa has volunteered her time, energy and talents to help ensure the success of ITEA's International Symposium. Wherever she is needed – registration, room monitoring, and especially, taking the lead of the Speaker Ready Room, Doresa gives 110 percent to take care of whatever is needed to ensure the attendees, presenters, and speakers have a stress-free and memorable Symposium. It is with great pleasure that the 2019 ITEA Energizer Award is presented to Ms. Doresa Ringer.