SUBJECT:  2016 Architect and Interior Designer of the Year Awardees

CATEGORY:  For Information

1. **Purpose.** This ECB announced recipients of the subject awards:

   a. **2016 USACE Architect of the Year:** Ms. Melody L. Will, RA – CENAO
   
   b. **2016 USACE Interior Designer of the Year:** Ms. Jennifer D. Wainwright – CENAO

2. **Background.** This year’s awardees were selected from nominations submitted by our districts, MSCs, Centers and ERDC. The selection criteria were as described below.

   a. **Performance and Recognition:** Includes awards, performance ratings, positions, and honors received in the last three years.

   b. **Specific Contributions:** Includes design excellence, continuing education efforts, partnering experience, and service to customers.

   c. **Leadership:** Includes mentorship, teaching, and/or participation as a sponsor or advisor in the career development of others.

   d. **Professional Contributions:** Includes membership and participation in professional societies, teaching, publication writing, and guest speaking.

   e. **Community:** Activities outside USACE that demonstrate community support.

3. **2016 USACE Architect of the Year:** Ms. Melody L. Will, RA – CENAO

   a. Ms. Will has been the lead architect and technical subject matter expert representing the USACE Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Design Center since its inception. Ms. Will is the foremost expert on the DoDEA Educational Specifications (Ed Specs). She is an active participant in Planning, Parametric, and Design Charrettes and works directly to engage educators and designers to ensure that educational objectives are met. Her DoDEA experience includes supporting projects across a gamut of CONUS and OCONUS installations.

   b. Ms. Will was a guest speaker at the National AIA Convention Public Architects Workshop in 2014. She presented “Shaping our Future through Policy and Action,” along with a representative from the Arlington County Public Schools. The presentation focused on how Public Architects who serve municipalities and the federal government are working to shape the future of educational facilities. Ms. Will also observed and shared some of DoDEA’s initiatives at the USGBC School Sustainability Leader’s Summit in 2015.
c. We are very proud of Ms. Will’s dedication to USACE, her district and her profession. Her personal achievements to expand her education and to provide community support is a testament to her exceptional professional leadership.

4. **2016 USACE Interior Designer of the Year**: Ms. Jennifer D. Wainwright – CENAO

   a. Ms. Wainwright has admirably served as Senior Interior Designer for the last 5 years. In this capacity, she provides full design support as well as offering interior design technical expertise in support of the multi-disciplined workforce. Ms. Wainwright has provided full design for the Center of Standardization for more than $10.9 M of interior design procurements over the last three years, and she has also supported the military construction program’s structural interior design and Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) packages.

   b. In 2014 she furthered her education by graduating with a Master’s degree in Leadership, Education, and Administration from The George Washington University. She was presented with the Leonard Nadler Leadership Award which recognized her demonstration of academic excellence and leadership, as well as contribution to the collaborative learning process both within and outside of the classroom. She was selected to be part of the Naval Facilities Executive Leadership Development Program (LDP) in 2008 and the USACE LDP Level II in 2013. Her contributions to the interior design profession include participation in the GSA Quality Partnership Council and the National Association of Professional Women.

   c. We are very proud of Ms. Wainwright’s dedication to USACE, her district and her profession. Her personal achievements to expand her education and to provide community support is a testament to her exceptional professional leadership.

5. My congratulations to this year’s awardees! Your contributions, leadership, and dedication reflect greatly on your districts, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and our profession.

6. **Point of Contact.** HQUSACE point of contact for this ECB is Brandon Tobias, CECW-CE, (202) 761-0505.

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