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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **HENAAC's 23rd Annual Top STEM Professional Award Winners Announced**

Great Minds in STEM™ is proud to announce the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual HENAAC Award Winners in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics who will be honored at the HENAAC Conference. For twenty-three years, HENAAC has recognized the achievements of America's best and brightest engineers and scientist within the Hispanic community. They were selected by the HENAAC Selection Committee which is comprised of representatives from industry, government, military and academic institutions. The Selection Committee was convened in Lake Buena Vista, Florida on July 15, 2011 and was co-chaired by Dr. Marwan A. Smaan, Dean and Florida 21<sup>st</sup> Century Chair and Distinguished Professor of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Central Florida (UCF) and Dr. Amir Mirmiran, P.E., FASCE, FACI, Dean and Professor of the College of Engineer and Computing at Florida International University (FIU). Great Minds in STEM is proud to have the UCF and FIU serve as the Academic Co-Hosts for the 2011 HENAAC Conference.

The winners will be honored at one of two recognition events – the HENAAC Awards Show and the HENAAC Awards Luncheon. Both of these events will take place during the Conference which will be held October 6-8, 2011 in Lake Buena Vista, Florida at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort.

The following individuals will be honored at the HENAAC Awards Show on Friday, October 7, 2011:

#### **Engineer of the Year**

Rear Admiral Patrick H. Brady  
Commander, Space and Naval Warfare Systems-SPAWAR  
U.S. Navy

#### **Executive Excellence**

Antonio Galindez  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Dow AgroSciences

J. Frank Armijo  
Vice President, Energy Solutions  
Information Systems and Global Solutions  
President, Mission Support Alliance  
Lockheed Martin Corporation

#### **Outstanding Technical Achievement – Academia**

Enrique J. Lavernia, Ph.D.  
Dean, College of Engineering  
University of California, Davis

**Outstanding Technical Achievement – Industry**

Julio A. Navarro, Ph.D.  
Boeing Technical Fellow  
The Boeing Company

Maria (Mary) F. Fernández, Ph.D.  
Executive Director,  
Distributed Computing Research  
AT&T Labs

**Outstanding Technical Achievement – Government**

Luz Marina Calle, Ph.D.  
Technical Lead and Principal Investigator  
Corrosion Technology Laboratory  
Materials Testing and Corrosion Control Branch  
Materials Science Division, Engineering Directorate  
NASA Kennedy Space Center

**Dr. Albert Baez Award**

Gustavo Roig, Ph.D.  
Professor, Electrical and Computer  
Engineering Department  
Florida International University

**Pioneer Award**

Jaime Braverman  
Program Manager, Research & Development  
Global Nonwovens  
Kimberly Clark Corporation

**Lifetime Achievement**

Fernando Guarín, Ph.D.  
IEEE Fellow  
Senior Engineer – Scientist  
Semiconductor Research and Development Center  
IBM Microelectronics  
IBM

**Chairman’s Award**

Ivan R. Diaz  
Director of Parks Development &  
Integration  
Walt Disney Parks & Resorts, Design  
and Engineering  
The Walt Disney Company

**Professional Achievement – Government**

Joseph M. Acaba  
NASA Astronaut  
NASA Johnson Space Center

Diana I. Centeno-Gomez  
Research Aerospace Engineer  
NASA Glenn Research Center

**Professional Achievement – Industry**

Rudy Duran  
Test Program Manager, Boeing Military Aircraft & 787  
Boeing Test & Evaluation  
The Boeing Company

Noe (Roddy) E. Rodriguez II  
Manager – EO/IR & Space Engineering  
and Management Programs Management  
Northrop Grumman Corporation

**Civil Engineering Distinction**

José Guadalupe Argüello, Ph.D.  
Principal Member of Technical Staff  
Sandia National Laboratories

Guillermo A. Riveros, Ph.D., P.E.  
Research and Development Center  
Information Technology Laboratory  
Computational Science and Engineering  
Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Most Promising Engineer or Scientist – Graduate Degree (Doctoral)**

Vanessa Aponte, Ph.D.  
Systems Engineer Senior, Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle  
Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company  
Lockheed Martin Corporation

Serena Maria Auñón, M.D., M.P.H.  
NASA Astronaut  
NASA Johnson Space Center

**Most Promising Engineer or Scientist – Graduate Degree (Masters)**

Alejandro R. Diaz  
Systems Engineer 4,  
Commercial Crew Development Program  
The Boeing Company

Jimmy Lozano  
Dual Gradient Drilling Engineer  
Chevron North America Exploration &  
Production – Deepwater Gulf of Mexico  
Chevron

**Most Promising Engineer or Scientist – Undergraduate Degree**

Guadalupe (Lupe) O. Delgado, Jr.  
Manufacturing Engineer,  
Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems  
Northrop Grumman Corporation

Johan M. Vicioso  
B-B1 Lead Automated Test Stations Engineer  
410<sup>th</sup> Supply Chain Management Squadron  
638<sup>th</sup> Supply Chain Management Group  
448<sup>th</sup> Supply Chain Management Wing  
Robbins Air Force Base  
U.S. Air Force

The following individuals will be honored at the HENAAC Awards Luncheon on Friday, October 7, 2011:

**Education**

Luis C. Rabelo, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Industrial Engineering  
and Management Systems  
University of Central Florida

**Information Technology**

Anel C. Suarez  
Senior Software Engineer  
Information and Global Solutions  
(IS & GS) - Civil  
Lockheed Martin Corporation

**Santiago Rodriguez Diversity Award**

Natalie V. Saiz  
Director, Human Resources Office  
NASA Johnson Space Center

**Community Service**

Rodolfo (Rudy) Loera  
Manager, Program Integration  
Navy Unmanned Combat Air System (N-UCAS)  
Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems  
Northrop Grumman Corporation

For more information on the HENAAC Conference or the Great Minds in STEM™ organization please visit [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org)

**Great Minds in STEM™ Vision**

Be a national leader in keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math careers especially in underserved communities