



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact  
Cristina Crowson  
Director of Communications  
Directed Energy Professional Society  
(505) 998-4910  
[Cristina@deps.org](mailto:Cristina@deps.org)

## **Directed Energy Professional Society Names New Executive Director**

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Nov. 22-** Officially announced at the Directed Energy Systems Symposium in La Jolla, California, the Directed Energy Professional Society (DEPS) is pleased to introduce the newly appointed and first woman Executive Director of DEPS, Dr. Sandra Biedron.

Biedron is taking the helm from Colonel (Ret.) Mark Neice, who announced his plans to step down pending the successful search for his successor after serving 10 years as the executive director of DEPS.

Biedron brings 30 years of scientific and technical leadership in both professional and volunteer organizations to DEPS. Having served as a senior physicist and DOD project office director at Argonne National Laboratory for 20 years, a research professor of mechanical, electrical and computer engineering at the University of New Mexico; and deputy lead engineer for the integration and test of an Innovative Naval Prototype for Boeing, Biedron has extensive experience in both defense and civilian science and technology. In 2010, she received a Letter of Commendation from the Chief of Naval Research for both her technical and collaboration building efforts on a directed energy program.

As Executive Director, Biedron will serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Society and is responsible for overseeing the administration, programs, and strategic plans of the Society in accordance with Society bylaws, objectives and policies established by the Board of Directors. She will serve as the Society's highest-level liaison with DEPS, the federal government, and other government, industry, academia, not-for-profits, and international organizations.

“Outside of technical, leadership, and management activities, Sandra also has a history of recruiting and developing a diverse cross-trained workforce. This will help ignite a new diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative in DEPS for our community. Further, her long-time connections to industry, as well as procurements for large programs, are important in a new phase of DEPS, where we will expand to support activities beyond the science and technology and beyond the first prototype, such as in manufacturing and growing a more expansive industrial base for expected programs of records,” said Dr. Sean Ross, Air Force Research Laboratory, and Col. John Hartke, United States Military Academy of the DEPS Board of Directors.

"I am deeply honored to take on the role of the DEPS Executive Director," Biedron said. "I look forward to working with all of my DEPS community colleagues and working to grow the society in its expanding role."

The Directed Energy Professional Society fosters the research, development and operational transition of directed energy (DE) technologies, including high energy laser (HEL) and high power microwave (HPM) technologies, for national defense and civil applications through professional communication, education and outreach. For more information, visit [www.deps.org](http://www.deps.org)

**END**  
**###**