
Ronald E. Smiley Ph.D.



National Director, Avionics, Sensors and E*Warfare Dept Director, Electronic Warfare/Combat Systems Naval Air Systems Command

Dr. Smiley currently serves as the National Director of the Avionics, Sensors and E*Warfare Department (AIR-4.5) at an organization comprising nearly 1500 scientists and engineers located across six geographical locations. His responsibilities encompass the full spectrum of engineering, from S&T to acquisition support to in-service engineering for electronic technologies, components and equipment, subsystems, and system-of-systems required to enable naval aviation mission-related warfighting capabilities. He has served in this position which is headquartered at Pt Mugu since April 2013.

He was selected for appointment in the Senior Executive Service in October 1989 as Director, Weapons Evaluation Directorate, Pacific Missile Test Center, Pt. Mugu, CA Naval Air Systems Command. In this leadership position, he was responsible and accountable for all project management and technical functions related to the test and evaluation of missile and weapons systems, and development support of modern air-launched and surface launched weapons and cruise missile systems. Dr. Smiley managed and directed the efforts of 574 civilian and military personnel.

From August 1991 to September 1994, he served as the Director, Information and Electronic Warfare Directorate in the newly established Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division. In this assignment, he served as the senior executive for EW programs and established policy for the management and technical accomplishment of assigned projects, established standards and goals, and defined the engineering foundation on which programs were developed. Dr. Smiley led and managed the efforts of approximately 425 technical and professional personnel located at Point Mugu and China Lake, California.

He was reassigned to serve as the Director, Systems Engineering Department from September 1994 to April 1998 at the Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division. In this capacity, he was responsible for implementing NAVAIR's 'Competency Aligned Organization' structure and provided integrative leadership for technical and programmatic efforts spanning both Point Mugu and China Lake, CA locations. He

managed over 500 civilian professional and technical personnel assigned to a diverse spectrum of integrated product teams supporting technical activities related to naval aircraft, weapons, and support systems, and was responsible for nearly \$400M in capital equipment associated with major aircraft weapon system integration laboratory facilities.

Dr. Smiley left the NAVAIR research and engineering community in April 1998 to assume executive responsibilities as the Director, Corporate Operations at the Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division. As Director, he was responsible for managing, integrating, and aligning the Warfare Center's business operations including: human resources, financial management, information management, security, general counsel, public affairs, strategic management support, and special programs security, across the Division's White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Point Mugu and China Lake, California locations. In this position he led the Division's change management efforts associated with NMCI, ERP, A-76 studies, and human capital strategy implementation. He managed a multidisciplinary workforce of approximately 800 personnel.

In April 2005, he was reassigned back into the NAVAIR research and engineering community in the dual role as Director, Electronic Warfare/Combat Systems and Director, Avionics Department (Weapons Division) where he was responsible for research, development, acquisition support, testing and warfighting sustainment functions and capabilities. This included avionics systems integration, Navy and Marine Corps aircraft protection systems, electronic attack and counter-improvised explosive device capabilities, mission planning and mission data reprogramming, signals intelligence, targeting and target identification, special purpose avionics payloads, and multi-sensor fusion systems. Dr. Smiley managed the efforts of 450 civilian technical personnel.

Dr. Smiley attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., graduating with a BS in Electrical Engineering in 1970. He has completed the Program Management Course at the Defense Systems Management College, the Chief of Naval Operations' Executive Business Course, as well as, completed advanced business/management studies including certification training in 'Lean Six Sigma'. He earned degrees in management from Pepperdine University (MBA, 1976) and the Claremont Graduate School (MAM, 1985; Ph.D., 1992).

Selected recognition and awards include: the NAACP Professional Achievement Award in 1990; Presidential Rank Award recipient in 2000; selection as a 2004 "Most Distinguished Historically Black Colleges and Universities Graduate" by *US Black Engineer & Information Technology* magazine; and in 2017 was inducted into the Association of Old Crows *EW Technology Hall of Fame*.