

FISSEA EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Please review the nomination information including the due date provided on the FISSEA website before completing the form.

Name of Nominee: Brenda Oldfield

Employing Organization: Department of Homeland Security, National Cyber Security Division

Position and/or Title: Director, Cyber Education and Workforce Development

Qualifications Statement: (What has the nominee done to warrant this nomination?)

Brenda Oldfield leads the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cyber Education and Workforce Development (CEWD) program, which fosters effective cyber security education and workforce development programs. The CEWD program promotes and facilitates the availability of qualified IT security professionals to support the Nation's cybersecurity needs.

Via education, training and professional development activities, Brenda coordinates DHS partnerships with the National Security Agency for co-sponsorship of the National Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education (CAE-IAE) and CAE-Research programs and with the National Science Foundation for the Federal Cyber Service: Scholarship for Service program. In addition, through Brenda's recent leadership in the Education Initiative of the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative, she has developed new partnerships between DHS and additional federal agencies. Further, she led the development of the IT Security Essential Body of Knowledge (EBK), which reflects a skill baseline for IT security professionals, and is actively supporting the development of a state government EBK model. She also led the ISS LOB Tier Two Training working group and has been instrumental in fostering the idea of collaboration and information sharing among all agencies. She is also actively involved in the CIO Council IT Workforce committee and participates in many of the CIO workforce development initiatives and activities.

Three aspects of Brenda Oldfield's professional activities, all of which distinguish her within the vast pool of highly effective and successful government leaders, underscore her qualification for FISSEA Educator of the Year:

1. Brenda's tireless efforts to reach and educate communities at the Federal, state, and local government levels, and within the national workforce on the importance

- of cybersecurity education and on recent initiatives designed to enhance cyber education and develop a cyber-savvy workforce within the United States.
2. Her ability to engage with students and educators at all educational levels, encouraging pursuit of cybersecurity careers and educational programs. Her public speaking skill is impressive, particularly when addressing students of all age groups; from classrooms of high school students, to assemblies of college and graduate school students, to halls filled with federal government employees, she finds common ground and addresses subject matter that captures minds and encourages educational growth.
 3. Her unending dedication to the cause of cybersecurity education in the National workforce. Those who know Brenda will recognize this dedication, developing and maintaining partnerships and professional contacts not only within the Federal government, but with National entities and State government leaders alike. Brenda's efforts ensure that the Nation's workforce is better prepared to tackle the cyber-related issues of the 21st century, focused on developing a workforce with cyber security knowledge, skills, and abilities, and contains a pipeline of cyber-savvy professionals eager to continue and advance the cause of National cyber security.

Brenda Oldfield is:

- dedicated to improving the education of the entire workforce
- a leader who works with multiple agencies in an open and transparent manner
- a workforce development professional who always acts with integrity and who genuinely cares about people and their learning
- a mover and a shaker in cybersecurity awareness, training, and education. She is active in bringing the various players in the federal, defense, and intelligence communities together to create a collaborative environment
- active in the community – she has appeared on numerous panels and made frequent presentations in multiple venues throughout the year regarding the professional development and training of the cybersecurity workforce
- a team player- who always answers her emails and returns phone messages!

Congratulations Brenda!