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ACT-IAC Voyagers Announces 2016 Graduating Class

'Rising Leaders' from Government and Industry Complete Leadership Development Program

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CAMBRIDGE, Md., May 24, 2016 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- The American Council for Technology and Industry Advisory Council (ACT-IAC), the premier public-private partnership dedicated to improving government through the application of information technology, today is pleased to announce the successful completion of the Voyagers Program by the 12th graduating class in program history.

Each program participant is a mid-career professional who was nominated by his or her respective company or agency. Applicants were then down-selected to 24 nominees by a panel of senior executives in government and industry to participate in the Voyagers program, which ran from September to May. This highly competitive leadership development program continues to have a 1:1 ratio of government to industry participants, which encourages participants to "walk in the other sector's shoes" throughout the nine month program. The 2016 Voyagers graduates completed the program at the 36th Annual Management of Change (MOC) training and education event held in Cambridge, MD.

"It has been a privilege to be a part of each Voyager's journey of leadership growth and watch friendships form," said Susie Sylvester, Voyagers Industry Chair. "I am excited about this next group of leaders as they take the skills from the program to collaborate and implement innovations in government IT."

2016 Voyagers Program industry graduates are:

- Lindsey Averill, The Ambit Group
- Solongo Erdenekhuyag, Rigil
- Ali Kavianpour, VMware
- Virginia Madigan, Chartis Consulting
- Nasim Moghadam, CGI Federal
- David Newport, Booz Allen Hamilton
- Jenna O'Steen, Accenture
- Alex Porfirenko, E3 Federal Solutions
- Joseph Portera, Sawdey Solution Services
- Kevin Riordan, CA Technologies
- Jessica Tavasti, Microsoft

2016 Voyagers Program government graduates are:

- George Baden, General Services Administration
- Drew Fagan, Department of the Interior
- Cindy Gripper, Department of Health and Human Services
- Brittany Hannah, General Services Administration
- LaShayla Hopkins, Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Evan Lee, Department of Homeland Security
- Andrew Low, General Services Administration
- Solomon Luke, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Elvis Taylor, Department of Education
- Nicole Thompson, Department of Health and Human Services
- Christopher Wallace, Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Catrina Watkins, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Heidi Myers, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Susie Sylvester, Dev Technology, were the 2016 Voyagers Chairs. Both served as Voyagers Vice Chairs in 2015. Vice Chairs this year included Deborah Kent, Transportation Security Administration; Barbara Whitelaw, U.S. Coast Guard; Mike Deutsch, Aquilent; Steve Irish, Hewlett Packard Enterprise.

ACT-IAC also announced the opening of applications for the 2017 Voyagers Program. Applications are currently available on the ACT-IAC website for the 2017 Voyagers Class. The application deadline for the 2017 Voyagers Program is July 29, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. For more information on the ACT-IAC Voyagers Program, please visit the ACT-IAC website under the 'Learning' section.

About ACT-IAC – Advancing Government Through Education, Collaboration and Action

The American Council for Technology and Industry Advisory Council (ACT-IAC) is a non-profit educational organization established to create a more effective and innovative government. ACT-IAC provides a unique, objective and trusted forum where government and industry executives are working together to improve public services and agency operations through the use of technology. To maintain the objectivity and integrity of its collaborative process, ACT-IAC does not accept government funding. ACT-IAC activities are underwritten by AT&T, ACT-IAC's strategic mission partner, and a number of private sector organizations who share the ACT-IAC commitment to better government. A complete list of sponsors, as well as additional information about ACT-IAC, can be found at www.actiac.org.

Learn more about our organization and how to become a member at www.actiac.org or call (703) 208-4800.

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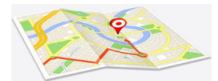For IR & Compliance
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