

KAREN BRIGANCE 2020 EXEMPLAR RECIPIENT

Mr. Matt Bryant, AFLCMC/WNY chief engineer and immediate past president of the Dixie Crow Chapter, presented Ms. Karen Brigance with the 2020 Dixie Crow Exemplar Award. Karen first joined AOC in 1982. She served two terms as president of the Dixie Crow Chapter, served as current past president for four years, and chairperson for four Dixie Crow EW/IO Technical Symposiums. Karen has served as southern regional director on the AOC board of directors for

three years and is about to start her second three-year term. Karen was chair for the AOC Audit and Inspection Committee and is an active member of the AOC Membership and Awards committees.



Karen began her career in the Electronic Warfare Directorate in 1982, working in the Tactical ECM Unit supporting the ALQ-119 RF jamming pod. In January 1990, she moved to DET 8 behind the green door as the program manager for a new development SIGINT system. In 1999, she began leading the Exploitation Division in the U-2 Management Directorate, which provided support to the U-2 Dragon Lady's ground processing stations, airborne sensors and data links. In 2003, she was promoted to the Avionics/Electronics Engineering Division chief for the Engineering Directorate, providing functional management and advocacy for over 750 electronics engineers working across Robins AFB. In 2006, Karen moved to the 752 Combat Sustainment Group as chief engineer for

Common Avionics. She transitioned to the position of squadron director when the Common Avionics group became part of the Air Force Global Logistics Center as the 407th Supply Chain Management Squadron. In 2010, Karen transferred to the chief engineer position for the Electronic Warfare and Common Avionics Systems Program Office at Robins AFB, from which she retired with 37 years of service.

Karen is currently the chief engineer for the electronic warfare product area at Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC). MERC currently provides critical engineering support to the B-1, B-52 and KC-46 electronic warfare systems.

Karen and her family live in the local Robins AFB area. She has two children and two grandchildren. In her spare time, Karen enjoys listening to music, riding her motorcycle and playing disc golf with her best friend Richard. Karen's exemplary career paved the way to her selection as the 2020 Dixie Crow Chapter Exemplar Award Recipient of the Year.