



V. Bram Lillard to be IDA's Operational Evaluation Division Director

ALEXANDRIA, VA (April 2022) – V. Bram Lillard, Ph.D., has been appointed as the next director of the Operational Evaluation Division (OED), one of eight research divisions in IDA's Systems and Analyses Center. Lillard will assume the role on Saturday, April 2.

"I'm very pleased to have Bram assume his new role," says IDA President Norty Schwartz. "Bram has pioneered innovative approaches to testing, constructed test design concepts and prepared comprehensive analyses. He has also been recognized repeatedly for his outstanding contributions to the operational evaluation of naval systems."

Having contributed to the growth and success of OED for nearly 20 years, Lillard says he has had the opportunity to develop enduring relationships with nearly all of OED's core sponsors. Forging stronger relationships with those sponsors in the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security is what Lillard is optimistic about as he prepares to lead IDA's largest division. "I look forward to expanding OED's capabilities through improved analytical methodologies, tackling new and emerging challenges (e.g., artificial intelligence, space, cybersecurity, and sustainment), and helping our researchers continue their critically important work evaluating weapon systems and ensuring they work for the warfighter," he says.

Lillard has served as deputy OED director since 2021 and feels this experience will make for a smooth transition to director. "Serving as deputy director ensured that I have a strong grasp of how our researchers support the mission of our sponsors," he says. Lillard held the role of OED assistant director since 2014. Prior to this placement, he had been with OED as a research staff member since 2004. Lillard replaces Bob Soule, who served as the OED director since 2001.

Lillard is devoted to continue raising the bar at IDA with set goals in mind. "My primary goal is to ensure that our analyses, reports and methodologies remain relevant and responsive to the DOD's and DHS's mission," says Lillard. "My goals include ensuring that IDA remains a thought leader in the Test and Evaluation community, connecting the evaluation communities within the DOD, and making IDA the go-to place for sustainment analysis," says Lillard. "In addition, we will aim to implement our corporate initiatives to move IDA forward as a data-centric organization and grow a more diverse research staff," he says.

Lillard earned his bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics at State University of New York in 1994. He earned both his master's degree in 2001 and doctoral degree in 2004 in physics from the University of Maryland.

IDA is a nonprofit corporation that operates three Federally Funded Research and Development Centers in the public interest. IDA answers the most challenging U.S. security and science policy questions with objective analysis leveraging extraordinary scientific, technical and analytic expertise.

