Dr. Craig Hoffman







Dr. Craig Hoffman has served as Superintendent for the Optical Sciences Division of the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory since October 2014. He manages approximately 200 government and on-site contractor scientists and engineers engaged in a wide variety of optics related research including visible and infrared sensors; semiconductor, solid state, and fiber lasers; fiber optic sensing; radio frequency photonics; free space laser communications; novel infrared materials; image processing; and infrared countermeasures. Dr. Hoffman came to NRL in 1979 as a National Research Council Post Doctoral Fellow and joined the NRL scientific staff as a research physicist in 1981. His research focused on the opto-electronic and transport properties of narrow gap semiconductors with notable work on HgCdTe alloys and HgTe/CdTe superlattices. He has authored/co-authored close to 150 articles in archival scientific journals. He also did pioneering work concerning the susceptibility of infrared detectors and infrared focal plane arrays to laser radiation. He subsequently authored and presented over 50 classified papers in this area. In 1995 he became a head of the Quantum Electronics section in the Optical Sciences Division at NRL and led a diverse group whose research included organic optoelectronics, quantum dots, nanochannel glass, aerosol optics, biowarfare agent detection, and sensor hardening. In 1998 Dr. Hoffman was made the Associate Superintendent of the Optical Sciences Division where he assisted the superintendent in managing the division. Dr. Hoffman served as Acting Superintendent of the Optical Sciences Division from Feb 2007 through March 2008 and from October 2013 through October 2014.

As a member of the Research Staff at NRL, Dr. Hoffman received Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation Awards in 1996 and 2006. He is a fellow of the Optical Society of America and the Military Sensing Symposia and a member of IEEE, SPIE, Sigma Xi and Phi Beta Kappa. Dr. Hoffman co-edited the five-volume 2nd Edition of the Encyclopedia of Optical Engineering and serves on a variety of DoD scientific and technical panels.

Dr. Hoffman received the B.S. Degree in Physics from Purdue University in 1973, and the M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees in Physics from Brown University in 1975 and 1979, respectively.