FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Astronaut Scholarship Foundation Announces the 2024 Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence Recipient

ORLANDO – The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) announced Dr. Adam Weber will be the recipient of the esteemed 2024 Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence. The award recognizes an Astronaut Scholar alum who best exemplifies the personal character and professional achievements of the first human to walk on the Moon, Neil Armstrong. ASF will present Dr. Weber with the award during its Innovators Gala on Aug. 17, 2024, in Houston, Texas.

"Dr. Weber's pioneering work, from advancing mathematical models to driving technological applications, exemplifies excellence," said Curt Brown, chairman of ASF's board of directors. "He is truly a trailblazer in electrochemical energy-conversion technologies and shaping the future of clean energy for generations to come. We're proud to honor him with this well-deserved award."

Dr. Weber is a senior scientist and group leader at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He has been instrumental in progressing the science and understanding of electrochemical energy-conversion technologies, including hydrogen fuel cells, electrolyzers, CO_2 reduction, flow batteries and solar-fuel generators. He has received several awards, including the prestigious Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the 2023 DOE Fuel Cell Achievement Award, the R&D 100 Award for microelectrode diagnostics and the Charles W. Tobias Young Investigator Award of the Electrochemical Society. He was also selected as a Fellow of the Electrochemical Society in 2018. Currently, Dr. Weber is the CTO of a multi-billion dollar CA DOE Hydrogen Hub entitled the Alliance for Renewable, Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES), the co-director of the applied R&D Million Mile Fuel Cell Truck (M2FCT) consortium and director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Earthshot Research Center: Center for Ionomer-based Water Electrolysis (CIWE) focused on fundamental science aspects of water electrolysis.

A 1998 Astronaut Scholar, Dr. Weber graduated summa cum laude from Tufts University in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering as well as a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering. He earned his doctorate in chemical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley in 2004. Dr. Weber has published over 230 peer-reviewed journal articles, 5 patents and 11 book chapters.

"To be recognized for embodying the values of character and professional achievement espoused by Neil Armstrong and his fellow space pioneers is truly humbling," said Dr. Weber. "This prestigious award serves as a reminder of the profound impact mentorship and science and engineering can have in shaping the trajectory and betterment of our lives and careers. As Neil Armstrong inspired generations through his historic lunar footsteps, I am committed to paying forward this legacy by fostering the next wave of explorers and innovators into ushering in a decarbonized future through collaboration and a team science ethos."

The Neil Armstrong™ Award of Excellence was established in 2016 through a partnership with the Purdue Research Foundation, the Armstrong family and Jim Hays, a friend of Neil Armstrong. Intended to pay tribute to the legacy of Armstrong and his fellow space explorers, this honor is bestowed upon a former Astronaut Scholar who mirrors the core values of character and professional achievement of its namesake.

About Astronaut Scholarship Foundation

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) is an Orlando-based, 501(c)3 nonprofit commemorating the legacy of America's pioneering astronauts. Founded by the six surviving Mercury 7 Astronauts in 1984, ASF partners with industry leaders, universities, and individual donors to achieve its mission of supporting and rewarding exceptional college students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of the Treasury policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

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