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Subject: Encomium: **Jerry G. Lilly, FASA** for The Laymon N. Miller Award for Excellence in Acoustical Consulting.

Congratulations to our friend and colleague, Jerry Lilly, who is entirely deserving of the 2023 Laymon Miller Award, has epitomized excellent acoustical consulting for nearly 50 years.

Jerry earned his A.B. in Mathematics at Whitman College in 1972 and his M.S. in Engineering Acoustics from Pennsylvania State University in 1975. He worked for Veneklasen in Santa Monica, CA 1975-1977, then Applied Physics Laboratory (in acoustics) at University of Washington 1977 – 1979, and then Towne, Richards, Chaudière in Seattle, WA 1979 – 1983. In 1983, he began his own acoustical consulting firm, JGL Acoustics, based in Issaquah, WA, and is still going strong. Also in 1983, he became a Registered Professional Engineer (Oregon). He became a Board Certified Member of the Institute of Noise Control Engineering in 1993, and Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America in 2001. He served as President of the National Council of Acoustical Consultants, 1996 – 1998.

Jerry wears these substantial credentials mostly under his vest – which is absolutely no surprise to NCAC members who have come to know his understated, modest demeanor.

His projects span a remarkable breadth of building acoustics and environmental noise issues, and he brings to each an unusually deep level of technical and mathematical competence. It is for this reason that so many of us senior-level acousticians tap Jerry as our “go-to-guy” to consult on tough engineering questions and challenges. As only one example among many, when reviewing a manufacturer’s air handling unit sound power data, we have much greater confidence in that data if Jerry’s prediction software was used. We simply know we can trust him and his calculations.

Technical acumen alone would earn his clients’ and colleagues’ respect, but the genuineness and long history of Jerry’s sharing spirit has cemented those relationships. For example, in addition to his busy practice, for decades, Jerry has made time to support the profession through his on-going involvement with, and contributions to both ASHRAE’s Committee on Sound and Vibration and Professional Development Seminars as well as ASTM’s TC E33 (Environmental Acoustics), an instructor at the University of Washington and for 11 years as Lecturer for ASHRAE’s Professional Development Seminars across the USA. For nine years, he has served as Chairman of the ANSI Standards Committee addressing Classroom Acoustics. Notably, he was elected to two terms as vice-chair of E33 from 2017-2021 and in 2020 he became the 14th recipient of the Wallace Waterfall Award, first established in 1975 as the highest award of the committee. Many standards have benefited from his contributions.

For those of us perusing NCAC's on-line Forum, we're well-familiar with his regular and thoughtful contributions. Publications and presentations since 1987 include six articles for *Sound and Vibration* in addition to ten for *Noise-Con*, *Inter-Noise* and *ASHRAE*, among others.

In the course of collecting supporting letters for this award, common threads kept recurring, not the least of which was their initial reaction upon learning from NCAC that nominations were due, "*Jerry Lilly should get this award!*".

Like Laymon Miller, Jerry was drawn to teaching what he learned from his own practice – and critical listening. This has materially benefitted in visceral ways not only the individuals who learned from him but the broad field of acoustics as well – including design of the world's quietest non-anechoic space and the world's largest reverberation room test chambers. As a pre-eminent professional with a kind and humble soul, he demonstrates a remarkably high bar, mentoring many and always available for sharing through thoughtful discussions and insights. These innate attributes of Jerry's clearly set fine examples for us all.

In sum, because Jerry's long history of remarkably solid work, contributions and abundant sharing is widely recognized and so appreciated by his peers across the USA, we are delighted that he is the recipient of this year's Laymon N. Miller Award for Excellence in Acoustical Consulting.

Sincerely,



David A. Conant, FASA

Principal

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