

The Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (WRMSDC), a regional council of the National Minority Supplier Development Council, dedicated to promoting minority supplier development in Northern California, Nevada, and Hawai'i, recently announced the winners of its Excellence in Supplier Diversity Awards at its 36th Annual Gala. WRMSDC corporate members and certified minority businesses competed for eleven distinguished awards celebrating individual and corporate achievements in the calendar year 2013.

**Kaiser Permanente** was recognized as the Corporation of the Year, with **Pacific Gas and Electric** taking home the Utility Corporation of the Year Award. The Executive of the Year award was given to **Skip Skivington**, vice president of operations for Kaiser Permanente. **Charleen Hamel**, supplier diversity manager at **Brocade**, was named Supplier Diversity Leader of the Year. **Apple Inc.** won the MBE Choice Award. Sourcing Manager of the Year went to **Jeff Bennett**, an IT sourcing manager at Pacific Gas and Electric. The Corporate Buyer of the Year Award was given to **Lindsey Goularte**, a **Robert Half** buyer.

**Enterprise Publishing, Inc.**, parent company of *MBE* magazine, was named Supplier of the Year for Class I (annual sales less than \$1 million). Class II's (annual sales between \$1 million and \$10 million) Supplier of the Year Award went to **D and B Painting Company, Inc.**, and **QAnalysts, LLC**, was named Supplier of the Year for Class III (annual sales between \$10 million and \$50 million). **ATR International, Inc.** was awarded Supplier of the Year for Class IV (annual sales greater than \$50 million).

**Cheryl Snead**, president and CEO of **Banneker Industries**. Providence Business News has awarded Rhode Island-based **Banneker Industries** with its inaugural Supply Chain Excellence Award during a ceremony recognizing achievement in the local manufacturing industry.



**Snead**

service, workforce development and training, safety performance, financial stability and growth, continuous improvement programs, and community stewardship, involvement, and support.

Among **Banneker's** clients include major corporations such as **Raytheon**, **BAE Systems**, and the **United States government**.

*Banneker Industries, a minority, woman-owned, supply chain management services provider, manages more than \$750 million in assets.*

Among the criteria considered for the supply chain excellence awards are customer

**Hannah Kain**, president and CEO of **ALOM**, a global supply chain management firm, was named "Women Business Advocate of the Year" by the **National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO)** Silicon Valley chapter.



**Kain**

The award recognizes **Kain's** support of business women, women in career transition and women seeking advice to start their own business venture. For well over a decade, **Kain** has been volunteering her time both as an active member and in leadership capacities to a wide range of non-profit women empowering organizations. She is a Board member of the National Association of Manufacturers, on the Advisory Council of the Global Supply Chain Leaders Group, former Chair of the Silicon Valley Board for the Women's Initiative, and a Board member of **Watermark**. She is a member of the exclusive invitation-only Committee of 200 for executive women.

**Kain** was also recognized as a Silicon Valley Woman of Influence by the Silicon Valley Business Journal, and a Woman of Distinction in Technology by the East Bay Business Times. She contributes columns for *Smart Business Northern California* and appeared on the November/December 2013 cover of *MBE* magazine.

The **National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)** announced that **Karl W. Reid**, Ed.D. has been named its new executive director. He previously served as senior vice president of research, innovation and member college engagement at the **United Negro College Fund**.

An advocate for increasing college access and opportunity for low-income and minority youth for more than 15 years, **Reid** replaces **Virginia Womack**, who has been **NSBE's** interim executive director since November. He previously served the organization as an **NSBE** chapter leader and as **National Chairperson**.



**Edwards**

programs that aimed to increase the number of students from underserved and underrepresented communities prepared to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Born and raised in New York City and Long Island, NY, **Reid** earned both his Bachelor's and Master's of Science degrees in Materials Science and Engineering from MIT, and his Doctorate of Education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

**NSBE**, with a membership of more than 30,000, is one of the nation's largest student-governed organizations. **NSBE** was founded in 1975 and is the premier organization serving African Americans in engineering and technology.

**Blaylock Robert Van, LLC**, a minority-owned investment bank and financial services company, announced that municipal banker **Bernard B. Beal** has



**Beal**

joined the firm as chairman. He will oversee the firm's municipal banking, underwriting, sales, and trading activities.

**Beal**, who was featured on the cover of *MBE* magazine's March/April 1993 issue, has more than three decades of municipal investment banking experience. He is the founder and CEO of New York-based **M.R. Beal & Company**, one of the nation's leading minority-owned investment banks specializing in municipal and corporate finance. **M.R. Beal** managed municipal financings totaling in excess of \$400 billion, and served as financial advisor on over 60 financings worth in excess of \$7 billion.

**Beal** serves on the boards of the National Foundation for Affordable Housing Solutions and the Foundation for Investor Education. He holds an MBA from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Carleton College.

In addition to **Beal**, several employees from **M.R. Beal** will also join **Blaylock** and will work in the firm's New York office and soon-to-be opened Atlanta office. The firm will be renamed **Blaylock Beal Van, LLC** pending regulatory approval.