CINCINNATI, Ohio (Dec. 16, 2015)—Andrew J. Steckl, PhD and Carl Gieringer Professor, Ohio Eminent Scholar of Microelectronics and Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Cincinnati College of Engineering and Applied Science, has been named a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI).

Election to NAI Fellow status is a high professional distinction accorded to academic inventors who have demonstrated a prolific spirit of innovation in creating or facilitating outstanding inventions that have made a tangible impact on quality of life, economic development, and the welfare of society.

The 168 named today bring the total number of NAI Fellows to 582, representing more than 190 prestigious research universities and governmental and non-profit research institutions. The 2015 Fellows account for more than 5,300 issued U.S. patents, bringing the collective patents held by all NAI Fellows to more than 20,000. These academic luminaries have made a significant impact to the economy through innovative discoveries, creating startup companies, and enhancing the culture of academic invention.

Included among all NAI Fellows are more than 80 presidents and senior leaders of research universities and non-profit research institutes, 310 members of the other National Academies (NAS, NAE, NAM), 27 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, 32 recipients of the U.S. National Medal of Technology and Innovation and U.S. National Medal of Science, 27 Nobel Laureates, 14 Lemelson-MIT prize recipients, 170 AAAS Fellows, and 98 IEEE Fellows, among other awards and distinctions.

The NAI Fellows will be inducted on April 15, 2016, as part of the Fifth Annual Conference of the National Academy of Inventors at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in Alexandria, Va. USPTO Commissioner for Patents Andrew Hirshfeld will provide the keynote address for the induction ceremony. Fellows will be presented with a special trophy, medal, and rosette pin in honor of their outstanding accomplishments.
The 2015 NAI Fellows will be recognized with a full page announcement in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* Jan. 22, 2016 issue, and in upcoming issues of *Inventors Digest* and *Technology and Innovation*.

Andrew J. Steckl is the Carl Gieringer Professor, Ohio Eminent Scholar of Microelectronics and Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Cincinnati. Previously he was professor and director of the Center for Integrated Electronics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Steckl received his BS in Electrical Engineering from Princeton and his MS and PhD from the University of Rochester. Steckl pioneered the development of rare-earth-based GaN inorganic light emitting diodes and DNA-based organic LEDs. His current research is in organic electronics, multi-functional nanofibers, and microfluidics for chem/bio/medical applications. Steckl is a Life Fellow of IEEE and a Fellow of AAAS. He was awarded the Rieveschl Award for Distinguished Research and is an Elected Scientific Member of the Bohmische Physikalische Gesselschaft. He holds 18 U.S. patents and is the founder of Extreme Photonix. Steckl has published over 425 articles and book chapters and has mentored 60 PhD students and post-doctoral fellows.

The academic inventors and innovators elected to the rank of NAI Fellow are named inventors on U.S. patents and were nominated by their peers for outstanding contributions to innovation in areas such as patents and licensing, innovative discovery and technology, significant impact on society, and support and enhancement of innovation.

The 2015 NAI Fellows Selection Committee included 17 members, comprising NAI Fellows, recipients of U.S. National Medals, National Inventors Hall of Fame inductees, members of the National Academies and senior officials from the USPTO, Association of American Universities, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Association of University Technology Managers, and National Inventors Hall of Fame.

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*The University of Cincinnati is a top 25 public research university with its highest enrollment in history – more than 42,500 students. U.S. News & World Report ranks 34 of UC’s programs in the top 50 in the nation. UC also is the founder of the world’s first cooperative education program.*

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*The National Academy of Inventors® is a 501(c)(3) non-profit member organization comprised of U.S. and international universities, and governmental and non-profit research institutions, with over 3,000 individual inventor members and Fellows spanning more than 200 institutions, and growing rapidly. It was founded in 2010 to recognize and encourage inventors with patents issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, enhance the visibility of academic technology and innovation, encourage the disclosure of intellectual property, educate and mentor innovative students, and translate the inventions of its members to benefit society. The NAI edits the multidisciplinary journal,*