

Development of a Plan to Promote Defense Research at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Hispanic-Serving Institutions – (November 3, 2023) – OPEN SESSION

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Anthony C. Smith, Jr. – Director, Department of Navy's (DoN) Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) program

Mr. Smith is the Director of the Department of the Navy's (DON) Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program focused on communicating, coordinating, and cultivating relationships of HBCU/MIs within the Department of the Navy's Naval Research Enterprise. In this capacity, Mr. Smith serves as the Senior Advisor to the Director of Research and Chief of Naval Research on matters relating to strengthening the research capabilities of HBCU/MIs and increasing the number of minorities (undergraduate, graduate, and faculty) pursuing internships, fellowships and research related projects with the Department of the Navy. Mr. Smith possesses over 17 years of numerous continually progressive assignments including serving as the Science and Technology (S&T) Director and Director of Future Technology responsible for the developing and transitioning numerous Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) and S&T projects totaling more than \$100M for PEO LCS, PMS 501. He also served as the Science & Technology Manager/Technical Director supporting the S&T Directorate within PEO SHIPS. Mr. Smith is also a Captain in the United States Naval Reserves.

Robert McCoy, PhD – Director, Geophysical Institute

Dr. Robert McCoy is the Director of the Geophysical Institute in Fairbanks Alaska. Scientists in the GI study a broad range of geophysical and space phenomena including: earthquakes; tsunamis; volcanoes; tectonics and sedimentation; snow, ice and permafrost; meteorology; space physics and remote sensing. The GI manages several operational facilities including the Alaska Volcano Observatory, the Alaska Earthquake Center, the Alaska Satellite Facility, the Arctic Region Supercomputing Center, the Poker Flat Research Range and the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration.

Prior to moving to the University of Alaska, Dr. McCoy served jointly as the Program Manager for space science and technology programs at the Office of Naval Research in Arlington VA, and Technical Director for the Operationally Responsive Space Office in Albuquerque, NM. The joint ORS Office was legislated by Congress to make the necessary investments to increase the speed and lower the cost for space systems for the Department of Defense. Dr. McCoy was the manager of the Tactical Space Innovative Naval Prototype program, which funded the development and spaceflight of microsatellites to demonstrate maritime for the Navy.

Dr. McCoy received his A.B. in Physics from Cornell University, his M.S. in Physics from Texas A&M and his Ph.D. in Astro-Geophysics from the University of Colorado.

Ralph Semmel, PhD – Director, Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory

Dr. Ralph D. Semmel is director of the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), whose more than 8,000 staff members perform highly innovative research and development for the Department of Defense, NASA, the Intelligence Community, and other federal agencies. Prior to assuming his current role in 2010, Semmel served as the founding head of APL's Applied Information Sciences Department, business area executive for Infocentric

Operations, assistant head of the Power Projection Systems Department, deputy director of the Research and Technology Development Center, and supervisor of the System and Information Sciences Group. Before joining the Laboratory, Semmel held leadership and technical positions with Wang Laboratories, MITRE Corporation, and the U.S. Army. He has received numerous honors, published and presented extensively in the areas of artificial intelligence and large-scale database systems, and led a variety of national-level task forces and studies. He has served as a member of the Defense Science Board and the U.S. Strategic Command Strategic Advisory Group and is currently a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Dr. Semmel is a West Point graduate with master's degrees in computer science and systems management and a Ph.D. in computer science.