NASEM Town Hall

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Little known facts on University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC)

- Only the DoD has UARCs.

- Focus is not basic research -- UARCs allow the DoD to establish long-term strategic relationship to provide and maintain <u>advanced and sophisticated engineering</u>, research, and development capabilities essential to the Department's mission and operations <u>that cannot be provided as effectively and efficiently by governmental or other private sector sources.</u>

- Focus is not workforce development – UARCs often have dedicated, full-time research staff that may even be embedded with their DoD sponsor.

- The UARC is <u>not</u> the university or college – each UARC is an independent, non-profit research organization affiliated with a university and sponsored by a DoD component.

- No set-aside funding – UARC funding is provided by work sponsors in support of their regular appropriations.

10 U.S. Code § 2304 - Contracts: competition requirements

- **(c)**The head of an agency may use procedures other than competitive procedures only when

- **(3)** it is necessary to award the contract to a particular source or sources in order,…

- (B) to establish or maintain an essential engineering, research, or development capability to be provided by an educational or other nonprofit institution or a federally funded research and development center.

University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs)	Technical Specialization – Key Core Competencies
Navy-managed Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory Pennsylvania State University Applied Research Laboratory University of Texas Applied Research Laboratory University of Washington Applied Physics Laboratory University of Hawaii Applied Research Laboratory	➢ Hypersonics, Cybersecurity, Spacecraft, AI, Robotics ➢ Undersea technology/systems R&D ➢ Undersea detection, sensing and C4ISR for Navy needs ➢ Oceanic environment and sensing/detection ➢ Sensors, ocean environment and renewable energy
Army-managed USC Institute for Creative Technologies Georgia Tech Research Institute MIT Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies UCSB Institute for Collaborative Biotechnologies	➢ Developing new and improved ways to train forces ➢ Electronic Warfare, Missiles and Missile Defense ➢ Nanotechnology, materials, and their applied use ➢ Biology and related fields, and their applied use
MDA-managed Utah State University Space Dynamics Laboratory	➢ Space situational awareness and sensing
USD(I&S)-managed University of Maryland Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security	➢ Human and behavioral sciences and human-machine systems
USD(R&E)-managed Stevens Institute of Technology Systems Engineering Research Center	➢ Systems Engineering for DoD Acquisition
USSTRATCOM-managed University of Nebraska National Strategic Research Institute	➢ WMD detection and countermeasures
(DASD(TRAC))-managed University of Alaska (Fairbanks) Geophysical Detection of Nuclear Proliferation	➢ Nuclear Event Detection

Value Proposition for Collaborating with UARCs

- Long-term strategic relationship between the DoD and the UARC
- Responsiveness to evolving sponsor requirements
- Comprehensive knowledge of sponsors' requirements
- Broad access to information, including sensitive and proprietary data
- Independence and objectivity
- Quick response capability
- Current operational experience
- Freedom from real or perceived conflict of interest
- Contributions to the body of knowledge within its domains of expertise

UARC Core Competencies – Require Targeted Collaboration

- Each UARC has specific core competencies, these are an UARC's areas of particular domain expertise or specialization tailored to the long-term needs of the Department.

- A UARC's core competencies are defined when it is established, and are examined for continued relevancy in the Comprehensive Review that a UARC undergoes every five years.

- A UARCs core competencies and any changes to them must be approved by the USD(R&E). They also must not duplicate the core competency of another UARC, unless specifically authorized to by USD(R&E).

❖ **Goal 1** – develop a data-driven plan to identify and execute collaboration opportunities between HBCU's and UARCs in existing research areas.

❖ **Goal 2** -- develop a data-driven plan to identify and execute collaboration opportunities between HBCU's and UARCs in emerging research areas.

❖ **Desired Outcomes** -- establishing the foundation for identifying UARC-HBCU collaboration opportunities in existing research programs, identifying emerging research areas of interest, setting the requirements for sustaining long-term relationships, and identifying barriers to successful partnerships.

To join the workshop, send me an email – joan.fuller6.civ@mail.mil