Building Defense Research Capacity at HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and ANNHSIs:
Town Hall on True Partnerships (May 22 & 23, 2023)
Albuquerque, NM (Hybrid)

MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023 (MST)

Purpose

- Provide an overview of the defense R&D environment.
- Illustrate strategies for articulating the value proposition for partnership development.
- Outline defense industry criteria for developing partnerships with academic institutions.
- Spotlight historic and current models for the development of synergistic partnerships

10:20 – 10:30   Opening Remarks

10:30 – 11:30   Igniting the Defense Research Ecosystem

The panelist for the first session will provide an overview of the stakeholders relevant to a high-functioning defense research environment that includes higher education institutions, the Department of Defense, Industry, and others. Additionally, the session will spotlight partnerships that have led to productive activities in research and development and the matriculation of students into careers within the defense R&D environment.

Moderator: Melvin Greer, PhD – Intel Corporation

Panelists:

- Victor McCrary, PhD – University of the District of Columbia
- Santosh Devasia, PhD – University of Washington
- Thomas Tubon, PhD – BioMADE

11:30–11:50   Break

11:50–12:50   Articulating the Value Proposition for Equitable Partnerships

The second session will highlight strategies for relationship building and partnership outreach used by industry and academic institutions to socialize scientific research priorities and capabilities to facilitate mutualistic partnerships.

Moderator: Oscar Barton, PhD – Morgan State University

Panelists:

- Eric Adolphe, Esq. – Forward Edge-AI, Inc.
- Christina "Chris" Deckard – Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Biotechnology
- Robert St. Amant, PhD - DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory

12:50–1:10   Break

1:10–2:10   Models for Synergistic Partnerships

The third session will consist of a panel of university-industry-government partnerships that exhibit equitable relationships between organizations. Representatives from highlighted partnerships will provide best practices and recommendations for how academic institutions, industry, and the DOD can nurture true partnerships through policies and programs.

Moderator: Bryn Adams, PhD – DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory

Panelists:

- Kelly Freidenfelds, PhD – Princeton-HBCU Alliance for Collaborative Research
- Robert Shepard, PhD – The Shepard Institute LLC
- Aaron Wecksler, PhD — Genentech

2:10 – 2:30   Closing remarks and recapitulation of Day 1

END OF DAY 1

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023 (MST)

10:00–11:30   Institutional Challenges to Developing Partnerships

The fourth session of the workshop will provide insight into the obstacles encountered by HBCUs, TCUs, smaller HSIs, and ANNHSIs. A panel of representatives from each institution type will provide insight into the complications, limitations, and potential investment areas for the DOD to explore.

Moderator: Abigail S. Newsome, PhD – Mississippi Valley State University

- Ganesh C. Bora, PhD – Fayetteville State University
- Elmer Guy, PhD – Navajo Technical University
- Teresa Orok, PhD – Alabama A&M University
- Sheryl H. Ehrman, PhD, PE – San José State University

11:30–11:40   Break

11:40–12:20   Applied Research Institute for Mathematics and Computational Sciences

Chad Womack, PhD – United Negro College Fund

12:20–12:30   Break

12:30–1:30   Federal Partnership Programs

The final panel will spotlight federal agency programs that have successfully facilitated the development of equitable partnerships between institutions (like and unlike) and industry. Panelists will be directed to outline how those programs were created and maintained and how outcome tracking is facilitated.

Moderator: Keith McGee, PhD – Alcorn State University

Panelists:

- Jesus V. Soriano Molla, PhD – National Science Foundation
- Terrence Mosley – Department of Energy

1:30 – 2:00   Recap of Day 1 and Day 2 strategies and federal programs.
Closing Remarks

MEETING ADJOURNS