

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

**Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for
Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E))**

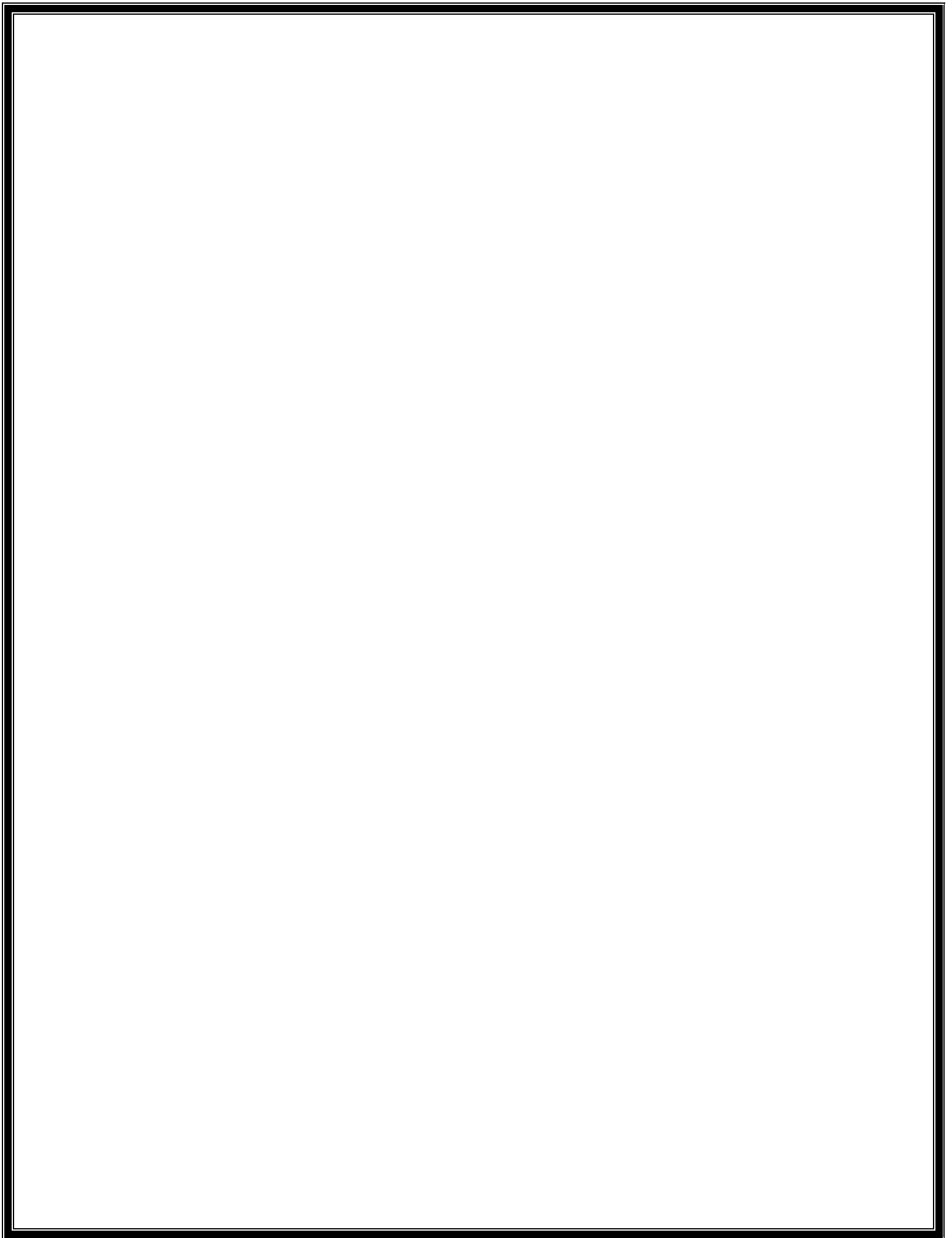
**Historically Black Colleges and Universities and
Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCU/MI)**

Proposal/Application Writing Workshop



June 19, 2018

**Army Research Office – The Frontier Building
800 Park Office Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709**







RESEARCH
AND ENGINEERING

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

June 19, 2018

Greetings Workshop Attendees:

On behalf of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, I extend to each of you a very special welcome. Thank you for coming to the Department of Defense (DoD) Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCU/MI) Proposal and Application Writing Workshop. The DoD is dedicated to increasing the number of opportunities available to our minority-serving institutions and their students. This workshop demonstrates the Department's desire to invest its resources toward this goal.

The purpose of the workshop is to assist attendees in developing better and more competitive proposals in response to DoD funding opportunities. It is our hope that you will gain a better understanding of DoD programs and processes that will lead you to submit competitive proposals and/or applications for a variety of funding opportunities. You will also benefit from networking with DoD staff and other attendees. We have planned a full day, and I hope that you will not miss a moment.

Again, welcome to the DoD HBCU/MI Proposal and Application Writing Workshop. I am confident that you will leave with greater knowledge of our programs and new enthusiasm for the opportunities available to your institutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Evelyn W. Kent".

Evelyn W. Kent
DoD HBCU/MI Program Deputy Director

Dr. David M. Stepp
Acting Director
Army Research Office



Dr. Stepp received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering and materials science from Duke University in 1998, where he investigated the high-strain rate deformation and damage accumulation mechanisms governing tantalum and developed a novel, statistically-based, computational algorithm to enhance positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy under the guidance of Dr. Phillip Jones. Dr. Stepp has published research in the areas of smart materials, structural ceramics, and polymer degradation and failure mechanisms. Dr. Stepp has served as the Director of Engineering Sciences (overseeing the Electronics, Materials Science and Mechanics Divisions at ARO) since 2016, and as the program manager for the Mechanical Behavior of Materials extramural basic research program since 1999. Dr. Stepp served as the Chief of the Materials Science Division at ARO from 2004 until 2017 and led a team to extend the frontiers of materials science in order to realize unprecedented material properties and provide new foundations and paradigms to enhance future war fighter and battle systems capabilities. Dr. Stepp has also served as an adjunct assistant professor at Duke University in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science since 1999, where he is conducting research exploring fundamental microstructure-property relationships in transparent polymers and fragmentation in transparent engineering materials. In addition, Dr. Stepp serves as the U.S. Army and deputy ASD(R&E) representative to the NSTC Subcommittee on Nanoscale Science, Engineering, and Technology (NSET).

Mrs. Evelyn Kent

**DoD Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions
(HBCU/MI) Program Deputy Director**

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E))



Mrs. Evelyn Kent serves in several capacities within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)) where she provides technical support to the Director for Basic Research. She is the Department of Defense (DoD) Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program Deputy Director. In this capacity, she oversees the HBCU/MI Programs, which include Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU), Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), and other underrepresented minority communities. These program funds support basic research, equipment and instrumentation upgrades, graduate fellowships, scholarships, research and education centers, and other activities focused on attracting underrepresented minorities to the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines important to the DoD national security mission. Mrs. Kent also serves as the DoD Representative in interagency government-wide Electronic Grants activities and provides support to the DoD Components on Grants.gov.

Mrs. Kent holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Southern University Baton Rouge and a Master of Science degree in Acquisitions Administration from Central Michigan University. She is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute Leadership Program in Charlottesville, VA. Mrs. Kent is the recipient of the Department of Defense Exceptional Civilian Service Award.



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Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E))
Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions (HBCU/MI)
Proposal/Application Writing Workshop
June 19, 2018
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

AGENDA

8:00 am Registration/Check-In, Continental Breakfast

8:30 am Welcome & Opening Plenary Session

Mrs. Evelyn Kent, DoD HBCU/MI Program Deputy Director
Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering
(OUSD(R&E))

Dr. Dave Stepp, Director (Acting), Army Research Office

8:45 am Strategies for Successful Proposal/Application Writing

Moderator:

Mrs. Evelyn Kent, DoD HBCU/MI Program Deputy Director
(OUSD(R&E))

Panelists:

Dr. Larry Russell, Jr.
Program Manager, University Research Initiative (URI)
Army Research Office - Engineering Sciences Directorate

Dr. Timothy Kroecker
Senior Operations Research Analyst
Air Force Research Lab – Information Directorate

Mr. David Busigo
Director, Small Business Programs Office
Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

Ms. Christina Deckard
Program Manager
Science, Mathematics And Research for Transformation (SMART) Program
(OUSD(R&E))

9:45 am University/College: Managing the Proposal/Application Writing Process

Moderator:

Ms. Margie Brown
HBCU/MI Outreach Manager for Research/Senior Research Associate
Georgia Institute of Technology/Georgia Tech Research Institute

Panelists:

Dr. Michael Keeve
Dean, College of Science, Engineering and Technology
Norfolk State University

Dr. Enrique Barrera
Professor, Department of Materials Science and NanoEngineering and
Department of Chemistry
Rice University

Dr. Ali Karimodini
Deputy Director, TECHLAVE Center of Excellence in Autonomy
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University

10:45 am Morning Break

11:00 am Pivoting to Success: Navigating Grants.gov

Presenter:

Mr. Jerry Kelley
President
Domino Ridge Services, LLC

11:45 am What Reviewers Consider When Evaluating Grant Proposals

Moderator:

Ms. Patricia A. Huff
HBCU/MI Program Manager/Technology Integration and Outreach
Army Research Office – Information Sciences Directorate

Panelists:

Dr. Mimi Strand
Division Chief, Life Sciences
Army Research Office – Physical Sciences Directorate

Dr. Dawanne Poree
Program Manager, Polymer Chemistry
Army Research Office – Physical Sciences Directorate

Dr. Pani (Chakrapani) Varanasi
Division Chief, Materials Science
Army Research Office - Engineering Sciences Directorate

Dr. Lisa Troyer
Program Manager, Social & Behavioral Sciences
Army Research Office – Physical Sciences Directorate

12:30 pm Lunch

1:15 pm Budget and Contracting Basics: Laying the Groundwork for a Successful Proposal; Budgetary Realism & Cost Effectiveness

Moderator

Mr. Edward J. Lee
Program Coordinator
HBCU/MI Programs and SBIR/STTR
Air Force Office of Scientific Research

Panelists:

Mrs. Sheila McClelland
Chief, Contracting Office
Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG)
Research Triangle Park Division

Ms. Vonetta G. McNeal
Branch Chief
Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG)
Research Triangle Park Division

Mrs. Lanelle T. Shands
Branch Chief
Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG)
Research Triangle Park Division

Mr. Kevin Bassler
Contracting/Grants Officer
Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG)
Research Triangle Park Division

2:15 pm **HBCU/MI: Partnering with Federal Agencies for R&D Success**

Moderator:

Mr. Anthony C. Smith, Sr.
Director/Program Manager, HBCU/MI Programs
Department of Navy (DoN)

Panelists:

Dr. James A. Anderson
Chancellor
Fayetteville State University

Dr. Earnestine Psalmonds Easter
Program Director
Division of Graduate Education Directorate for Education and Human Resources
National Science Foundation

Ms. Helga A. Greenfield
Chief of Staff to the President/Assistant Vice President for
Title III and Government Relations
Spelman College

3:00 pm **Networking with Federal Agency Officials and HBCU/MI Representatives**
(3rd Floor, The Bridge, Frontier Building)

4:00 pm **Other Programs, Outreach, & Overview of Defense Research Funding**

Presenting the Army Challenge

Dr. Vallen L. Emery, Jr.
Program Manager
HBCU/MI Outreach
U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Special Projects and HBCU/MI Programs

Presenting the Guidebook for the Basic Research Community

Dr. James McDonald
Senior Program Analyst
TMT Group, Inc.

4:30 pm **Q&A/Closing Remarks**

Mrs. Evelyn Kent, DoD HBCU/MI Program Deputy Director
(OUSD(R&E))

5:00 pm **Evaluations and Adjourn**

BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. James A. Anderson
Chancellor
Fayetteville State University
Fayetteville, NC

Dr. James A. Anderson serves as Chancellor and Professor of Psychology at Fayetteville State University. He began his duties as Chancellor of the state's second-oldest public institution on June 9, 2008. Before coming to FSU, Dr. Anderson served as the University at Albany's (New York) Vice President for Student Success, Vice Provost for Institutional Assessment and Diversity and Professor of Psychology.

Raised in Washington, D.C, Anderson majored in psychology at Villanova University in Pennsylvania. He later earned a doctoral degree in the field of cognitive psychology from Cornell University in New York, and upon completion he accepted his first academic appointment in the Department of Psychology at Xavier University in New Orleans.

In 1992, he began his 11-year tenure as Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs at North Carolina State University. In 2003, he was recruited to Texas A&M University, a major land-grant institution serving more than 46,000 students, as Vice President and Associate Provost for Institutional Assessment and Diversity. He held that post until joining the University at Albany in 2005. Dr. Anderson has consulted with over 350 colleges and universities addressing topics such as teaching effectiveness, retention and persistence, and the assessment of student learning and diversity.

He has been a community activist in cities like Philadelphia, New Orleans, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Raleigh, NC, New York City, Albany, NY, and now Fayetteville, NC. He sits on the Advisory Boards of 7 higher education institutions and several local boards in Fayetteville, NC.



Dr. Enrique Barrera
Professor
Materials Science and NanoEngineering/Chemistry
Rice University
Houston, TX

Dr. Enrique V. Barrera has 30 years of conducting engineering, research, and technology development in the materials science and engineering field. He has 28 years of conducting nanotechnology research to develop advanced nanotech materials, systems, and products. Dr. Barrera has 27 years of experience as a university professor at Rice University and several years where he worked in petrochemical and petroleum industries. He is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin having BSME, MS, and PhDs from that prestigious institution. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA and a postdoctoral associate at Brookhaven National Laboratory, in Upton,

NY. He has had research stays at the Naval Air Development Center in Warminster, PA, Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., and the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX.

Dr. Barrera has published over 150 publications and reports, contributed to over 60 patents, and has consulted to numerous companies during his career. Dr. Barrera has been recognized as a National Young Investigator by the National Science Foundation (USA), as an Outstanding Educator by the Hispanic Engineering National Achievement Awards Conference (HENAAC), as an outstanding mentor by the Office of the President (USA) when he received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM), and as a 100 Most Influential by Hispanic Magazine. He is also a Fellow of the American Society of Materials (ASM International). Besides his professorship at Rice University, he is also a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Tec de Monterrey in Monterrey Mexico. He is being recognized with the ASM International 2018 Albert Easton White Distinguished Teacher Award for his contributions to Materials Science and Under-representation Outreach. Over the years there has been a great deal of interest in Barrera's contributions to science and engineering. ResearchGate indicates he has had over 4,600 citations of his publications, with a RG score of 35.98 putting him in the 95.0 percentile of all contributors to ResearchGate.



Mr. Kevin Bassler
Contracting and Grants Officer
U.S. Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground
Research Triangle Park Division
Research Triangle Park, NC

Mr. Kevin Bassler is currently a Contracting and Grants Officer with the U.S. Army Contracting Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Research Triangle Park (RTP) Division located at the Army Research Office (ARO) in North Carolina. He currently serves as a Team Lead with the Contracting Command. Mr. Bassler has over 10 years of experience working with RTP Division and has had significant exposure to all types of contracts, grants, cooperative agreements and other transaction agreements. His experience also includes the issuance of numerous Broad Agency Announcements and Funding Opportunity Announcements. Prior to this role he worked as a procurement analyst for the Division and also as a contract specialist.

Prior to federal service, Mr. Bassler worked at Eaton Corporation and served as the Production and Inventory Control Supervisor, and also as a Purchasing Agent for industrial and automotive equipment for both their domestic and international facilities. Mr. Bassler holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from Campbell University and Bachelor of Science (BS) degree from The State University of New York College at Buffalo.



Ms. Margie Brown
HBCU/MI Outreach Manager for Research / Senior Research Associate
Georgia Institute of Technology / Georgia Tech Research Institute
Atlanta, GA

Ms. Brown is the Manager of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Research Initiative at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She is also a Senior Research Associate in the Technology and Communications Laboratory within the Georgia Tech Research Institute. Ms. Brown has helped Georgia Tech build a solid reputation for being a leader who partners with Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI). She helps coordinate joint proposal activities between Georgia Tech and MSIs for federal agencies including the Centers for Disease Control, National Science Foundation, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, United States Agency for International Development, and the Department of Defense. These efforts have resulted in numerous research collaborations and long-term partnerships. Ms. Brown consistently identifies collaborative research opportunities for faculty, searches out and qualifies MSI collaborators, and builds relationships with MSI partners.

Ms. Brown is actively involved in STEM@GTRI which includes professional development for teachers, summer internship programs, student immersion programs and classroom instruction. Ms. Brown also managed the training programs portfolio for the Georgia Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. More than \$8.7 million have been awarded for the training programs that she managed. The goal of the training programs is to maintain the preparedness of Georgia's first responders to react to national and human-made disasters. Ms. Brown obtained a Master of Science Degree in Management and Leadership Development from Troy University and a Bachelor of Business Administration from Loyola University in New Orleans, LA.



Mr. David Busigo, Jr.
Director
Small Business Programs Office
DARPA
Arlington, VA

Mr. David Busigo, Jr. entered the federal government in 1979 as a Presidential Management Intern and has served the Department of Defense for 37 years. In May 2018, he joined the DARPA Small Business Programs Office as its Director. In his prior position as the Director of Business and Finance for the Adaptive Execution Office (AEO), he was responsible for the financial oversight within the office and all business activities including acquisition, financial analysis, budget planning and execution. Mr. Busigo holds a Masters in Administrative Management & Public Policy and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from State University of New York at Albany.



Ms. Christina Deckard
SMART Program Manager
Science, Mathematics And Research for Transformation
(SMART) Program - OUSD(R&E)
Alexandria, VA

Ms. Christina Deckard is a native San Diegan. Ms. Deckard graduated top of her class in Physics from San Diego State University in 1983. She enjoyed learning so much that she kept going back for more and received a Master's in Physics and a Master's in Mathematics. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in

Information Sciences at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Ms. Deckard has been working at SPAWAR Systems Center, a DOD research facility, for over 30 years. She has worked in the areas of acoustics, lasers, surveillance, bullet tracking and RF exploitation. She has received numerous Navy awards for her efforts in research and has authored numerous research papers. Ms. Deckard has been an instructor in physics and math at San Diego colleges and universities. Ms. Deckard also works closely with colleges and universities to promote more science and technology advancement.

Ms. Deckard is active in creating a culture of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) excitement through enabling Department of Defense scientists and engineers to reach out to the K-12 community. Ms. Deckard is a strong advocate for inspiring females to pursue science, engineering and other STEM degrees and is active in the local Society of Women Engineers section. Ms. Deckard has been a keynote speaker for SWE and ASEE conferences. She has also led workshops for university students on resume writing, communication skills and career fair preparation.

Ms. Deckard is currently on detail to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering as Program Manager for the Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship-for-Service Program. She continues to advocate for STEM students and promote DoD as a highly prestigious career.



Dr. Earnestine Psalmonds Easter
Program Director
Division of Graduate Education Directorate for Education and
Human Resources
National Science Foundation
Alexandria, VA

Dr. Earnestine Psalmonds Easter is a program director in the Division of Graduate Education, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation. Her current responsibilities include serving as program director for the EHR

Core Research program workforce development theme, Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program broadening participation research track and Establishing Spokes to Advance Big Data Applications program. She represents the NSF on the Office of Science and Technology Policy interagency working group on broadening participation. As

senior program officer and visiting scholar in the Policy and Global Affairs Division, National Academies, she served as study director for the two National Academies reports, including a congressionally mandated study focused on the underrepresentation of minorities in science and engineering. She has held numerous administrative positions in higher education and served on boards of directors for state and national organizations. She received the baccalaureate and master's degree from Tuskegee University and Ph.D. from Georgia State University.



Dr. Vallen L. Emery, Jr.
Program Manager
U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Special Projects and
Historically Black Colleges and Universities and
Minority/Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program
Adelphi, MD

Dr. Vallen L. Emery, Jr. currently serves as program manager for the U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Special Projects and Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority/Institutions (HBCU/MI) program. His efforts have contributed to the development of ARL's strategic planning and outreach strategies regarding the shortfall of minority engineers and scientists entering the Federal workforce.

Dr. Emery has configured ARL's outreach program into four areas (i.e. funded research, engineer and scientist training, infrastructure support, and outreach); all of which support and complement ARL's research and development (R&D) vision and strategic plan. In addition, Dr. Emery provides additional support to the ARL Director and senior management; planning and integrating research and exploratory technology base programs for the laboratory. Dr. Emery also manages the ARL Science and Technology Academic Recognition System (STARS) and Educational Partnership Agreement (EPA) programs. The STARS program strives to maintain ARL's world-class reputation as a provider of equal research opportunities for all Americans, by cultivating a diverse staff rich in knowledge, experience, creativity, and dedication to the growth of technology and support to America's war fighters.

Dr. Emery has established and implemented five EPAs for ARL, while serving as the corporate EPA manager. EPAs provide a mechanism for partnerships and collaborations with academic institutions in science, mathematics, and engineering technology programs. ARL science and technology personnel are afforded the opportunity to serve as adjunct faculty at these partner universities and involve the students and faculty in ARL research projects. University researchers are also afforded the opportunity to use ARL facilities to conduct research of interest to ARL. In addition, Dr. Emery has helped build coalitions and established communications between the Presidents of ARL's academic partners by agreeing to participate in annual meetings aimed at addressing a broad range of issues (i.e. creating a defined process for faculty and student participation in summer programs at Army laboratories and increasing the number of students that enter science, mathematics, and engineering (SME) graduate programs).

Dr. Emery holds a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Morgan State University, a Master's degree in Marine Estuarine and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and a Doctorate degree in Marine, Estuarine and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland College Park.



Mrs. Helga A. Greenfield
Chief of Staff to the President and
Associate Vice President for Title III and
Government Relations
Spelman College
Atlanta, GA

Mrs. Helga A. Greenfield serves as Chief of Staff to the President and Associate Vice President for Title III and Government Relations at Spelman College. She has been providing service in higher education for more than 45 years and she believes that communication is the foundation of all relationships. She has had the privilege of serving five institutions of higher learning (Spelman College, Meharry Medical College, Shaw University, Old Dominion University, and Norfolk State University) in various capacities such as: Chief of Staff to the President and Associate Vice President for Title III and Government Relations, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Director of Title III, Associate Vice President for Advancement Operations, Associate Vice President for Advancement and College Relations, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, Director of Financial Aid, Associate Director of Financial Aid, Admissions and Recruitment, and Associate Registrar. Mrs. Greenfield holds a B. A. degree in Business Administration from Shaw University and a M. S. degree in Business with an emphasis in Management from Norfolk State University.



Ms. Patricia A. Huff
HBCU/MI Program Manager
Army Research Office (ARO)
Technology Integration & Outreach Division
Research Triangle Park, NC

Ms. Patricia A. Huff is the Program Manager for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Minority Serving Institutions (MI) for the Army Research Office (ARO) in Research Triangle Park, NC. As the HBCU/MI Program Manager at ARO, she has management oversight of programs for HBCU/MI and other special emphasis programs. She coordinates activities for HBCU/MI on behalf of ARO and works with other DoD Components to execute grants and cooperative agreements with this community to conduct basic research and enhance the capacity of HBCUs/MIs to participate in DoD research programs.

Prior to joining ARO in 2012, Ms. Huff worked for more than a decade in the federal government at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Silver Spring, MD. There she led a team of dynamic professionals in Strategic Communications, Outreach, Stakeholder Services, Education, and Exhibits for NOAA Satellite and Information Service (NESDIS). Early in her career, she started out in radio and television in news, public affairs, and promotions. She went on to work as a Marketing Research Analyst for Potomac Electric Power

Company (PEPCO) and later became the proud owner of a marketing and communications consulting company. She is a graduate of Howard University and a native of North Carolina. Her professional activities and accreditations include: Master Certified Facilitator and Moderator (Qualitative Researcher) and Member, National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ).



Dr. Ali Karimoddini,
Deputy Director
TECHLAVE Center of Excellence in Autonomy
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University
Greensboro, NC

Dr. Ali Karimoddini is a faculty member of the ECE Department at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. He is the Deputy Director of the TECHLAV DoD Center of Excellence in Autonomy, the Director of the ACCESS Laboratory, and the Director of the A3 autonomous cars laboratory at NC A&T. His research interests include hybrid modeling and control, cooperative control of distributed multi agent systems, aerial robotics and flight control systems, decentralized supervisory control, discrete event systems, distributed decision making for large scale systems. He has several years of experience in robotics and multi-agent systems. Particularly, he is well-experienced in control and coordination of autonomous vehicles. His research achievements on modeling, control, and coordination of UAVs have been published in several top-ranking journals and conferences. He has received over 12 million in research support from federal funding agencies and industrial partners. He is also a senior member of IEEE and a member of AIAA, ISA, and AHS.



Dr. Michael Keeve
Dean
College of Science, Engineering, and Technology
Norfolk State University
Norfolk, VA

Dr. Michael O. Keeve received his Bachelor in Mathematics from Hampton University, Masters in Applied Mathematics from the University of Virginia, and Ph.D. in Mathematics from Georgia Institute of Technology. His employment history and teaching experience began in the summer of 1982. His summer internships were with the Naval Surface Weapons Center in Dahlgren, VA, the Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, New York, the Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, New Mexico, NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA, and the National Security Agency, Fort Meade, Maryland. He began teaching as an instructor of Mathematics at Norfolk State University in the Fall of 1987. He became an assistant professor in Fall 1997, a tenured associate professor in Fall 2002, and a full professor in Fall 2015. He served as the Chair of the Department of Mathematics from the Fall of 2002 to the Summer of 2008. In 2011, Dr.

Keeve became the Associate Dean for the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology and will start as the Dean for the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology on July 1, 2018. He continues to teach, serve on committees, and enhance academic programs at Norfolk State University. His honors include induction into the Alpha Kappa Mu and Beta Kappa Chi Honor Societies. He is also a member of the Pi Mu Epsilon National Honorary Mathematics Society and the National Association of Mathematicians. He is a Project NExT Fellow. Project NExT is a program for new doctoral students sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America. His awards include the National Physical Science Consortium Fellowship and the Eastman Kodak Scholarship.

Throughout his tenure at NSU, he has served on the writing teams for SACSCOC Accreditation, SACSCOC/Lumina Foundation Degree Qualification Profile, and was the NSU Representative to the SCHEV Quality Planning Committee and many other committees/initiatives. Dr. Keeve has served as the coordinator for the Tidewater MATHCOUNTS Competition for over 10 years. This is a nationwide program that combines the efforts of education, business, government, and the technological community to promote math excellence among junior high school students. He is active in grantsmanship, has promoted and actively supports research and other external funding activities throughout the College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET) and he is an active principal investigator on multiple awards.



Mr. Jerry Kelley
President
Domino Ridge Services LLC
Montgomery Village, MD

Mr. Kelley has over eight years of government experience and thirty years of consulting experience. He has broad experience in acquisition, contracting, grants, market analysis, and data analysis, and has advised defense and civil agency clients about contracting and assistance policy and practices, procurement systems, procurement and grant data analysis, and program planning and support. He has provided support to the USD(R&E) and its predecessor organizations for nearly twenty years, providing Grants.gov and related support and assistance to USD(R&E) and DoD grantors, as well as supporting the DoD HBCU/MI Program Manager with program implementation.



Dr. Timothy S. Kroecker
Senior Operations Research Analyst
Air Force Research Laboratory – Information Directorate
Rome, NY

Dr. Timothy S. Kroecker is a Senior Operations Research Analyst at the Air Force Research Laboratory, Information Directorate, Rome, New York. The directorate's mission is to lead the discovery, development and integration of affordable warfighting information technologies for our air, space and cyberspace forces. Dr. Kroecker

conducts research in a variety of areas including ethical decision-making, workflow processes, and talent development. In addition, Dr. Kroecker focuses much of his efforts to building and maintaining collaborative relationships with academic institutions, particularly HBCUs, and MSIs, and Tribal Colleges. Dr. Kroecker was the AFRL nominee for the 2017, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award.

Dr. Kroecker received his Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1993. For his dissertation, he examined the impact of situational constraints, competition, accountability, and moral development on ethical decision-making in the workplace. He holds an M.B.A. from City College of New York, Bernard M. Baruch College (Class of 1986), and received his Bachelor's degree in Psychology from St. Joseph's College in 1984.



Mr. Edward J. Lee
Program Coordinator
Historically Black Colleges Universities and Minority Institutions
(HBCU/MI) Programs and SBIR/ STTR
Air Force Office of Scientific Research
Arlington, VA

Mr. Edward J. Lee is the Program Coordinator for Historically Black Colleges and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI's) for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) in Arlington, VA, one of the 9 directorates that comprise the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL). He is responsible for coordinating activities that provide funding support to minority institutions across the nation. Mr. Lee provides leadership, strategic direction, and oversight to universities to help make them aware of opportunities and facilitates introductions and guidance to ensure institutions of higher education are well represented within the minority community. He has a unique way of communicating and can talk to everyone to make them feel special, from students to university Presidents. Mr. Lee has recently taken on the task of coordinating activities with the small business programs of SBIR and STTR geared towards fostering the commercialization of products to the warfighter for the Department of Defense.

Mr. Lee has worked for the AFOSR since 1997, initially overseeing the University Research Initiative program. He is now working to enhance communications between HBCU's and MI's to be able to compete for contracts/grants at a larger scale. Working in private industry prior to coming to AFOSR and owning his own business since 1987, EJM Associates, Mr. Lee has helped to establish and support black-owned businesses in the Washington Metropolitan area. Mr. Lee is also a graduate from an HBCU, Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland.



Mrs. Sheila D. McClelland
Division Chief
Army Contracting Command - Aberdeen Proving Command
Research Triangle Park, NC

Mrs. Sheila D. McClelland is the Division Chief of the Army Contracting Command- Aberdeen Proving Ground, Research Triangle Park Division, located in Research Triangle Park North Carolina. She has more than 34 years of procurement and acquisition management experience at Military and Defense Agencies. Her experience extends across the acquisition spectrum after serving in various capacities that also include: Director; Contracting Officer; Contract Specialist; Chief Business Management; Procurement Analyst; Associate Director of Small Business; Deputy Career Program Manager; and Commercial Advocate. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Administration of Justice from Howard University, and a Masters Degree in Procurement and Acquisition Management from Webster University. She has also served as Mentor for the Department of Army Procurement Management Mentorship Program and is a DOD Certified Mediator. She is Level III Certified in Contracting, Level I Certified in Program Management and holds membership in the Department of Defense and Army Acquisition Corps. Sheila has been married for twenty-nine years to Arnold T. McClelland, SFC USA Retired, has one daughter, Asya and one grandson, Jahleel. .



Dr. James F. McDonald, Jr.
Senior Program Analyst
Technology Management Training Group, Inc.
Washington, D.C.

Dr. McDonald is a senior program analyst with TMT Group providing technical and programmatic support to the Army Research Laboratory's Outreach Office. He is currently supporting the Army's HBCU/MI Design Competition. Prior to joining TMT Group, Dr. McDonald worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) as the Director of the Business Support Office. He was the program manager for the Defense Technology Analysis program that funded technical studies and management support. Dr. McDonald was also the program manager for the S&T Priorities Program where he managed efforts to address high-priority DoD needs. He served as the Contracting Officer's Representative for several industry contracts and he also provided the programmatic interface to Federally Funded Research and Development Centers.

Dr. McDonald began his career at the Naval Air Systems Command as a project engineer in the Advanced Airborne Computer Division. After joining OSD, Dr. McDonald worked in the Technology Studies Division of the Defense Technology Analysis Office where he was responsible for providing technology assessments of major weapon systems. He later served as a project director for the Balanced Technology Initiative (BTI).

Dr. McDonald has a Ph.D. in Science and Technology Studies from Virginia Tech. He has a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from West Virginia University. He holds two Masters Degrees from Virginia Tech (Business Administration and Science and Technology Studies) and he has a Master's Degree from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in National Resource Strategy. Dr. McDonald is a graduate of the Defense Leadership and Management Program and he is Level III certified in the Science and Technology Management acquisition career field.



Ms. Vonetta G. McNeal
Branch Chief
U.S. Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground
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Research Triangle Park, NC

Ms. Vonetta G. McNeal serves as Branch Chief for the Army Contracting Command- Aberdeen Proving Ground, Research Triangle Park Division, NC providing support to the Army Research Laboratory (ARL). She has 18 years of procurement and acquisition management experience that extends across the acquisition spectrum

after serving in various capacities from Contracting Officer to Grants Officer. Ms. McNeal is a graduate of North Carolina Central University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a Concentration in Public Administration. She obtained her Masters Degree in Management with a Concentration in Acquisition and Contract Management from the Florida Institute of Technology. Ms. McNeal began her career with the Federal Government at the Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, MD where she gained valuable contracting experience in services and major weapon systems.

Ms. McNeal joined the US Army Contracting Command-Aberdeen Proving Ground, RTP Division in August 2005 as a Grants/Contracting Officer. Ms. McNeal provides acquisition support and guidance for complex contracts and assistance awards involving highly specialized and innovative research. Ms. McNeal has Extensive knowledge of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS), Army Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (AFARS), the Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DODGARS) and 2 CFR 200. Professional Activities and Accreditations include Level III Certification in Contracting, Member of the Army Acquisition Corps, Graduate of the Army Management Staff College CES Advanced Course, Graduate of the Harvard Senior Executive Fellows Program and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



Dr. Dawanne E. Poree
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Dr. Dawanne Poree currently serves as the Program Manager for the Polymer Chemistry and Reactive Chemical Systems (acting) programs at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory-Army Research

Office (ARL-ARO). In this position, she executes and manages a diverse research portfolio of 160 projects, totaling more than \$19M in annual research investments while also identifying and guiding novel scientific opportunities to address fundamental basic research gaps to achieve scientific breakthroughs and discoveries leading to critical new technologies and capabilities for the U.S. Army. Dr. Poree received a BS in chemistry from Nicholls State University and a PhD in Polymer Chemistry from Tulane University.



Dr. Larry C. Russell, Jr.
URI Program Manager
Engineering Sciences Directorate
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Dr. Larry C. Russell, Jr. currently serves as the University Research Initiatives (URI) Program Manager with management oversight, coordination, and program execution of a more than \$60M annual budget. The URI Program consists of the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP), Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI) and Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). Responsibilities include, planning, executing and evaluating basic research and components of the University Research Initiative (URI) program element on behalf of the Army in coordination with the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering OASD(R&E).

Educational background consists of a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina A&T State University, a master's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, and a Ph.D. from North Carolina A&T State University.



Mrs. Lanelle T. Shands
Branch Chief, ARO
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Mrs. Lanelle T. Shands is a Branch Chief at the Army Contracting Command- Aberdeen Proving Ground, Research Triangle Park Division, located in Research Triangle Park North Carolina where her branch supports the Army Research Office and the Army Research Institute. Mrs. Shands began her Federal Career in 2002 at the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) in Patuxent River, MD. While at NAVAIR, she was a Contract Specialist supporting the H-1 Helicopter Program and Aircraft Support Contracts Department. In 2005, she moved to RTP, NC where she continued her Federal Career with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While at the EPA, she supported the Office of Air and Radiation utilizing a variety of contract

instruments. In 2010, Mrs. Shands joined the U.S. Army Contracting Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Research Triangle Park Division as a Contract Specialist and worked her way through as a Contracting Officer, Team Leader, and now Branch Chief. She is a 2002 graduate of North Carolina Central University who earned a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree with a Concentration in Management. She obtained her Master's Degree in Business Administration in 2004 from Florida Institute of Technology. Mrs. Shands is a member of the Army Acquisition Corps and is Level III Certified in Contracting through the Department of Defense and Federal Acquisition Institute.



Mr. Anthony C. Smith, Sr.
Director/ Program Manager
Department of Navy's (DoN) Historically Black Colleges
Universities and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Programs
Arlington, VA

Mr. Smith is the Director for the Department of the Navy's (DoN) Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program. 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 support and capabilities of HBCU/MIs. Furthermore, he is tasked with increasing the number of students (undergraduate and graduate) as well as faculty in applying for and pursuing internships, fellowships and research related projects for the Department of the Navy. Additionally, Mr. is responsible for the oversight and guidance of 13 Administering Offices (AO) within the Department of the Navy that are charged with conducting outreach programs with HBCU/MIs.

Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Smith possesses over 15 years of numerous continually progressive assignments in the U.S. Navy including serving as the Science and Technology Director responsible for the developing and transitioning numerous Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) and S&T projects totaling more than \$100M. He also served as the Director of Future Technology/Technical Director supporting the S&T Directorate within PEO SHIPS. Mr. Smith is also a United States Naval Reservist. Mr. Smith also was an Assistant Professor of Naval Science at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University's (FAMU) Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Unit. In this position he taught Naval History, advanced courses in Navigation; and, was the Academic Advisor for the freshman and Junior Midshipmen. In a collateral role, Mr. Smith served as the recruiter responsible awarding 4-year scholarships to qualified applicants throughout the U.S. Mr. Smith received his Bachelors of Science Degree in Biology from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. He has also attained a Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) Level III Certification in Science and Technology.



Dr. Mimi Strand
Division Chief
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Army Research Office – Physical Sciences Directorate
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Dr. Mimi Strand received her PhD in Genetics and Molecular Biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her graduate work focused on mitotic and meiotic recombination and the molecular mechanisms of microsatellite DNA instability. She conducted post-doctoral research at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) investigating mitochondrial mutagenesis. She also worked at Ciba-Geigy (now Syngenta) creating new technology to modulate gene expression in transgenic plants. She is the primary author on a seminal Nature paper that was the first to identify the molecular phenotype of DNA repair deficient tumors. This led to the identification of a new class of tumors, and DNA repair deficiency as a cause of tumorigenesis changed from theory to clinical reality. Her research has been cited over 1000 times. Dr. Strand now serves as the program manager for ARO's Genetics program and is the Division Chief for ARO's Life Sciences division.



Dr. Lisa Troyer
Program Manager
Social & Behavioral Sciences
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Dr. Lisa Troyer, Program Manager for Army Research Office's extramural basic research program in the Social & Behavioral Sciences, has over two decades of experience as a social and behavioral scientist, including serving as a university professor, and university administrator. She is also currently Assistant Deputy Director of the Minerva Research Initiative, for the Basic Research Office, USD(R&E). She received her Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from Stanford and her B.A. degree from the University of Washington in sociology. Her research, supported by NSF, NIH, DARPA, US Dept. of Education and Rockefeller Foundation spans social psychology, complex organizations, and decision sciences. She has published dozens of peer-reviewed articles, chapters, and proceedings in top scientific outlets across a range of disciplines, including engineering, social sciences, and physical sciences. Additionally, she has served as a consultant to small businesses, not-for-profit agencies, and Fortune-500 companies, and has worked closely with public sector agencies in emergency response planning, civic engagement, and the advancement of human rights.



Dr. Pani (Chakrapani) Varanasi
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Dr. Pani Varanasi works as a Materials Science Division Chief/Program Manager at the Army Research Office (ARO). He also conducts research in the area of functional materials at Duke University as an adjunct faculty. He received his Ph.D. degree in Materials Science & Engineering from the Univ. of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, in 1994. Prior to joining ARO, he has worked at APL Engineered Materials Inc. /Advanced Lighting Technologies Inc., Urbana, IL and at UDRI/Air Force Research Labs, WPAFB, OH. He has authored/co-authored more than 100 papers, 1 book chapter, and 4 patents in the area of functional materials.