

AIR FORCE SPONSORED, HBCU LED UNIVERSITY AFFILIATED RESEARCH CENTER (UARC)

AGG
IESDO

Eric R. Muth, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development
Board of Trustees Retreat
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- Officially established by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering USD(R&E) in 1996, but roots trace back to WWII
- DoD centers affiliated with universities that maintain strategic readiness and advantage around a set of core capabilities
 - > Most are entities related to universities in a similar manner as N.C. A&T and Gateway Research Park
 - > This will be a consortium with elements similar to SERC
- Typically have a secure/classified component to elements of the work
- Funding is through DoD contract mechanism and task orders, note this is a different mechanism than typical grants and contracts

- There are 14 UARCs:
 - > 4 sponsored by the Army,
 - > 5 sponsored by the Navy,
 - > 2 by USD, one by the Missile Defense Agency,
 - > 1 by Strategic Command,
 - > 1 by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Threat Reduction and Arms Control (not shown—Alaska)



- The Air Force is seeking this HBCU led UARC to focus on tactical autonomy with three pillars
 - > Trust in mission autonomy (key pillar)
 - > Collaboration between autonomous platforms
 - > Human-machine teaming
- And to
 - > Contribute to DoD workforce development, specifically Air Force
 - > Build infrastructure at HBCUs
 - > Aid HBCUs in their R2-R1 journeys
- \$16M/yr for 5 years
 - > \$12M/yr from Air Force
 - > \$2M/yr from Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering
 - > \$2M/yr from Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition Sustainment

- June 27th: Program announced
- July 20th & 29th: Virtual outreach events
- August 9th: In person industry day
- August 16th: Anticipated request for proposals
- October 19th: Anticipated proposal due date
- December 15th: Decision

- Goal is to have a draft concept prior to the RFP release and then polish and edit to satisfy the RFP for submission
 - > Working with current UARC “mentors” who we have existing partnerships with, Systems Engineering Research Center (SERT) at Stevens Institute of Technology, and Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) at Georgia Tech
- Build the HBCU core of exclusive partners
 - > NDAs and exclusive teaming agreements at the institutional level
- Get commitments from supporting partners and affiliates
 - > DoD Labs, National Labs, industry partners, R1 universities, non-core HBCUs

- Establish an advisory board
- Assign elements of the proposal writing to section leads
 - > Involvement of HBCU core partners and faculty representatives from each partner, as well as key mentors
- Assemble, review, and edit proposal
 - > Several mentors have committed to providing feedback