

NITRD LEADS IT



April 2017

A Quarterly Newsletter for the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program

NITRD News Spotlight

CONGRATS to *Dr. Douglas Maughan*, 2017 FEDERAL 100 - FCW

In its March 2017 issue, “*FCW: The Business of Federal Technology*” magazine named NITRD’s Colleague, Department of Homeland Security Representative to the NITRD Subcommittee, Dr. Douglas Maughan to the 2017 Federal 100. Dr. Maughan is the Director for the Cyber Security Division, Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency. [Read the article and full list.](#)

Federal Smart Cities and Communities Programs Resource Guide

The [Federal Smart Cities and Communities Programs Resource Guide](#) was published by the Smart Cities and Communities (SCC) Task Force (TF) on March 22, 2017. This Guide was created to facilitate collaboration and coordination between SCC TF member agencies, academia, industry, local cities and communities, and other government entities. The Resource Guide describes federally-funded R&D programs in smart cities and communities. For more information, see [Smart Cities and Communities Task Force](#) web page.

Smart Cities and Communities Federal Strategic Plan: *Exploring Innovation Together*

On February 28, 2017, the SCC TF closed its Request for Comment (RFC) on the [draft-Smart Cities and Communities Federal Strategic Plan: Exploring Innovation Together](#) that was published in the [Federal Register](#). The SCC TF will incorporate the public comments as appropriate, and then seek approval to release the final Plan. Read the [Summary of responses to the RFC](#).



Director’s Corner

“Brace for Impact”

By: *Dr. Bryan Biegel, NCO Director
and Co-chair, NITRD Subcommittee*

“**Brace for impact!**” Usually, those words strike fear, but for NITRD, they are a call to action. Ultimately, all government investment should be measured by its impact on societal benefits such as economic prosperity, national security, and quality of life. The challenge for R&D, such as that coordinated by NITRD, is that it usually takes years to see the impact of R&D on societal benefits. Here are two ways that NITRD can measure our impact.

First, NITRD legislation requires technical area strategic plans to specify near-term and long-term objectives, metrics for assessing progress towards those objectives, and annual reporting on progress toward NITRD Program goals and priorities. This provides a great opportunity to plan and express NITRD’s impact on societal benefits.

Second, this Fall I will invite each NITRD Interagency Working Group (IWG) to prepare a brief impact statement about how their recent and planned activities advance societal benefits. Given NITRD’s role to support interagency R&D coordination, high-impact IWG activities may include ensuring the inclusion of long-term and large-scale research in the Federal portfolio, ensuring transition of Federal R&D into new technologies and applications in the national interest, development or implementation of Federal strategic R&D plans, support of related Federal policy development, and others.

NITRD helps us to more efficiently and effectively advance agency missions and societal benefits. “Brace for impact” is our commitment to fully achieve and articulate that.

As always, don’t hesitate to contact us at:
NITRDLeadsIT@nitrd.gov

National Broadband Research Agenda

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) published "[The National Broadband Research Agenda: Key Priorities for Broadband Research and Data](#)" (NBRA) on January 19, 2017. This Agenda, whose development was coordinated by NITRD's NBRA Task Force, describes research and data requirements for the Federal effort to ensure that the benefits of broadband are widely shared. The NBRA noted that the NITRD Subcommittee should establish a task force to lead the development of this Agenda under the NITRD Large Scale Networking (LSN) Interagency Working Group (IWG). Subsequently, the Broadband Research and Development (BRD) Task Force (TF) was created to carry out the implementation of the NBRA. For more information, see the [BRD TF](#) web page.

NITRD Talks

NITRD continues its work to maintain U.S. leadership in networking and IT R&D through science, technology, and innovation talks that bring together experts from the public and private sectors.

The following recent events were hosted by NITRD:

- The FASTER Community of Practice (CoP) hosted a webinar with Dr. Douglas Maughan, Division Director of the Cyber Security Division (CSD) in the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA) within the Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). His talk provided an overview of the CSD and the Silicon Valley Innovation Program. To view Dr. Maughan's talk presented on April 14, 2017, see "[DHS S&T Cyber Security Division & Silicon Valley Innovation Program](#)".
- The Big Data IWG hosted a workshop on February 28 – March 1, 2017, "[Measuring the Impact of Digital Repositories](#)." The goal of this workshop was to identify effective metrics, tools and practices, and the issues that will require additional research. Keynote speaker, Dr. Francine Berman, presented a talk on digital repositories. To view this talk, see "[In Search of Impact](#)."
- In collaboration with the SCC TF, the FASTER CoP hosted a talk on February 17, 2017, by Charlie Catlett, Senior Computer Scientist at Argonne National Laboratory. To view this talk, see "[Creating New Sources of Data and Embedded Systems to Understand Cities](#)."

More to Come

The following events and reports are expected in the coming months:

- The Wireless Spectrum R&D IWG will host its 9th workshop, "[Radio Receiver Systems: R&D Innovation Needs and Impacts of Technology and Policy](#)", on May 5, 2017. This topic was identified as a priority for coordination between Federal agency and private sector participants. An announcement was published in the [Federal Register \(82 FR 18162\)](#).
- The FY2018 NITRD Program Supplement to the President's Budget, currently in development, describes how planned FY 2018 Federal IT R&D and interagency coordination across the broad portfolio of NITRD areas, from supercomputing and big data to cyber security and networking, support societal benefits and agency missions. The Supplement is expected to be delivered to Congress in late Spring 2017.

Check out the NITRD NCO YouTube videos from workshops, presentations, and meetings!
<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheNCONITRD>

The NITRD Program was established by the High-Performance Computing (HPC) Act of 1991 with the overall objective of ensuring the United States' leadership in advanced computing. The NITRD Program is the Nation's coordinator of Federally funded work on advanced information technology (IT).

Now in its 26th year, the NITRD Program consists of 21 Federal member agencies and over 35 participating agencies, and is one of the oldest and largest of the formal Federal programs that engage in multi-agency coordination activities. The multi-agency NITRD Program seeks to provide the research and development (R&D) foundations for assuring continued U.S. technological leadership and meeting the needs of the Federal Government for advanced IT.

The NITRD Program also seeks to accelerate development and deployment of advanced IT in order to maintain world leadership in science and engineering, enhance national defense and homeland security, improve US productivity and competitiveness, protect the environment, and improve the health, education and quality of life for all Americans.



National Coordination Office

4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite II-405
Arlington, VA 22230

Phone: 703.292.4873

Fax: 703.292.9097

E-mail: nco@nitrd.gov

Website: www.nitrd.gov