NITRD News Spotlight

NITRD Has New Legislation:
American Innovation and Competitiveness Act

On Friday, January 6, 2017, President Obama signed into law the *American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (AICA)*. The bill includes the NITRD Modernization Act of 2016, which amends the High Performance Computing Act of 1991, and renames the National High Performance Computing Program as the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program. The bill is an important update for the NITRD Program. See the Director's Corner for more.

Wireless Spectrum Sharing:
Enforcement Frameworks, Technology, and R&D Workshop Report

On Monday, January 9, 2017, the Wireless Spectrum Research and Development (WSRD) Interagency Working Group (IWG) released its 8th workshop report, *Wireless Spectrum Sharing: Enforcement Frameworks, Technology and R&D*. This is the latest in a series of reports produced by the WSRD IWG that responds directly to the Presidential Memorandum: *Expanding America's Leadership in Wireless Innovation*. These reports assist in achieving the President's goals and have helped individual agencies, such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), to make better decisions about wireless spectrum research funding strategies. The WSRD VIII Workshop Report can be downloaded from the NITRD Publications Library.

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

Director's Corner

Two January events are at the top of my mind: the Administration transition and signing of the new NITRD legislation.

With the change in Administration, NITRD will continue to deliver on the requirements in our authorization legislation. The NCO is committed to continuous support of all NITRD Program activities, although public document releases will be minimal until the new Administration has an opportunity to establish priorities and guidance. As such, the NITRD Supplement will be delayed this year. In the last transition, the Supplement was delivered to Congress with the President's budget in May, rather than February.

Speaking of legislation, Congressional approval of the NITRD Modernization Act of 2016 in the final days of 2016 demonstrates the broad importance and bipartisan support for our work.

Some key new requirements in the NITRD Act:

- Periodic assessments of NITRD by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), which is two levels above NITRD;

- Increased emphasis on "foundational, large-scale, long-term, and interdisciplinary" IT R&D, and on transfer of R&D results into new technologies and applications in the national interest;

- Technical area strategic plans, as deemed appropriate by the NSTC, including near-term and long-term objectives and metrics.

See the complete HPC Act of 1991 as amended by the NITRD Modernization Act of 2016.

The future is exciting! We look forward to highlighting more IT R&D advances led by the NITRD community.

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

-Bryan Biegel

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

On Thursday, January 12, 2017, the National Coordination Office for NITRD published a Request for Comment (RFC) on the *draft-Smart Cities and Communities Federal Strategic Plan: Exploring Innovation Together* in the Federal Register. The Strategy is motivated by a vision of ubiquitous, smart infrastructure, systems, and services by embedding new digital technologies into city and community infrastructures, systems, and services. For more on the RFC, go to the Federal Register.

2016 – Year in Review

Over the past year, the NITRD Program facilitated major interagency coordination efforts that have advanced the Federal IT R&D agenda, goals of Presidential memoranda, National priorities, and societal benefits.

The following documents highlight work completed under the NITRD Program in 2016:

- *NITRD Leads IT Newsletter* - October 2016
- *The National Artificial Intelligence Research and Development Strategic Plan* – October 2016
- *Computational Science And Engineering Software Sustainability And Productivity (CSESSP) Challenges Workshop Report* – September 2016
- *NITRD Leads IT Newsletter* - July 2016
- *National Privacy Research Strategy* – June 2016
- *The Federal Big Data Research and Development Strategic Plan* – May 2016
- *FY2017 NITRD Program Supplement to the President's Budget* - April 2016
- *2016 Federal Cybersecurity Research and Development Strategic Plan* – February 2016

Looking Ahead – 2017

NITRD continues its work to maintain U.S. leadership in networking and IT R&D in support of U.S. science, technology, and innovation.

The following are anticipated NITRD meetings, workshops, and reports:

- *National Broadband Research Agenda* – January 2017
- Big Data IWG Workshop: *Measuring the Impact of Digital Repositories* – March 2017
- *Smart Cities and Communities Federal Strategic Plan: Exploring Innovation Together* – April 2017
- *FY 2018 NITRD Supplement to the President's Budget* – May 2017

During 2017, you will see these and other NITRD-driven impacts on the many fields of IT research and development.

On behalf of the NCO and NITRD Member Agencies, we extend our sincere gratitude to supporting members of the Administration (including from the Office of Science and Technology Policy, National Science and Technology Council, and Office of Management and Budget) for their dedicated leadership and support of NITRD Program efforts to ensure America's leadership in Science and Technology.

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 25th 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 competiveness, protect the environment, and improve the health, education and quality of life for all Americans.

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