



NSPAA'S

The Newsletter of the National Sponsored Programs Administrators Alliance of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Inc.



26TH ANNUAL (VIRTUAL) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP

Featured:

- · NSPAA History, Mission, & Membership
- HBCU Funding Spotlights
 Highlights from 2019 Workshop
 2021-2022 Power Hour Sessions
- · Memorial Tribute to Danette Hall

NSPAA'S VOICE

The Newsletter of the National Sponsored Programs Administrators Alliance of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Inc.

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Please forward all submissions

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NSPAA's President

Dr. Norma J, Frank

As President of National Sponsored Programs Administrators Alliance of HBCUS, Inc. (NSPAA), I welcome our members and am excited about what is in-store for our organization. As a national organization, we are committed to ensuring that our members stay abreast and engaged, as we support their sponsored programs and research efforts. As I lead NSPAA, "my vision is to use the core values to synergize all our efforts to engender greater change for the HBCU community."

NSPAA has relished the continual support of a dedicated and supportive Board of Directors from across our HBCUs. They understand the vision and mission of NSPAA and have contributed to its success. Our founders, past Presidents and advisory members resolve that we will continue to provide services for our HBCUs Research Enterprises. We want to assist our HBCUs to enhance capacity in areas of contracts, intellectual property/technology transfer, innovation, collaborations, etc.

NSPAA was established in December 1993 with the purpose to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the administration of sponsored programs at HBCUs. Its primary focus is to promote the development and implementation of effective policies, procedures, and practices related to the administration of sponsored programs and research; foster the establishment of sponsored programs and research offices.

Even though, we have not been able to meet face-to-face, due to the pandemic, the virtual platform allowed us to meet our goals. We are grateful for the advent of technology as Zoom,



Microsoft Teams and other Platforms that created an atmosphere to continue the work of NSPAA, despite COVID-19.

As a member of NSPAA, here are some advantages and benefits:

- Quarterly Power Hour Technical Training Sessions
- Research Administration Jobs Board
- Network with NSPAA members from other HBCUs
- Opportunities to Serve and Lead
- Develop Strategic Partnerships and Consortia
- Annual Technical Assistance Workshop
- NSPAA HBCU Outreach Services

We invite you to our *Virtual*Annual T/A Workshop on June 1, 2022.
Our theme is, "Gaining Competitive

Edge through Innovation and

Collaboration". Check your email and visit our website for more information.

We are here to serve our HBCUs!

Stay Engaged!!!

Mormal Frank

Norma J. Frank, Ph.D., President NSPAA Board

History of

the National

Sponsored

Programs

Administrators

Alliance

(NSPAA)



NSPAA was established in December 1993 with the mission to aid Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the efficiency and effectiveness of sponsored program administration. The organization provides technical assistance workshops, conferences, training and service activities, which have formed a collaborative sponsored research community of HBCUs that address and share particular needs facing HBCUs. A main goal of NSPAA is to gain visibility, and broaden its membership base within the HBCU sponsored research community. NSPAA-HBCU's Inc. was co-founded by Mr. Marvin H. Watkins of North Carolina A&T State University and Dr. Franklin D. Hamilton of Florida A&M University.

NSPAA is an enthusiastic organization, which recognizes the vital role that research administrators play in helping their schools to secure external funding. The network of HBCUs administrators developed by NSPAA has gone a long way towards promoting the specialized interests of HBCUs and furthering communication among these institutions. As the NSPAA organization grows, so does its association with federal offices and private/non-governmental entities. This interaction has proved to be essential in empowering HBCUs to remain competitive in the research arena and to stay abreast of current developments in sponsored research.

NSPAA provides assistance and services to the membership funding agencies and others by way of its Annual Technical Assistance Workshops, which includes Advance Workshop Series and Technical Help Seminars, Networking Opportunities and Publications. The Alliance frequently collaborated on opportunities available to HBCUs and other Minority Serving Institutions, The Departments of Defense, the Department of Energy and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and organizations such as MAXIMUS and Tougaloo College Research & Development Foundation, often support training seminars, which help members earn professional certification as Certified Research Administrators through the Research Administrator Certification Council.

Benefits of Membership

NSPAA provides assistance and services to the membership, funding agencies and others by way of its Annual Conferences, Advance Workshop Series, Technical Help Seminars, Networking Opportunities and Publications. The Alliance frequently collaborated on opportunities available to HBCUs and other Minority Serving Institutions, The Departments of Defense, the Department of Energy and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, among others. Often support training seminars, which help members earn professional certification as Certified Research Administrators through the Research Administrator Certification Council.



TRAINING

Learn about available funding, get ideas for program development and enhance your knowledge of preand post-award functions, including compliance. Post-award management for colleagues specializing in finance is also included.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND LEAD

Gain valuable insight on positioning your institution to win and realize maximum benefits and extramural funding from public and private sources.





NETWORK WITH NSPAA MEMBERS FROM OTHER HBCUS

Interact with federal agencies and private/non-governmental entities to promote your program initiatives, and share lessons learned with faculty and staff of other institutions.

NSPAA MEMBERS AND PARTNERS ARE...

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATORS

> RESEARCH **FACULTY**

TRAINING CONSULTANTS

COMPLIANCE **OFFICERS**

FEDERAL GRANT & CONTRACT **ADMINISTRATORS**

FUNDERS

GOVERNMENT **OFFICIALS**

"GAINING COMPETITIVE EDGE THROUGH INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION"

This Technical Assistance Workshop Series is geared for institutions who may find the processes associated with innovation and collaboration challenging, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic period. Participants will receive information about research security; For example, what are the indicators to look for when hiring international faculty or students in sensitive areas? Participants will also get a sense of what is necessary – and even what isn't necessary – to grow their sponsored programs portfolios through contracts. The virtual session will feature a slate of government, university, private sector and subject matter experts. The Technical Assistance Workshop will include area topics such as:

- Formation of partnerships and collaborations among institutions, including HBCUs
- Teaming and collaboration considerations
- Maintain fiscal responsibility
- Review of common types of contracts
- Research security
- Contract Closeouts
- Integrity and Ethics
- Contract sustainability strategies
- Funding opportunities
- Contracts through research partnerships

HBCU Latest Extramural Awards

Tennessee State University; Nashville, Tennessee



Tennessee State University (TSU) is the recipient of a grant from USDA NIFA award for \$6 million dollars entitled Speciality Crop Research Initiative Grant. The Principal Investigator is Associate Professor, Dr. Karla Addesso, who will lead a team of researchers and graduate students and teachers to investigate management of flathead borers in nut, fruit, nursery and landscape trees across the United States. The period of performance for the award is_____

Tennessee State University (TSU) is leading a project that has been awarded \$4 million from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Rebecca Selove, PI and Director of TSU's Center for Prevention Research, leads the Engaging Partners in Caring Communities (EPICC) project. It is designed to support delivery of evidence-based health promotion programs in churches serving African American communities and engage participants in collectively identifying and addressing social determinants of health. The TSU team is joined by investigators at Meharry Medical College, Vanderbilt University, and Rev. Omaran Lee, Director of the Congregational Health and Education Network (CHEN), which includes about 100 churches in Middle Tennessee.

Morgan State University; Baltimore, Maryland



Morgan State University received a \$40-million, 10-year Award (2014–2019; 2019-2024) from the National Institutes of Health to establish the ASCEND (A Student Centered, Entrepreneurship Development) Center for Biomedical Research. The ASCEND Center aims to strengthen Morgan's biomedical and research infrastructure by training undergraduate students to become outstanding biomedical researchers and providing faculty with support to develop or revitalize their own health research programs. Dr. Payam Sheikhattari and Dr. Christine Hohmann serve as the ASCEND principal investigators. The ASCEND program offers our students an opportunity to conceptualize and test their research ideas and it also aims to enhance the interdisciplinary research prowess of our talented faculty through internal mini-grants for pilot studies that lead to larger extramural funding to expand their research programs.

Morgan State University in partnership with the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) received a NASA Award of \$72 Million to further Earth and Atmospheric Science Research, GESTAR II (Goddard Earth Sciences Technology and Research). The GESTAR II consortium, which is being led by UMBC in partnership with Morgan State University, will support 120 affiliated researchers, creating extensive opportunities for breakthroughs in Earth and atmospheric science research. Morgan will receive \$28 million and UMBC \$38 million, respectively. This partnership marks the first major collaboration of the two Maryland-based research universities. Colorado State University, Arizona State University and Pennsylvania State University will also contribute as partners in the program, along with Northrop Grumman Corporation, Earth Resources Technology, Inc., and the nonprofit Southeastern Universities Research Association. Participants will carry out observational, experimental and theoretical research in support of strategic mission objectives of NASA Earth Science. The large scale of this work will enable students at all levels to contribute to the research.

Southern University and A&M College; Baton Rouge, Louisiana



A NSF Cooperative Agreement, Award in the amount: \$4,000,000 has been awarded to a team of researchers from Southern University and A&M College (SUBR), Louisiana State University (LSU), and the National Center for Additive Manufacturing Excellence (NCAME) at Auburn University (AU) in Alabama. The PI is Dr. Patrick Mensah and the project title is "RII Track-2 FEC: Rapid Qualification for Additively Manufactured Safety Critical Components". The award period is 01/15/2022 to 01/31/2026.

This team proposes to establish a Consortium for Additive Manufacturing Qualification (CAM-Q). CAM-Q will exploit research opportunities at the intersection of materials science and data analytics, with a technological focus on Laser Beam Powder Bed Fusion (LB-PBF) additive manufacturing (AM), to radically transform the AM parts qualification process. AM part qualification has been identified by the America Makes & American National Standard Institute (ANSI) Additive Manufacturing Standardization Collaborative (AMSC) as a standardization gap with high priority. The major outcomes of this project will be an overall framework for AM process design and rapid fatigue performance qualification, together with significant contributions to the education, training, and development of a highly-skilled, multidisciplinary, and diverse workforce to support the industry in the United States. The planned research represents a significant change from the current AM qualification practices. Successful execution of this project will enable the fabrication of metal/alloy parts with a significantly accelerated qualification cycle, make the AM process commercially viable, and propel the US industry to a global leadership position.

The Boeing Company and Southern University and A&M College (SUBR) entered into a Mentor Protégé Program agreement that has been approved by NASA. The title of the contract is "Boeing SLS Project: Weetech Testing and Wire Harness". The PI is Dr. Samuel Washington. The Boeing Contract award amount is

\$2,165,500.26 + additional funds up to \$15,000,000. This agreement is the first Mentor Protégé Agreement by Boeing with an Historically **Black College or University (HBCU).** SUBR became the first HBCU ISO 9001 certified Supplier to support the important program. This partnering will, through successful implementation, build business relationships that benefits The Boeing Company, Southern University and A&M College, and NASA. SUBR was uniquely qualified for this appointment based on its ongoing contracting efforts through the Office of Governmental Contracting Services building capacity with the public and private sectors. The MPP's recognition of these efforts will provide the present contracting of the university to uniquely transform the university and enhance its capabilities to win contracts and subcontracts based on its participation in the MPP. The program has mutual benefits for each participant. The Mentor (Boeing) develops a long-term relationship with the university focused on the aerospace industry, provides a qualified minority institution for business development, and accrues credit for the NASA subcontracting goals. The Protégé (Southern) receives relevant technical and developmental assistance based on needs analysis assessments and qualifies the protégé for sole source contracts from the Mentor. SUBR through this unique partnership will be poised to make this endeavor a lasting one that will complement the faculty, staff and students. It also complements the academic units to become more applicationbased learning that meets the demands of the workforce development initiative for the State of Louisiana. The award period of performance is 02/15/2022 to 01/31/2026.

The NASA Mentor Protégé Program (MPP) was established by the Small Business Program to encourage large corporations doing business with NASA to assist small businesses or proteges to enhance their capacity to perform contracts and subcontracts. The relationship with the Mentor is designed to foster term partnerships between the prime contractor for NASA. The overall purpose with the MPP is to develop best business development practices that increase the number of NASA contracts and subcontract awards.

Virginia Union University; Richmond, Virginia



irginia Union University received an important grant award of \$5 million from Dominion Energy Foundation that will help the university to focus on bringing important changes to its academic and social environment, in addition to laying the groundwork for investment in our students. The purpose of the grant allows a transformational partnership with Dominion Energy Foundation to enable the continuation of meeting the urgent needs of our students and our historic campus, while preparing the global leaders for tomorrow. The Dominion Energy Foundation grant award allows a transformational partnership that will focus on five urgent campus projects: Research and Development, Revitalizing Student Housing, Campus Technology Upgrades, and Student Scholarship Endowment. Dr. Linda Jackson is the POC/PI for the Dominion Energy HBCU Promise Grant and the grant award period is January 2021-December 2025.

Central State University; Wilberforce, Ohio



entral State University received a \$10 million Sustainable Agriculture Systems (SAS) award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Sustainable Use of a Safe Hemp ■ Ingredient (SUSHI) project. The project partners the expertise and efforts of all three types of Land-Grant Institutions –1994, 1890, and 1862. Central State University is the only Ohio University and the only HBCU to ever receive a SAS award. Dr. Brandy E. Phipps, research assistant professor of food, nutrition, and health serves as the Principal Investigator, Craig Schluttenhofer, Ph.D., research assistant professor of natural products, and Krishna Kumar Nedunuri, Ph.D., professor of environmental engineering and water resource management serve as Co-Principal Investigators. The project impacts the entire value system chain ensuring that CSU positively impacts regional and national agricultural economics, increase the diversity of the agricultural workforce, develop environmentally and economically sustainable hemp and aquaculture systems, and ultimately improve the quality of lives of Americans – particularly those from underserved populations. The period of performance is 9/2021 - 8/31/2026.

An important funding opportunity from Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi



Tougaloo College Research Development Foundation (TCRDF), a 501c (3), was formed to support the research and development mission of Tougaloo College and that of other HBCUs. They do so by forming and supporting relationships between HBCUs and other entities including University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs), Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), Predominantly White Institutions (PWIs), federal contractors, and other entities. Activities that are conducted by TCRDF are below:

Georgia Tech Research Institute GTRI) HBCU Research Partners

TCRDF is under contract with the Army to help Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) form research partnerships with HBCUs and MSIs. During the initial year of this task, TCRDF initiated efforts with ten (10) institutions. This is a three-year task.

HBCU/UARC Partnerships

As you know, UARCs receive no-compete funds from federal agencies. TCRDF has a partnership with two UARCs such that each will partner with HBCUs to prepare white papers and seek sponsors in federal agencies who may utilize their UARC vehicle to get projects funded without competition. The UARCs will also partner with HBCUs to prepare responses to requests for proposals.

HBCU Research and Innovation Week

The purpose of this activity is to showcase HBCU research and innovation as well as research and innovation opportunities for HBCUs presented by federal agencies, UARCs, federal contractors, and high-tech firms. HBCU Research and Innovation Week 2022 will be conducted in October 2022.

National Defense Authorization Act Advocacy

Background Information: In the fall of 2020, TCRDF met with Congressman Anthony Brown, then Vice Chair, House Armed Services Committee and asked that the Committee insert a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that requires all UARCs to conduct ten percent (10%) of their work with HBCUs and MSIs. Congressman Brown got a provision in the US House of Representatives version of 2022 NDAA that required all UARCs and FFRDCs to conduct five percent (5%) of their work with UARCs and FFRDCs. Although that provision did not survive the Senate version of the NDAA, Congressman Brown is willing to insert that provision in the 2023 NDAA. TCRDF will be working to get that provision through both chambers for the 2023 NDAA.

As previously stated, TCRDF has partnership agreements with two of the fourteen UARCs. The Team is working to get working relationships with all UARCs and FFRDCs. A modal agreement calls for proposal writing partnerships, white paper assistance, and use of their vehicles to get projects funded without competition. The partners are focusing particular efforts on the Department of Defense (DOD) due to the size of their R&D budget, Congress' expressed interest in DOD doing more work with HBCUs/MSIs, and the individuals in DOD who are interested in supporting HBCUs. To assist in this effort, TCRDF formed an advisory board that consists of retired senior level military officers and government executives. The agreements with UARCs and advisory board members are available to assist all HBCUs. Over the past few months, TCRDF has presented ten (10) white papers Res to various DOD offices for consideration. The papers were prepared by an HBCU individually or in collaboration with a partner. Major General Byron Bagby, US Army (Ret) is the coordinator for DOD white paper presentation and follow up.

South Carolina State University; Orangeburg, South Carolina



he South Carolina Department Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) has awarded South Carolina State University a two-year grant for \$700,000 to examine cultural perceptions of the COVID-19 vaccines among African Americans living within rural South Carolina.

Grant funds will develop and disseminate tailored messages for COVID-19 prevention, education, marketing, and outreach activities to encourage individuals to engage in COVID-19 mitigating behaviors to increase vaccination rates among the target populations.

The primary goal is to collect data from African Americans regarding their knowledge of the COVID-19 vaccines and their hesitancy toward receiving the vaccine. Data will be collected and analyzed via several COVID-19 "Listening Sessions" conducted over six months with approximately 500 participants.

"We are happy to help support SC State with this project looking at the perception of COVID-19 vaccines among rural and minority communities in South Carolina," said Dr. Brannon Traxler, DHEC public health director.

"We hope this research will help us continue to positively connect with rural and minority communities so we can help as many people as possible receive their shots. COVID-19 is a vaccine-preventable disease."

SC State's principal investigators for this initiative are Mr. Elbert Malone, associate provost for sponsored programs and research; Dr. Audrey McCrary-Quarles, professor and Certified Health Education Specialist in the Health Sciences Department; and Dr. Ashley Evans-Knowell, associate professor of biology/bioengineering science in the Biological & Physical Sciences Department.

The investigators could not accomplish its goals without a strong support team. Team members include Dr. Shanora Brown, student program coordinator; Dr. James Stukes, community partner liaison; Ms. Jamie Rogers, community program coordinator; Ms. Taylor Harding, community health coach trainer; Ms. Naseema Moore, administrative coordinator; Mrs. April Pearson Wright, program administrator; Ms. Jonona Govan, budget analyst; Ms. Sharon Wade-Byrd, project evaluator; and Dr. La Shonda Eddy, communication and marketing consultant.

"As this state's only public, four-year HBCU (Historically Black College or University), South Carolina State University has a duty to explore the effects of local, national and global circumstances on our African American citizens," SC State Interim President Conyers said. "The COVID-19 pandemic has required profound adjustments in every sector imaginable, especially in health care, education and business. African American families in particular have been vulnerable during this health crisis.

"I have full faith that our team of investigators is well-equipped to find key insights that will make a difference in how COVID-19 is addressed among African-Americans in rural South Carolina," Conyers said.

One key objective is to train 50 community health coaches (HBCU students and community members) to share accurate COVID-19 and vaccine information within rural communities. Also, the Community Health Coaches will assist in identifying opportunities to conduct "COVID 19 – Listening Sessions" and outreach activities throughout the state of South Carolina.

"SC State is excited to partner with DHEC to address the COVID-19 pandemic. It is critical that we understand the public perception of the pandemic," Malone said. "Therefore, it is important to engage the communities we live in, ask the appropriate questions, and provide answers that are easily communicated to individuals in the communities across this state. The one thing we can all agree on is that this pandemic has been stressful for everyone and can have serious impacts on one's physical and/or mental health."

As a health educator, McCrary-Quarles said many individuals from rural areas lack the awareness and knowledge of COVID-19 and the importance of becoming vaccinated to protect themselves and their loved ones.

"Therefore, this grant will provide opportunities to reach out to the community members by utilizing trained health coaches (a famous face) to share accurate information to dispel some of the myths about the COVID vaccines," McCrary-Quarles said. "As you know, there is a lot of misinformation floating among African American communities. Our goal is to listen to the concerns of the people, share valid information, and hopefully, individuals will understand the importance of becoming vaccinated."

As a health disparities researcher, Evans-Knowell said the project is an opportunity for SC State to take the lead and make a true impact in the lives of the often-forgotten population in South Carolina when it comes to health.

"We have to ensure that everyone has access to accurate health information because a lot of what people see is misinformation on social media," Evans-Knowell said. "It is important to empower the Black community with the knowledge to make informed health decisions."

2019 TECHNICAL

ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP SERIES HIGHLIGHTS































2021-2022 POWER HOUR SESSIONS

The MSI Exchange and Importance of your Capability Statement at NASA

Wednesday, November 3, 3021

Presenters:

- Sharon Fitzgerald, Director of Technology Integration; Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP); Office of STEM Engagement NASA Langley Research Center
- Genevieve Elazier-Harris, Education Program Specialist; MUREP; Office of STEM Engagement; NASA Langley Research Center
- Gretchen Edwards-Bodmer, Education Program Specialist; MUREP; Office of STEM Engagement; NASA Langley Research Center

Valuable information was presented on the following topics:

- Capability Statement Training
- NASA Centers Core Competencies
- Capability Statement Template
- NASA STEM Engagement Highlights
- MUREP Opportunities
- MUREP Resources for MSI Competitiveness
- Bookmark the MSI Exchange
- To volunteer to be a panel reviewer

Research Opportunities with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) and the Air Force Office of Sponsored Research (AFOSR) with guest speaker Ms. Ellen Robinson.

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Coordinator, Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) Engineering Division, Physical and Biological Sciences Branch

In Menorian: Tribute to



The National Sponsored Programs Administration Alliance (NSPAA) of HBCUs was devastated by the loss of Mrs. Danette Hall on February 16, 2021. Danette was the Director of Sponsored Programs at Tuskegee University and volunteered to take the lead as Chair for the local planning committee for the 23rd Annual Technical Assistance Workshop held in Montgomery, AL.

Danette arrived to NSPAA many years ago as a member, but soon her interest, desire, enthusiasm, passion led her to become a NSPAA Board Member. She displayed precision in her work, seasoned in the sponsored programs industry...you could always count on Danette to provide wise words, advisement, and counsel and she was at the top of her game. NSPAA benefitted from her talent, specificity, and craft as she used her talent to help shape the direction of NSPAA.

Danette's gentle soul will always be in our hearts. Danette's quietness and devotion reminds of a quote by Maya Angelou: "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies. It brings us together again and again." Danette will always be in our hearts. Danette will never be forgotten, and will always be remembered!

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