



DoW SciTechCONNECT North Carolina Regional Pop-Up Information Session

By: *Bob Burton and TJ Gilroy*

Industry Focus: *Defense Innovation, Research and Development (R&D)*

Date: *March 26th, 2026*

Agenda

- ***Welcome & Overview***
- Featured Presentation: North Carolina Regional Pop-Up Information Session
 - Speaker: Krista Kane, Program Coordinator for the Applied Research Institute (ARI)
- Discussion / Questions & Answers (Q&A)
- Closing & Next Steps



Disclaimer

The opinions expressed by participants in this meeting do not necessarily represent the official views or positions of the NC Military Business Center, the North Carolina Community College System, or the State of North Carolina. This meeting and its contents are provided for informational purposes only and do not constitute legal advice. The NC Military Business Center, the North Carolina Community College System, and the State of North Carolina assume no responsibility for any actions taken based on the information provided during this meeting.



Who We are

The NCMBC is a statewide business development and technology transition entity of the State of North Carolina, embedded in the state's community colleges and headquartered at Fayetteville Technical Community College. It is the only statewide, military-focused economic development organization in the U.S. and the only North Carolina entity solely dedicated to growing the defense economy through existing industry.

How NCMBC Can Help

- One-on-one business counseling
- Opportunity sourcing and daily email notifications via Matchforce.org
- Proposal development and solicitation interpretation
- Pre-award capture assistance and teaming support
- Federal agency market intelligence and acquisition forecasts
- Training events, webinars, and contraction workshops



Mission, Goals, and Outcomes

Mission: To leverage military and federal business opportunities to expand the economy, grow jobs, and improve quality of life

Goals and Operations:

1. Increase federal revenues for businesses
2. **Support technology transition to federal agencies**
3. Support integration of military into workforce
4. Support defense-related business recruitment



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DoW SciTechCONNECT Program Overview



U . S . D E P A R T M E N T O F W A R
DoW SciTechCONNECT

Educate. Inform. Engage. Enable.



DoW SciTechCONNECT is a dynamic engagement platform with the Department of War's (DoW) Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Science & Technology (OASW S&T), designed to lower barriers, expand access, and accelerate the path from awareness to action for innovators partnering with the DoW.

DoW SciTechCONNECT transforms awareness of DoW opportunities into real engagement outcomes by:

- Providing a comprehensive approach to engaging with OASW S&T
- Guiding participants from initial interest to active involvement in DoW projects
- Meeting innovators where they are, offering customized support at every stage of their journey
- Tailoring its offering to benefit all participants, regardless of their experience level
- Delivering an integrated suite of resources.



Engagement:

- SciTechCONNECT Mixer, Huntsville, AL- May 12th, 2025
- SciTechCONNECT Brief to HBCU S&T Council- October 2025
- HBCU/MI Program: Policy & Guidance Update Webinar- December 11th, 2025
- Mississippi Roadshow- December 11th, 2025
- DoW SciTechCONNECT MS Pop-Up Event- January 28th, 2026
- BEYA Panel Presentation- February 12th, 2026
- Scaling to R1: HBCU/MI Funding Pilot Program Webinar- March 12th, 2026
- UIDP HBCU Engage! - March 25th, 2026



"Access Granted" Podcasts:

- "Meet DoW SciTechCONNECT"
- "Investing in Capacity with Dr. Victor McCrary"
- "Building Defense Research capacity at Texas Southern University"
- "Engineering Pathways- Dr. Jamel Ali on Expanding HBCU Leadership in Emerging Research Fields"
- "From Campus to Consortium: How HBCUs Are Powering National Research"



Discovery Sessions:

- 30-minute sessions with Government SMEs
- Hearing directly about what has been difficult, confusing, or time-consuming when engaging with the Department
- Identifying common themes, gaps, and friction points across the SciTechCONNECT community
- Understanding what resources, guidance, or support would be most helpful moving forward



Curriculum:

- "OASW S&T 101"
- "Opportunities to Work with the Department of War (DoW)"

Upcoming Event

Pop-Up Event- April 29th 2026
DoW SciTechCONNECT NC
Regional Pop-Up Event



"The breadth of opportunities to partner with DoW around science and technology is much broader than I knew."

-DoW SciTechCONNECT Pop-Up Event Attendee

"Connecting with DoW is a reality, it can be done."

-DoW SciTechCONNECT Pop-Up Event Attendee

The Current Focus: Working to assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) with their journeys to working with the DoW.

Where We Are Heading: Supporting all Academic Institutions, and businesses with varying histories working with the Department.

Why Should We Expand?

Innovation should not be hindered by a lack of institutional knowledge of opportunities, unfamiliarity with Departmental processes, or the resource-intensive search for opportunities across fragmented websites.

What's Coming?

- CollaborationAI - A tool for colleges, universities, and industry to find teaming partners, and funding opportunities to more easily engage with the Department of War.
- More:
 - Webinars, Pop-Up Events, Curriculum, Podcasts

“ This AI tool has been described as a
“Gamechanger.”

- Dean Lealon Martin, Southern University-Baton Rouge

A Direct Line of Communication from ASW S&T to Researchers and Innovators Across the Country

Expanded Reach

Expanding to all universities and industry while offering resources, information-sharing, support, and teaming opportunities to help create a more innovative and competitive defense ecosystem rooted in applied research, resulting in the next-generation of technologies reaching the warfighter faster while also leading to commercial dual-use technologies hitting the market.

- **Growing capacity** at HBCUs and MSIs through partnerships with other Institutions
- Creating **workforce development** pipelines in defense through university partnerships with industry facilitated through events, and the AI resource and teaming partner finder tool
- Presenting opportunities for the government to **procure solutions faster** from new entrants, non-traditional performers, and institutions.

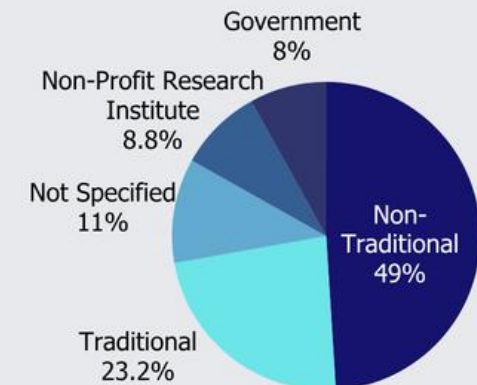
Current Member Demographics:

1,412

Current SciTechCONNECT Community Members

Community Composition

- Non-Traditional
- Traditional
- Government Agency
- Not Specified
- Non-Profit Research Institute



Stay Connected with SciTechCONNECT

“We are rolling out the red carpet for innovators who want to work with the War Department.”

-Hon. Emil Michael, Under Secretary of War for Research and Engineering



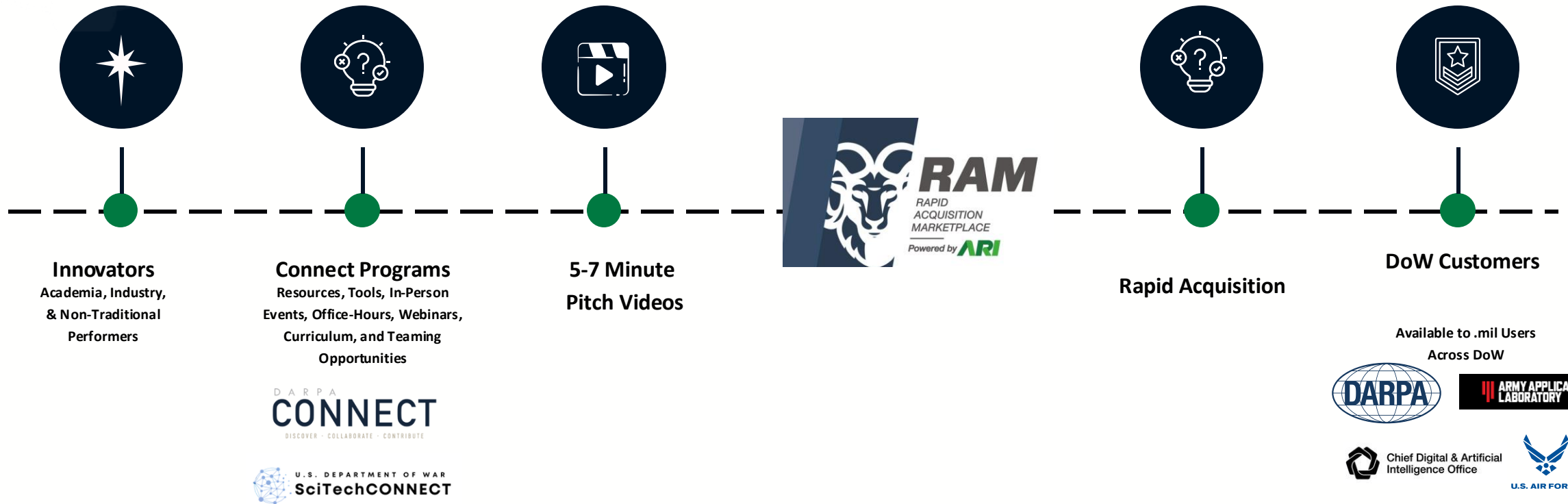
Join Us at
[SciTechConnect.us](https://www.scitechconnect.us)



Register Here for our
SciTechCONNECT NC Regional
Pop-UP Event

How Can I Begin Working with the DoW?

How can SciTechCONNECT really help me work with the DoW beyond curriculum, webinars, events, and podcasts?



The Rapid Acquisition Marketplace Model



SciTechConnect



DARPAConnect



ERIS



Tradewinds



DevX Autonomy



PlatformOne



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Questions:

*Use the Q&A function or
raise your hand to ask questions.*



Upcoming Forums and Other Events

- [Southeast Region Federal Construction, Infrastructure and Environmental Summit](#) (April 14-16, Wilmington)
- **DoW SciTechCONNECT North Carolina Regional Pop-Up**
 - (April 29, 2026, Greensboro).
- May 19-20, 2026- Raleigh, NC [Federal and Defense Textile and Tactical Equipment Summit](#) Exhibit Space and limited Sponsorships still available
- [SOF Week 2026](#) | 18-21 May 2026 | Tampa, Florida
- **Federal Technology Symposium** (August 4-5, Fayetteville)
- Save the date for the 2026 Innovation and Technology Quarterly Forums:
 - May 14, 2026
 - November 12, 2026

Visit [NCMBC.US](https://ncmbc.us) for more information
Stay connected via LinkedIn and the NCMBC Newsletter



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