## NASA HBCU/MSI TECHNOLOGY INFUSION ROAD TOUR UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

MSFC HBCU/MI INITIATIVE

Presenter: David E. Brock

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### It Starts with a Dream

"If you don't have a dream, how can you ever have a dream come true."

• The MSFC HBCU initiative began in 2007...a dream to advance the interest of HBCUs and MSIs at NASA.



## Laying the Foundation

- January 2008 planning session at Alabama A&M, subject "Connecting with the Primes."
- June 2008 HBCU matchmaker in New Orleans held in conjunction with the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Minority Serving Research Institutions Partnership Convention.
- July 2008 meeting with Boeing, one of our strong partners in helping promote the goals and objectives of the new initiative.
- January 2009 keynote speaker at the Morehouse College Annual Entrepreneurship Conference in Atlanta, GA.
- February 2009 keynote speaker at the TRAC Minority Business Black CEO Conference in Baltimore, MD.



## The NASA Mentor Protégé Program Doorway to Opportunities

DATE	MENTOR	PROTÉGÉ	CONTRACT
Feb. 2009	SAIC	Oakwood University	Unified NASA Information Technology Service
Feb. 2010	Jacobs	Tuskegee University	Engineering, Scientific, & Technical Services Contract
Jul. 2012	Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne	Alabama A&M	Aries I J2X Engine Contract
Jul. 2013	ATK Aerospace	Florida A&M	Space Launch System Booster Contract
Jul. 2015	Teledyne Brown Engineering	University of Nevada Las Vegas	Mission Operations & Integration Contract
Jul. 2015	Teledyne Brown Engineering	Alabama State University	Mission Operations & Integration Contract



## Mentor Protégé Agreement Benefits

#### To Universities:

- Increased understanding of Government Contract and Subcontracting processes, government billing, opportunities and FAR policies.
- Access to best practices from Prime/Mentor (updating Accounting Systems, How to Bill Government relations, Training, etc.).
- Building NASA Past Performance for future opportunities.

#### To Students:

- Internship Opportunities for hands on experience.
- Opportunity for long-term career & employment.



## **Gaining Momentum**

- September 2013
  - ➤ Boeing hosts the First HBCU & MSI Joint Counseling Session in Huntsville, AL where five HBCUs were showcased.
- September 2014:
  - NASA/MSFC hosts the First Annual HBCU & MSI Partnerships Meeting in Huntsville, AL.
- September 2015:
  - NASA/MSFC hosts the Second HBCU & MSI Partnerships Meeting in Huntsville, AL.
- February 2016:
  - Boeing hosts the Second HBCU & MSI Joint Counseling Session in Huntsville, AL where six HBCUs and two MSIs were showcased.



## Keys

- Let Center small business specialist know of your interest.
- Stay abreast of upcoming NASA full and open competitions having subcontracting requirements.
- Participate in NASA Industry Days and center specific outreach events.



## Final Thoughts

- Henry Thoreau said, "Dreams are like building castles in the sky, and there
  is nothing wrong with that, now go and put a foundation under them."
- Yes, we have a dream, but if that is to come true, we must continue building on the foundation that has been laid.
- Opportunities to build positive relationships today will contribute achievement of the NASA HBCU & MSI goals and objectives.
- Remember, you have to make contacts to make contracts...Your network will determine your net worth.
- Create relationships with hinges that never rust!
- Take advantage of the opportunity...seize the moment!



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