



# **HBCU / MI Technology Infusion Road Tour**

## **Florida A&M University**

**Aileen Yates**

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- **About**

- Aerojet Rocketdyne is an innovative company delivering solutions that create value for its customers in the aerospace and defense markets. The company is a world-recognized aerospace and defense leader that provides propulsion and energetics to the space, missile defense and strategic systems, tactical systems and armaments areas, in support of domestic and international markets

- **Capabilities**

- Aerojet Rocketdyne is a leader in the development and manufacture of aerospace propulsion systems; precision tactical weapon systems; and armament systems, including warhead and munitions applications. Aerojet Rocketdyne is a leading provider in both the solid and liquid propulsion market areas, as well as the number one provider in the tactical segment area of solid propulsion. Long recognized as a developer of new technology, Aerojet Rocketdyne continues to meet emerging defense and aerospace propulsion needs and is well-positioned to benefit from the increased focus on and funding of defense and space programs.



# Completing a Needs Assessment

- **Understand the Mentor Protégé Agreement Requirements for HBCU/MIs**
  - 70% of hours dedicated to business developmental activities
  - 30% of hours dedicated to technical developmental activities
  - Activities need to be focused on delivering a win-win-win for NASA, Protégé, and Mentor



# Completing a Needs Assessment

- **Determine what the Protégé wants to get out of the agreement**
  - Develop strategic relationships with industry partners
  - Enhance infrastructure (i.e. new software, equipment, etc.)
  - Provide research opportunities for staff and training
  - Inject financial assistance in the form of scholarships for students
  - Provide employment opportunities to students in the form of internships or co-ops



# Completing a Needs Assessment

- **Determine what the Mentor wants to get out of the agreement**
  - Pool of talent / resources (i.e. knowledgeable professors and enthusiastic students)
  - Diversify supply chain and infuse innovation – source for R&D efforts
  - Strategic long-term value as a partner



# AR / AAMU Mentor-Protégé Activities

- AR / Alabama A&M University (HBCU) Mentor-Protégé Agreement established from 2012 to 2014
- Activities completed included:



**Job Shadowing**



**Engineering Training**



**Executive Lecture Series & Executive / Faculty Exchange**



**Professional Development & Career Fairs**



# Challenges Primes Encounter

- Significant gaps between wants of Protégé and needs of Mentor
- Different business infrastructure / organization
- Finding subcontracting opportunities
- Schedules
- Invoices

