NASA Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP)

MUREP Sustainability Initiative
Minority University Research and Education Project

Our Mission

To enhance the research, academic and technology capabilities of Minority Serving Institutions by providing authentic learning experiences related to NASA missions to contribute to a diverse future STEM workforce.
MUREP NASA Alignment

NASA Mission Directorates

- Mission Directorate Collaborations
- Student Opportunities
- MSI Partnerships and Sustainability
- K-12 Engagement

- Contribute to solving Mission Directorate problems
- Increased STEM Awareness
- Increase retention of Underserved and Underrepresented groups in STEM
- Enable MSI sustainability
- Enhance MSI infrastructure
The MUREP Sustainability Initiative was developed to communicate and encourage best practices, capabilities and opportunities amongst MSIs through six activities with the common goal of enabling fiscal sustainability by advancing their research enterprise.

*MSIs are considered small businesses*
The TOSS (Tech Transfer University-T2U, Office of Small Business Programs-OSBP, Small Business Innovation Research-SBIR, Small Business Tech Transfer-STTR, Space Act Agreement-SAA) platform is crafted to advance university research into the more sustainable contracts space. Each program supports the NASA Space Technology mission directorate with a desire to support future missions and commercialization. TOSS has a key focus on the MUREP current and past portfolio as they seek to increase their NASA relationships while advancing their capabilities in new arenas.

Milestones
The MUREP MSI Partnerships team will support sustainability efforts in 2018 including:
1. CIAA HBCU/MSI Engagement Forum at Johnson C. Smith University (Feb 2018) - DONE
2. NASA Infusion Road Tour at Clark Atlanta University (Mar 2018) – DONE
3. Formal MOU between Office of Education and Office of Small Business Programs - DONE
4. NASA Ohio Regional Business Summit (July 2018)
5. JPL Outreach Initiative for HBCUs/MIs (August 2018)
6. NASA Infusion Road Tour at University of Hawaii (Aug 2018)
7. MUREP Innovation and Tech Transfer Idea Competition (Sep 2018)
8. Space Act Agreements including the T2U (Tech Transfer University) program

Outcomes
T.O.S.S. will ensure MSIs are knowledgeable about opportunities beyond the grant/cooperative agreement portfolio. T.O.S.S. desires to:
1. Enable NASA collaboration that builds MSI institutional capacity, capabilities and competitiveness, which leads to sustainability
2. Advance the MSI ecosystem linked to innovation, commercialization and entrepreneurship
3. Increase the number of Capability Statements in the NASA database
4. Increase the number of MSI participants in the NASA Infusion Road Tour
5. Increase the number of relevant Space Act Agreements with MSIs
6. Increase the number of responses to SBIR/STTR solicitations
7. Increase the number of NASA contracts at MSIs, thus closing gap within the 1% mandate
8. Increase opportunities for MSI student involvement in NASA research through contracts and contractors
9. Enhance and increase the capability, diversity, and size of NASA’s and Nation’s future STEM workforce
M.U.S.I.C.

MUREP Innovation and Sustainability Collaboration
M.U.S.I.C. solicitation is an extension of a larger body of work conceived and funded by NASA MUREP to assist minority serving institutions (MSIs) to strengthen their capacity to compete for federal resources to perform STEM research and to develop the necessary infrastructure that can showcase STEM capabilities through resource and opportunity sharing.

Milestones
1. Release of M.U.S.I.C. solicitation: December-January, 2018
2. M.U.S.I.C. solicitation closed: May 2018
3. Selection: July 2018 (2-3 awards)
4. M.U.S.I.C. Forums: September 2018

Outcomes
Provision of resources to introduce/train/troubleshoot application and acceptance of additional resources through:
• Grants
• Contracts
• SBIR/STTR
M.I.T.T.I.C.

MUREP Innovation and Tech Transfer Idea Competition
M.I.T.T.I.C. is a spinoff challenge established to develop new ideas for commercialization by seeking concept papers from multi-disciplinary student team enrolled at minority serving institutions (MSIs). It is a venture between the NASA office of education and the NASA tech transfer office.

Milestones
2. Release of M.I.T.T.I.C. to public: August 2018
3. MITTIC opportunity closes: October 2018
4. Selection of Ten Finalist Teams: November 2018
6. Winning Team Immersion in Silicon Valley (ARC visit): February 2019

Potential Outcomes
• Additional connection point for small businesses with NASA
  • Catalyst for MSIs to participate in STTR
• Potential student companies for minority startup incubators
• Direct pipeline to Tech Transfer University (T2U)
**Project**
The MSI Research Repository (MRR) is a matchmaking tool in ServiceNow developed to aid NASA researchers seeking partners for mission focused research through CANs SAAs, SBIR/STTR, grants and contracts. The Repository advances MSI research teams seeking institutional partnerships by aiding NASA’s ability to identify diverse partners through dynamic user interface with powerful search capabilities.

**Development Phase 1**
Current: houses Langley region
MSI dataset (56)
- General school/data/Enrollment/STEM degrees/current NASA awards
- Capability Statements are PDFs and searched separately

**Development Phase 2**
January 2018: expand to include other/all MSIs
- Include Capability Statements/Labs/Facilities/Researchers/Awards/Centers/Incubators
- Enhance efficiency through keyword search capability
- Interface with databases for SBA/SBIR/STTR/Tech Transfer to expand opportunities for collaboration (and potential cost sharing)
- Visualization

**Development Phase 3**
July 2018: develop MRR mobile application
- Include all MSIs (800+)
- Provide access to external stakeholders

**Outcomes**
The MRR will establish Langley Research Center as an MSI Center of Excellence that informs NASA mission directorates of MSI research capabilities that can provide strategic partnerships in support of NASA missions. The MRR will also:
- Inspire innovation; close the gap between NASA funded non-grant opportunities at MSIs
- Increase opportunities for MSI student involvement in NASA research
- and enhance and increase the capability, diversity and size of NASA’s and the Nation’s future STEM workforce
- Enable NASA collaboration that builds MSI capacity, capabilities and competitiveness, leading to institutional sustainability
The MUREP MSI Partnerships team has a mission to be the NASA strategic partner link to MSIs. With various opportunities available to MSIs, having a location for information about opportunities will be key. The HBCU/Partnerships platform will create a communications strategy and portal to ensure universities are aware of available opportunities and maintain a point of contact directory at MSIs. The platform will feature a task force to create a best practices program to help advance MSI relationships.

**Outcomes**
The MSI Partnerships team will ensure MSIs are knowledgeable about opportunities available through increased communications. The team desires to:
1. Enabling NASA collaboration with MSIs, thus reducing time needed to search and find opportunities
2. Increasing the number of MSI contacts in the NASA database
3. Increasing the number of responses to opportunity solicitations
4. Developing a task force that drives partnership protocol, thus leading to better relationships with MSIs

**Milestones 2018**
The HBCU/MSI Partnerships team will support sustainability efforts in 2018 including:
1. Develop a communications platform for information delivery including social media
2. Create a database of university contacts for quick delivery of information
3. Create a task force to help advance university relationship building with NASA
4. Attend conferences and meetings to stay connected with MSI contacts
5. Ensure contacts are included in the MSI Research Repository
White House Initiative Support

The MUREP MSI Partnerships team has a mission to be the NASA strategic partner link to MSIs. With the various opportunities available to MSIs, maintaining relationships with the White House Initiatives for HBCU’s and other MI’s will be important. The Team will support the White House Initiative on HBCU’s through conference support, attending MSI information sessions and driving the Executive Order. Other White House Initiatives, including the sharing of data, will be supported as needed.

2018
The HBCU/MSI Partnerships team will support White House Initiative efforts including:
1. Maintaining communication with the White House Initiative teams
2. Creating a database of contacts for quick delivery of information
3. Attending conferences and meetings to stay connected with the initiatives

Outcomes
The MSI Partnerships team will ensure MSIs are knowledgeable about opportunities available through increased communications. The team desires to:
1. Enable NASA collaboration with the White House Initiatives
2. Drive advancement of the White House Executive Order for HBCUs
3. Increase the number of MSI contacts in the NASA database
4. Increase the number of responses to opportunity solicitations
5. Ensure any changes to policy are understood and disseminated to university colleagues when necessary
MUREP Sustainability Initiative

STEM INSPIRE - ENGAGE - EDUCATE - EMPLOY
The Next Generation of Explorers