



SBTC Washington Membership Meeting
June 20, 2017

AGENDA

9:30AM – Introductions & Coffee

10:00AM – Congressional Panel

- Kevin Wheeler – Deputy Staff Director, Senate Small Business Committee
- Halimah Locke – Professional Staff Member, House Small Business Committee

11:00AM – Agency SBIR/STTR Panel

- Manny Oliver – DOE SBIR/STTR Program Manager
- Bob Smith – Navy SBIR/STTR Program Manager
- John Williams – SBA Office of Innovation
- David Sikora – Acting DOD SBIR/STTR Program Manager
- Joseph Grant – NASA SBIR/STTR Deputy Program Executive

12:00PM – Awards

- Presentation of 2017 Champions of Small Business Technology Commercialization Awards
- Presentation of Small Business Advocacy Lifetime Achievement Awards

12:15PM – How Good an Investment has SBIR Been?

- Examining aspects of the program's business and economic impact
- Presentation by Ann Eskesen



2017 Champion of Small Business Technology Commercialization Winners

The following winners of the Small Business Technology Council's 2017 "Champion of Small Business Technology Commercialization" Awards represent some of the best PMs, PEOs, and COs in government. They were nominated by SBIR Phase II firms for going above and beyond in helping small businesses through the process of pursuing commercialization/follow-on awards such as SBIR Phase III, Phase IIB/Bridge, or RIF (or other post-Phase II commercialization contracts).

All 7 of these winners were praised for their leadership, knowledge, and diligence in working to advocate for and assist small business in receiving the resources they need to advance their technologies, while at the same time meeting the needs of the agency they work for. The SBIR program is a partnership between small business and government, and without their assistance, many of the high-tech innovations these companies will produce would never have had the chance to succeed.

Gregory Boughton

*Supportability Analysis Technical Expert
Air Force Life Cycle Management Command
US Air Force*

Mr. Boughton was nominated by Frontier Technology, Inc (FTI), who commended his vision for development of FTI's Model Builder utility, and strategic direction for development of new analytical tools and enhancement of existing capabilities like the Logistics Composite Analysis Tool Kit (LCOM ATK,) in helping FTI further grow and mature their technologies. FTI further highlighted Mr. Boughton's engineering background, programming and logistics technical in facilitating the commercialization of multiple SBIR technologies to support various agency missions.

Steven Dutter

*Waterfront Training Director
NUWC Newport
US Navy*

Mr. Dutter was nominated by Frontier Technology, Inc (FTI), who praised his leadership and cooperation in helping ensure the success of 3 different follow on contracts: an MDA SBIR Phase II Pilot Site Add-on, an MDA SBIR Phase III, and a Picatinny SBIR Phase III IDIQ. These awards allowed other Navy and DOD agencies to use and commercialize FTI's SBIR technologies. FTI credited Mr. Dutter's combination of program management, contracts management, and technical knowledge that enables his office to mature small business technologies, and assist with integration of those technologies into essential DOD processes.

Herbert Dobbs

Team Leader, Fuel Cell Technology and Alternative Fuels

TARDEC

US Army

Mr. Dobbs was nominated by Precision Combustion, Inc. (PCI), for his tireless support of PCI's technology in reforming of logistic fuels from the very beginning of the idea through Phase I and Phase II, and eventually into multiple Phase IIIs that resulted in around \$20 million of DOD and industrial follow-on funding and sales. Mr. Dobbs also suggested possible connections with other technology companies that have led to new collaborations and solutions. Later when PCI proposed a new improvement for further extending sulfur tolerance he supported a new SBIR that is now in separate advancing Phase III support.

Sadly, Mr. Dobbs passed away last year, but the technology that he helped nurture continues to be developed by PCI and utilized by TACOM and DOD. He was the epitome of the program technical officer that the framers of the SBIR program had in mind when they advocated for the program.

Thomas Hill

Chief of Contracting Office, NAWCAD

Naval Air Systems Command

US Navy

Mr. Hill was nominated by Bob Smith of Navy's SBIR/STTR Office, who highlighted the actions he took in establishing the Navy SBIR Contracting Center of Excellence (CCOE). The methodology and standardized practices Mr. Hill and his team of contracting officers have put into place have significantly improved contract award times and limited the small businesses' time without funding between contracts. Mr. Hill was described as a leader and mentor who is eager and willing to assist other contracting professionals in best practices.

Leon Manole

Business Development Manager

RDECOM ARDEC

US Army

Mr. Manole was nominated by Orbital Research, who emphasized his efforts in continuing to promote and demonstrate Orbital's platform technologies to program managers, PEOs, and others that are funding programs of record. Additionally, Orbital underscored Mr. Manole's leadership in arranging Technical Interchange Meetings, funding for hardware integration, testing of hardware at ARDEC and demonstrating performance via live fire tests. It is because of these efforts that Orbital was able to secure the funding necessary to mature their technology, and eventually integrate them into Army's weapons platforms.

Jay Perry

*Lead Aerospace Engineer
Space Systems Department
NASA*

Mr. Perry was nominated by Precision Combustion, Inc. (PCI), who emphasized his efforts to support and nurture their Microlith spacecraft cabin trace contaminant control system technology from TRL 1 to TRL 7, while also advancing it into other high value applications. PCI also praised Mr. Perry's continuing encouragement and promotion of their technology that has led to applications in CO2 recovery, materials conversion, spacesuit applications, and solid oxide electrolysis and fuel cell solutions.

Feraidoon Zahiri

*Engineer
SBIR Tech Transition Lead, Robins AFB
US Air Force*

Mr. Zahiri was nominated by Aptima, who highlighted his recognition of the potential of their company's technology to fill a critical gap in the Air Force Sustainment community, and praised his contributions to Aptima's efforts to navigate completion of the SBIR Tech Transition Plans (STTPs) for the Air Force Commercialization Readiness Program (CRP) office, followed by lining up Business Development opportunities to present Aptima's technical propositions to the Robins AFB Information Technology Council & Safety Personnel. Aptima further credited Mr. Zahiri's efforts to provide multiple opportunities to promote their work across all DOD services, boosting their transition success even further.

Small Business Advocacy Lifetime Achievement Awards

Mahendra K. Jain, Ph.D.

During his tenure as Director of the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation, Mr. Jain developed a series of programs and initiatives to educate and encourage the growth of small business technology in Kentucky. These innovative programs not only helped small businesses, but also educated university and government officials on the importance of the SBIR/STTR programs to Kentucky's economy. In large part because of the efforts of Mr. Jain and his office, Kentucky went from 46th in the country in total SBIR awards to 27th. His work with state and national SBIR organizations, and the state-matching funds program he has championed has encouraged dozens of high-tech small businesses to move to Kentucky, bringing hundreds of high-paying jobs.

Roy Keller

As Director of Louisiana Technology Transfer Office, Mr. Keller developed programs that not only helps Louisiana firms compete and win SBIR/STTR awards, but also firms in surrounding states. Mr. Keller has also served as point person for all the state SBIR organizations, and is tirelessly advocated on behalf of state and local SBIR initiatives. His education and outreach programs to Louisiana universities, small businesses, government officials, and Washington have helped advance the interests of high-tech small businesses all across the United States.

Charles Wessner

During his tenure with the National Research Council, Mr. Wessner authored and edited some of the most authoritative and important research and analysis into the effectiveness of the SBIR/STTR programs. He has also been asked many times to testify before Congress about the programs, and has always been clear, concise and effective in communicating the success of SBIR/STTR, and demonstrating that the programs have met every Congressional objective. His research has helped give the SBIR community the scientific proof that SBIR/STTR are effective, successful programs, and he has played a critical role in convincing Congress to continue to reauthorize and support the SBIR/STTR programs.

2017 Milton Stewart Award

Ann Eskesen

Ann Eskesen is considered one of the pioneers of the SBIR movement. Over the 35 years the SBIR program has been in existence, Ms. Eskesen has provided research, analysis, and testimony before Congress on the effectiveness of the SBIR program. The research and data she has generated has been used by agency officials, Members of Congress, and the SBIR community to support and justify the SBIR program, and continues to be essential to high-tech small businesses in obtaining patents, venture capital investment, licenses, and mergers. Her tireless energy and diligent work in service of the SBIR has played a key role not only in the passage of the original SBIR bill, but in every subsequent reauthorization.