DHS Minority Serving Institution (MSI) Programs:
Research Linked to DHS Centers of Excellence (COE)

Kevin A. Peters
Morgan State University, USA

Nira C. Taru
Morgan State University, USA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This chapter highlights seven (7) DHS programs/research that involved faculty and students at Morgan State University, a Minority Serving Institution (MSI) that was linked to a DHS Center for Excellence. The programs were developed in part from partnerships and collaborative efforts from researchers and principal investigators at Morgan State University and several DHS Centers of Excellence. Researchers from Morgan State University submitted summaries of their DHS-funded programs and activities. In addition, information was gathered from DHS Websites pertaining to their collaborative work with a DHS Center of Excellence (COE). This chapter emphasizes the importance of collaborative research and programs that support the overall mission of DHS in providing opportunities for MSIs to work with COEs in DHS priority research areas. These efforts have enhanced faculty as well as students at Morgan State University with regard to education, research, professional development, and training related to a DHS priority research.

ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND

Morgan State University is the premier public urban research university in Maryland, known for its excellence in teaching, intensive research, effective public service and community engagement. Morgan prepares diverse and competitive graduates for success in a global, interdependent society. The University serves the community, region, state, nation, and world as an intellectual and creative resource by supporting, empowering and preparing high-quality, diverse graduates to lead the world. The University offers innovative, inclusive, and distinctive educational experiences to a broad cross section of the population in a comprehensive range of disciplines at the baccalaureate, master's, doctoral, and professional degree levels. Through collaborative pursuits, scholarly research, creative endeavors, and dedicated public service, the University gives significant priority to addressing societal problems, particularly those prevalent in urban communities.

SETTING THE STAGE

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of University Programs (OUP) attempts to link and facilitate the expertise of the country's colleges and universities to address pressing homeland security issues and needs through its program activities. With this overall goal in mind, the Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) Programs attempts to ensure the diversity of America is reflected in the future of Homeland Security science and technology work force. Centers of Excellence engage the academic community to deliver tools, technologies, knowledge products, training and talent to enhance the Department's homeland security capabilities. The OUP education programs engage, educate and support academically high achieving students as well as early career faculty and other individuals toward choosing Homeland Security-Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (HS-STEM) related careers. It is with these efforts that Morgan State University and other MSIs are able to support the mission of DHS. Table 1. is a summary capsule of collaborative efforts with a DHS, COE and Morgan State University, a Minority Serving Institution. It is important to note that the Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate has strongly supported collaborative efforts between the Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) and the Centers for Excellence Program through summer programs and various research initiatives.

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