



## North Carolina Defense Technology Transition Office (DEFTECH)

Newsletter (March / April 2021)

### From your DEFTECH Team:

We are happy to announce that we are adding a new feature to our services portfolio to help the North Carolina defense and national security ecosystem grow and thrive. Please take a few minutes to review our first edition of the DEFTECH NEWSLETTER. We aim to provide you with a brief *one-stop-shop* to let you know about DEFTECH Sponsored and Other Events, DEFTECH Weekly Coffee Call Topics, New Defense Technology Business Opportunities, and articles of interest. As always, our Team is standing by to help you by reviewing white papers, commenting on federal technology submissions, and providing advice and support on working with the defense complex.

With our new DEFTECH Mobilize online collaboration community, we offer multiple opportunities to share information and promote our innovation ecosystem. The Coffee Calls are growing in attendance and provide unique virtual networking opportunities. To learn more about the DEFTECH Mobilize Community, [click here](#). We are here to serve you, and with your support, we will continue to help our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen have the best tools and technology to keep our nation strong. As always, we welcome your feedback and engagement.

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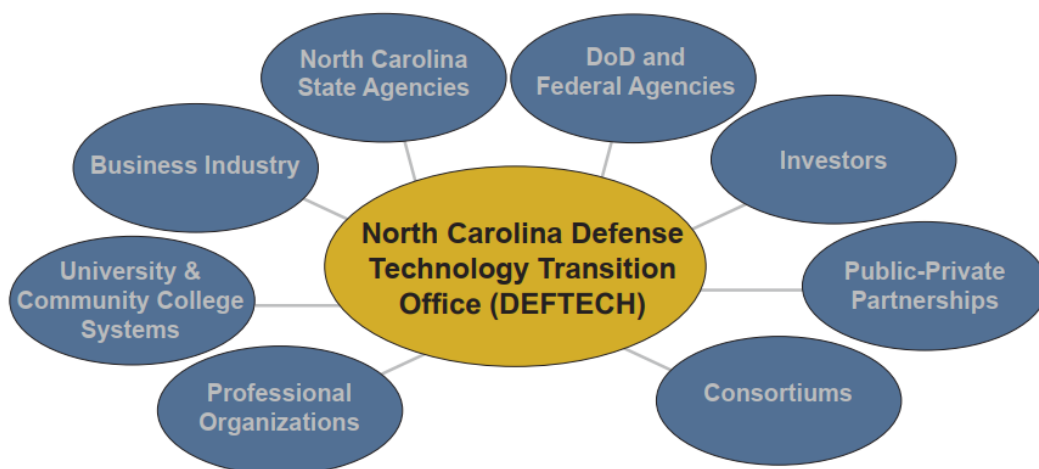
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## 1. DEFTECH co-Hosted Webinars

- **Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) Open 2021 Funding Opportunity Announcement Briefing**

**Monday, 22 March 2021, 11:00-12:30 EST**

**Post Event Page:** <https://www.ncmbc.us/arpa-e-open-2021-funding-opportunity-announcement-briefing-mar-22-virtual/>

Dr. Mark Johnson, former professor of Material Science at NC. State University and current professor at Clemson University who spent years at DOE evaluating proposals will describe the ARPA-E opportunities.

- **Defense Advanced Research Program Agency (DARPA) - Industry Outreach**

**Thursday, 1 April 2021, 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST**

**Registration:** <https://www.ncmbc.us/defense-advanced-research-program-agency-darpa-industry-outreach-apr-1-virtual/>

*The Defense Advanced Research Program Agency (DARPA) acting Director, Dr. Peter Highnam, and other members of the agency's leadership and PMs will conduct an information session on the agency's current and future research needs. For sixty years, DARPA has held to a singular and enduring mission: to make pivotal investments in national security breakthrough technologies. The purpose of this webinar is to educate and inform the North Carolina Innovation Ecosystem of ongoing and future research requirements and how to work with DARPA.*

### Program

- 8:30 – 9:00 Welcome, Overview of the NC Innovation Ecosystem, Introductions
  - Mr. Dennis Lewis, Director, North Carolina Defense Technology Transition (DEFTECH)
  - [Mr. Jared Adams](#) – Chief of Communications, DARPA
- 9:00 – 9:35: DARPA Overview
  - [Dr. Peter Highnam](#) –DARPA Deputy Director
- 9:35 – 9:45: Q&A and Discussion w/ Dr. Highnam
- 9:45 – 10:15: Defense Sciences Office and YFA Program
  - [Dr. Valerie Browning](#), DSO Director
- 10:15 – 10:25: Q&A and Discussion w/ Dr. Browning
- 10:25 – 10:55: Microsystems Technology Office
  - [Dr. Mark Rosker](#), MTO Director
- 10:55 – 11:05: Q&A w/ Dr. Rosker

- 11:05 – 11:10: Break
- 11:10 - 11:40: Information Innovation Office
  - [Dr. Matt Turek](#), Program Manager, I2O
- 11:40 – 11:50: Q&A and Discussion w/ Dr. Turek
- 11:50 – 12:20 Biological Technologies Office
  - [Dr. Blake Bextine](#), Program Manager, BTO
- 12:20 – 12:30: Q&A and Discussion w/ Dr. Bextine
- 12:30 – 12:55: Small Business Opportunities with DARPA
  - [Ms. Jennifer Thabet](#), Program Director, Small Business Programs Office
- 12:55 – 1:00 Summary and Conclusion
  - Mr. Dennis Lewis, Director, North Carolina Defense Technology Transition (DEFTECH)
  - [Mr. Jared Adams](#) – Chief of Communications, DARPA

- **U.S. Marine Corps Combat Development Command – Future Requirements**

**Thursday, 8 April 2021, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. EST**

**Registration:** <https://www.ncmbc.us/u-s-marine-corps-combat-development-command-future-requirements-briefing-apr-8-virtual/>

LtGen Eric Smith, Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, and the Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration will present an overview of how his command assesses the environment, develops, and validates concepts, identifies capabilities, and develops solutions to ensure Marine Corps operating forces have the necessary capabilities to remain the world's foremost expeditionary warfighting organization. The discussion will include warfighting concepts, warfighter requirements, urgent needs from the field, and science & technology experimentation. Understanding future Marine Corps requirements will help drive internal research and development and result in more capabilities for our warfighters. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

## **2. Other Defense-Related Events**

- Advanced Engagements with Defense- Contracting Edition Webinar (30 Mar 3-5 pm)  
[https://www.airmeet.com/e/0797e030-76c9-11eb-b461-2764285abf3a?mc\\_cid=a402375814&mc\\_eid=a2d0a2829a](https://www.airmeet.com/e/0797e030-76c9-11eb-b461-2764285abf3a?mc_cid=a402375814&mc_eid=a2d0a2829a)
- Post-Award Contract Administration Workshops (May 12-13 & August 24-25)
- SOF Industry Conference, SOFIC, Tampa, FL, Live and Virtual (May 17-21) Southeast Region Federal and Defense Textile Summit (FEDTex) (May 18-20, Virtual)
- Advanced Proposal Development Workshops (June 14, 16, 18 & October 4, 6, 8)
- Sea, Air, Space (Navy), National Harbor, MD (Aug 1-4)

- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual North Carolina Defense & Economic Development Trade Show
  - (Aug 4, Fayetteville)
- National Guard Association of the US, 143<sup>rd</sup> General Conference, Charlotte, NC (Sep 9-12)
- Air, Space, & Cyber (Air Force), National Harbor, MD (Sep 18-22)
- Medical, Biomedical and Biodefense: Support to the Warfighter Symposium (Sept 29-30, Chapel Hill)
- Association of the US Army (AUSA) Annual Conference, Washington, DC (Oct 10-13)
- Southeast Region Federal Construction, Infrastructure & Environmental Summit (Oct 27-28, Wilmington)
- Southeastern Opportunities in Aerospace Regional Summit (SOARS) (November TBA)

Visit [www.ncmbc.us](http://www.ncmbc.us) for information about NCMBC and NCMBC-supported events:

### 3. DEFTECH Weekly Virtual Coffee Calls:

**Coffee Call:** Every Friday 0900-1000 ET [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting.](#)

- Same link every week. Recordings from Coffee Call guest speakers are posted inside the DEFTECH Mobilize Community.
- **Friday's @ 0830 Federal Technology Opportunities: Opps Update**

[Please join the DEFTECH team Fridays @ 0830 ET](#) as we deep dive into Federal Technology Opportunities. The Opps Update session is an addition to the Coffee Call every Friday. These sessions will be recorded and posted inside the DEFTECH Mobilize Community, Opps Channel.

- **12 March 2021** Topic: “Intersection of Behavior” Discussion of how IoT, AI, ML, Big Data ultimately influences human behavior. Tom Snyder & Rachael Newberry.
- **19 March 2021:** Topic: Army Futures Command “evolution and priorities” Mike Smith AFC Special Assistant.
  - The AFC MISSION STATEMENT: Army Futures Command leads the persistent modernization of the Army to provide future Warfighters with the concepts, capabilities, and organizational designs needed to dominate a future battlefield.
- **26 March 2021:** Topic: “Jack Voltaic, Securing Defense Critical Infrastructure” LTC Erica Mitchell (Ph.D.) US Military Academy, US Army Cyber Institute.
  - **Jack Voltaic:** The Army Cyber Institute is pleased to announce the virtual Jack Voltaic experiment. This regionally-focused exercise focuses on cities’ abilities to respond to a cyberattack.
- **2 April 2021:** Topic: “Center for Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensors and Technologies ASSIST” Mr. Adam Curry, Innovation Ecosystem Director

#### 4. New Defense Technology Business Opportunities:

##### DEFTECH Current Opps (Federal Technology Opportunities)

The embedded Google Doc link provides a current summary and the due date for DEFTECH tracked federal technology opportunities. These opportunities are also highlighted inside of the DEFTECH Mobilize Community and on the DEFTECH Website.

When you **subscribe to DEFTECH**, you will receive technology-related federal opportunities in your email. Subscribe here: <http://ncmbc.us/Machform/machform/view.php?id=87051>

#### 5. DEFTECH Mobilize Community

##### Sign up now for DEFTECH's free Mobilize Community:

**WHY:** To help NC Innovation Ecosystem members grow their business by meeting warfighters' current and future technology needs. Our goal is to elevate awareness of opportunities and increase your wins in the federal marketplace. DEFTECH will use the platform as an additional tool to keep you updated on DEFTECH events, activities, business opportunities, and programs related to federal emerging technology requirements.

**WHAT:** Mobilize is a private information sharing platform that allows DEFTECH members to collaborate; share knowledge; advertise business opportunities related to emerging federal technology requirements; create teaming opportunities; and inform best practices. It is easy to use and will take about 10 minutes to sign-up. There is more information inside the DEFTECH Mobilize Community to help you navigate the community space.

**HOW:** Use this link to sign up:

<https://nc-defense-technology-transition-office.mobilize.io/registrations/groups/45515>

If you **need help** getting started, contact us anytime, DEFTECH is here for you!

#### 6. Technology and National Defense Articles *(click on the hyperlinks in the titles)*

**DOD's AI Strategy:** <https://media.defense.gov/2019/Feb/12/2002088963/-1/-1/1/SUMMARY-OF-DOD-AI-STRATEGY.PDF>

##### Four growth areas in defense IT spending for 2021 to 2022

(Federal Times) While the overall Department of Defense budget in the Biden administration is expected to remain mostly flat, spending on information technology products and services should remain robust, according to a new report.

### **Securing information age combat capabilities demands a new approach**

(C4ISRNET) Joint all-domain command and control (JADC2) is an imperative for the Air Force and the broader Department of Defense with good reason.

### **On the digital brink**

(War On The Rocks) The world stands on the brink of a new way of war, as digital technology takes over the military just like it has taken over entire industries in the civilian sector — the retail business, financial services, and the media.

### **JAIC chief: Culture and process biggest barriers to Pentagon adoption of AI**

(Air Force Magazine) If the Department of Defense is going to get AI-ready by 2025, meeting the target set by a blue-ribbon commission this month, it will have to get out of its own way, Lt. Gen. Michael S. Groen, director of the Pentagon's Joint Artificial Intelligence Center said March 11. Get US 'AI Ready' By 2025: JAIC's Lt. Gen. Groen, NSCAI's McFarland  
Approximately half of NSCAI's final recommendations focus on defense. "We're already working on two-thirds of them," Groen said, adding that partnerships with the US domestic private sector and academia are important in pursuing JAIC's defense-focused AI goals.

### **Frontline Geek Squads: SOCOM's secret weapon**

(Breaking Defense) "Why are all these nerds taking up bunk space downrange?" one special ops sergeant major grumbled. But, boasted SOCOM chief technology officer Snehal Antani, "about three months later that same sergeant major came back and said, 'I have found religion. We're solving problems in days that should have taken us months or years'."

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/02/us-not-prepared-to-defend-or-compete-in-ai-era-says-eric-schmidt-group.html>

Report: The National Security Commission on AI warned in a 756-page [report](#) on Monday that China could soon replace the US as the world's "AI superpower" and said there are serious military implications to consider.

### **Report broadens conversation on space militarization and Space Force satellite defense**

(C4ISRNET) Now more than ever, American war fighters depend on space-based capabilities for their missions. In response, adversaries have developed counter space weapons meant to degrade or deny those capabilities.

### **New Air Force ISR strategy ready, including MQ-9**

(Breaking Defense) The Air Force has completed a new intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) strategy mapping investments through 2030, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown said today.

### **Cyber CEO: Next war will hit regular Americans online**

Any future real-world conflict between the United States and an adversary like China or Russia will have direct impacts on regular Americans because of the risk of cyber-attack, Kevin Mandia, CEO of cybersecurity company FireEye, tells “Axios on HBO.”

**Atlantic Council (think tank)** and wrote this very interesting article on ‘emerging technologies’ in the next National Defense Strategy, as part of the Council’s ‘Seizing the Advantage’ series on the next NDS:

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/how-the-next-national-defense-strategy-can-get-serious-about-emerging-technologies/>

### **DoD’s JAIC rolling out new contracts to speed up AI acquisition**

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/artificial-intelligence/2021/02/dods-jaic-rolling-out-new-contracts-to-speed-up-ai-acquisition/>

### **Culture, Not Tech, Is Obstacle to JADC2: JAIC**

[https://breakingdefense.com/2021/02/culture-not-tech-is-obstacle-to-jadc2-jaic/?\\_ga=2.137050160.1677019200.1613129660-1047599093.1570735026](https://breakingdefense.com/2021/02/culture-not-tech-is-obstacle-to-jadc2-jaic/?_ga=2.137050160.1677019200.1613129660-1047599093.1570735026)

### **Microsoft Partnership Will Bring New Cloud Service to DOD Microelectronics Project**

<https://www.nextgov.com/emerging-tech/2021/02/microsoft-partnership-will-bring-new-cloud-service-dod-microelectronics-project/171872/>

### **Microsoft Partnership Will Bring New Cloud Service to DOD Microelectronics Project**

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/how-the-us-can-regain-the-advantage-in-its-next-national-defense-strategy/>



*Support Provided by Fayetteville Technical Community College*



Visit <https://deftech.nc.gov/> to get the latest news, current opportunities, and technology updates.