

New Mexico State University

ARROWHEAD CENTER

LEADING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY



New Mexico Workforce Development Advisory Team Report

National Security Preparedness Project
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by
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New Mexico State University

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Live, Learn and Thrive

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION	1
2.0 TEAM PURPOSE.....	1
3.0 TEAM MEMBERSHIP	2

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New Mexico Workforce Development Advisory Team Report

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report documents the creation of a Workforce Development Advisory Team as part of the National Security Preparedness Project (NSPP), being performed under a Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) grant. This report includes a description of the purpose of the advisory team and a list of team members with sector designations. The creation of the advisory team was due by December 31, 2007, as performance measure 3.2.1 (Grant No: DE-FG52-07NA28084, Arrowhead Center proposal, Page 17).

The purpose of the NSPP is to promote national security technologies through business incubation, technology demonstration and validation, and workforce development. Goals, supporting objectives, and performance measures of the NSPP are defined for these three areas of activity. Workforce development activities will facilitate the hiring of students to work with professionals in incubator companies, as well as assist in preparing a workforce for careers in national security.

The goal of workforce development under the NSPP grant is to assess workforce needs in national security and implement strategies to develop the appropriate workforce. To achieve this goal, it will be necessary to determine the current state of the national security workforce and the educational efforts to train such a workforce. Strategies will be developed and implemented to address gaps and to make progress towards a strong, well-trained workforce available for current and future national security technology employers.

2.0 TEAM PURPOSE

The Workforce Development Advisory Team will assist in assessing the workforce needs for national security careers and identifying strategies to develop the appropriate workforce.

Additionally, the team will be instrumental in the identification of key barriers to the development of an adequate quantity of well-trained employees in the national security sector. The team will be able to provide insight and assistance in the development of strategies to overcome the identified barriers. This team also will be instrumental in the identification of strategies to leverage public and private resources to assist with the development of the national security workforce. Team members will use their considerable knowledge and contacts to assist with implementation of identified strategies to leverage resources.

The advisory team will assist in assessing the workforce needs in the national security area and identify strategies to increase the number of people entering this job sector, as well as strategies to ensure that those entering this job sector are well trained and educated for various national security positions.

3.0 TEAM MEMBERSHIP

The Workforce Development Advisory Team is comprised of individuals in the education, workforce development, business, economic development, and security technology sectors. The members of this team are listed below, along with their job titles and sector designations.

Jennifer Amis

Director, Secondary Education
Las Cruces Public Schools
Sector Represented – Education – K-12

Sandra Corriveau

Director
New Mexico Works
Sector Represented – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Adult Basic Education populations

Joanne Esparza

Director, Senior Technician
Physical Science Laboratory
Sector Represented – National Security Technologies

Christine Ochs

Economic Development Administrator
City of Las Cruces
Sector Represented – Economic Development

Robin Roberts

Division Dean, Workforce Development
Doña Ana Community College
Sector Represented – Education – Vocation, Workforce Development

Steve Verick

President/CEO
Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance
Sector Represented – Business and Industry

Jerry Welch

Division Dean, Technical Studies
Doña Ana Community College
Sector Represented – Emerging Technologies, Education – Post-Secondary