

**Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
Science and Technology Directorate (S&T)
Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee (HSSTAC)**

September 29, 2015
Virtual Meeting
Minutes

Summary: About 65 people attended the virtual meeting (please see list below). A recording of the meeting can be found at: <https://share.dhs.gov/p3zk73gc958>

1. CONVENE AND INTRODUCTION TO DHS S&T

HSSTAC Executive Director and Designated Federal Officer **Bishop Garrison** convened the meeting at 2 p.m.

Garrison welcomed committee members to the session and thanked them for their participation. He discussed the S&T mission to deliver effective and innovative insight, methods, and solutions for the critical needs of the Homeland Security Enterprise. He then went over the visionary goals for S&T including screening at speed, cyber security, enabling the decision maker, responder of the future, and resilient communities. Garrison briefly described the Apex programs: Border Situational Awareness, Next Generation First Responder, Real-time Bio Threat Awareness, Next-Generation Cyber Infrastructure, Screening, and Flood Awareness. He also mentioned the Targeted Innovative Technology Acceleration Network (TITAN) as part of reinventing government R&D.

2. Engaging with S&T

Garrison provided several ways that S&T is working on to increasing public and private engagement through the following communication avenues: website www.scitech.dhs.gov, The National Conversation, Social Media (Twitter, Facebook), Stakeholders, and The Prize Authority. He stressed that S&T wants to hear ideas and suggestions from the public to make S&T a strong and more resilient entity.

3. HSSTAC 101

Garrison provided an introduction to the attendees on how the HSSTAC is governed, who makes up the regulations and why transparency is so important to S&T. The Federal Advisory Committee ACT (FACA) was enacted in 1972 to ensure that the advice by various committees is objective and accessible to the public. Executive Order 12024 (1976) delegated to the administrator of GSA all responsibilities of the president for implementing the FACA. He broke it down in simple terms: “The Act enhances public accountability of advisory committees to control the undue influence of special interests by balancing committee membership and to ensure that public access to committee deliberations is

maximized.” This led into the conversation regarding transparency. Garrison explained the rules the HSSTAC must follow to hold open meetings. “Each advisory committee meeting must be held at a reasonable time and reasonably accessible to the public. Any member of the public is permitted to file a written statement. Any member of the public may speak...”

4. What is HSSTAC All About?

Garrison provided the objectives and scope of the HSSTAC:

- a. To provide independent, consensus scientific and technical advice and recommendations to the Under Secretary for Science and Technology;
- b. To address science and technology needs and trends, management processes and organizational constructs, and other matters of special interest to the Under Secretary for S&T to ensure the identification of new technologies that strengthen homeland security;
- c. To support the priority needs of DHS S&T's Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency and First Responders Group.

He also discussed the membership balance requirements in order to have fair and balanced points of view represented on the committee.

5. HSSTAC Focus Areas

Garrison mentioned the following focus areas briefly:

- a. Organizational and Strategy Management
- b. Government Partnership
- c. Operational Experience
- d. First Responder,
- e. Cybersecurity/Risks
- f. Cross Cutting Technical Expertise
- g. Chemical and Biological Defense
- h. Systems Engineering.

He also indicated that the focus areas would be discussed in greater detail at the November meeting.

6. HSSTAC Reorganization

Garrison explained and provided a justification for the reorganization of HSSTAC:

- a. To keep up with the ever evolving homeland security science and technology field
- b. To help ensure that the Directorate for Science and Technology conducts its operations both efficiently and effectively while remaining current with cutting-edge scientific thinking, the Under Secretary for Science and Technology seeks objective, independent input from trusted external experts on the science and technology implications of areas such as chemical and biological defense, cybersecurity, explosives, resiliency, first responder capabilities and needs, and transitioning innovative products into use.

This kind of expertise is not available internally or from any other type of advisory group.

7. Message from Dr. Brothers

Dr. Brothers provided a pre-recorded message for the attendees. The Under Secretary for Science and Technology expressed his thanks, provided a summary of what the committee will be helping S&T do, and provided a small bio of his background with the Department of Defense and how he would like the HSSTAC to be similar in function.

8. Tasking the HSSTAC

Garrison provided a quick list of topics that will be discussed during the next meeting. Since there were only 4 current members in attendance, the chair and co-chair have not been appointed yet. The group was asked to think about ideas for task forces and relationship building with S&T.

9. Questions from the public

Garrison addressed questions covering specifics on security, badging for HSSTAC members and processes at S&T. He also mentioned the date of the next meeting, November 2-3, 2015.

10. ADJOURN: **Garrison** adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Members:

Dean Kamen
Mark Dean
Marian Greenspan
Harry Radeuge

DHS Briefers and Observers:

Bishop Garrison (briefer)
Gretchen Cullenberg
Suzy Dixon Rhodes
Tyler Newton

Others:

Virginia Meehan	Shishri Shah
Dan Dubno	Eric Laresen
Tom Kowalczyk	Michael Goldblatt
John Sims	Mary Hanson
Lou Barros	Gary Schenkel
Scott C. (ONL)	Mark Ezell
Angela Blair	James Schwartz
Tod Companion	Brock Reeve
James Decker	
Laura Dean	

Lee Buchanan
Byron Collie
James Handler
Michele W.
Lynn Dumus
Ted Willke
Oliver Queen
David Whalen
Mary Ellen Hynes
Scott White
Mark Maybury
Marvin Fell
Ron S.
Jim T.
Christopher Lee
Peter Shebel
Jamie Hayes
MKT
AT
Jim Bringham
John Mills
Justin Snyder
Lisa Sobolewski
Mahala F.

Mr. Parson
Joe Neilin
Yang Yang
Matthew Montti
Mitch Erickson
Patricia Rosengrant
Randy Tally
Shannon Fox
TSL – Krenzien
William Crowell
Yolanda Franklin
Apurva
Christopher Guilford
Dan
Dana
J. Rinderknecht

NOTE: All meeting materials (listed below) are posted at <http://www.dhs.gov/st-hsstac>. No handouts were distributed during the meeting.

Meeting Documents: N/A

Read Ahead Materials: N/A