

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center

5th Annual HBCU/MSI Partnerships Meeting

Building Relationships with HBCUs/MSIs

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

MSFC Prime Introduction

Jenifer Scoffield – Small Business Liaison Officer

Space Launch System (SLS)

NNM07AA75C

Solid Rocket Motor for the SLS

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Mentor Protégé Agreements

Lansmont Corporation – Monterey, CA (18 Months)

NASA 1st SDVOSB

(Quality System – PES – Root Cause & Corrective Action – Configuration Mgmt – Proposal Dev.)

Florida A&M University – Tallahassee, FL (12 Months)

HBCU

(PES Training – Hardware Process – Value Stream Mapping – Personal Marketing & HR Support)

SBIR CFDRC – Phase II MPA (Not approved due to limitation of TRL 9)

FAMU - Mentor Protégé Agreement

Construction & Optimization of Refurbishment & Assembly of Lower Strut (SLS)

- The project was centered on the current state value stream map for the fabrication processes, including the trade studies on options.
- Reduce Cycle time currently at 3 ½ months.
- Develop proficient fabrication process flow for refurbishment, Verification Testing, and Assembly of Core Aft attachment Struts.
- Include Risk Implementation outline and accompanying analysis.

Building Relationship – Step 1

INTERNAL MENTOR -

- Work with Contracts and Program Management in establishing a “Needs Assessment” to comply with the contractual requirements. Timing in the proposal is key.
- Identify a course of action that yields a ROI make a good faith effort toward your goal.
- Management assigns a project/technical lead from his staff – pinpoint SOW

HBCU/MI PROTÉGÉ –

- Selection from the needs assessment of capability and possibility.
- Contact Point at the University - Worked directly with a professor who had the expertise in the field of the SOW.
- Depending on the needs assessment, it can take a few years to organize the resources and terms and conditions of the contract.

Building Relationship – Step 2

INTERNAL MENTOR -

- SOW was discussed and reviewed with FAMU staff to ensure the deliverable was clear and defined.
- Educate the University on the contractual requirements of the Prime Contractor.
- Terms & Conditions.

HBCU PROTÉGÉ -

- Limitations of the Schedule Senior Year Class Project. SOW adjusted.
- Questions/Training/Trust/Consequences.
- Hands on Experience.

Building Relationship – Step 3

COMMUNICATION

- The team flew to FAMU and met the students and took them through the Lean Training (PES). A benefit for everyone to know that the team was approachable and speak our contractual language.
- Weekly conference calls to ensure everyone's questions were answered.
- Internal team was available per email or telephone at all times.

RESPECT

- Students were amazing with great ideas and insight. They had no perceived limitations.
- NGC Team shared real life application and years of experience.

Final Advice to HBCU/MSIs

- Coordinate and commit to the expectations.
- Committed Team members – Both the Mentor and the Protégé.
- Communicate discussions if there are any questions.
- Success is a win for the Prime Contractor and HBCU/MI most important - **NASA**