NIST Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs

March 2016 Constituent Newsletter

National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE) Dedication Ceremony
In early February, Secretary Pritzker was joined by Senator Barbara Mikulski (MD), Senator Ben Cardin (MD), Congressman John Delaney (MD-6) and Congressman John Sarbanes (MD-3) for the dedication ceremony of a new national laboratory facility created to support the nation’s digital economy through advanced cybersecurity. The NCCoE in Rockville, Maryland, is a public-private partnership launched by the Commerce Department’s National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in 2013. More information on the NCCoE is available here.

FY 2017 NIST Budget Proposal & NNMI Update
During a Friday February 26, 2016 webinar, Jason Boehm, Director of NIST’s Program Coordination Office, and Mike Molnar, Director of the Advanced Manufacturing Program Office briefed constituents on the Administration's FY 2017 budget proposal for NIST and the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI). The presentation slides are posted here.

FY 2016 NIST SBIR Phase I FFO
NIST invites small businesses to submit Phase I research applications under a Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO). Firms with strong research capabilities aligned with investment priority areas identified in NIST’s Three Year Programmatic Plan are encouraged to apply. The complete SBIR FFO announcement is posted here. The deadline for application is April 14, 2016.

Standards Services Curricula Development Cooperative Agreement Program
NIST is offering financial support for the development of undergraduate and graduate-level curricula that integrate standards and standardization information and content into seminars, learning resources and courses. Accredited institutions of higher education, both nonprofit and commercial organizations; and state, local and Indian tribal governments located in the United States and its territories are eligible. The complete Grants Application Announcement is posted here. The deadline for applications is April 5, 2016.

Regional Forums for MEP Round 4 Competition
The NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) intends to publish an announcement in July 2016 of funding availability for MEP Centers in the following eleven states: Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, South Carolina, Wyoming.

Prior to the announcement of this federal funding opportunity (FFO), MEP is conducting three regional forums in May and June 2016 to provide interested entities more information about the MEP program, the state competition, answer any questions regarding this funding announcement and also offer potential applicants the chance to sign up for a one-on-one meeting with NIST MEP representatives. Complete registration information regarding the Regional Forums is posted here.