

VCAT Discussion  
NIST Innovation and  
Partnerships

10/28/2008

# Key VCAT Questions

- What are NIST's roles in innovation?
- Is the role just measurement science and standards or does it include technology development?

# Innovation Ecosystem

- Is this a good metaphor?
- Is the zoo inventory complete?
- Is US innovation still the best?
- Is “competitiveness” the right metric?
- Is NIST making the right investments?
- Is physical measurement enough?

# Rapid Innovation and Competitiveness

- Do we agree with the model?
  - “directed basic research”
  - Facilitating injection of Univ research results into business development
- Comments on INDEX, MIND, SWAN, WIN?
- Measures of success?

# Relationships at NIST

- Are these types of organizational relationships a useful way to fulfill the NIST mission?
- If NIST has the opportunity, should it expand the use of this tool or focus on internal research competencies?

# NIST and Academia

- Is the menu of collaboration adequate?
- (NRC postdocs, SURF, PREP, DHS..)
- Guest Researchers
- Grants

# Nanotech Research Initiative

- Western Institute of Nanoelectronics (WIN), based in California; Institute for Nanoelectronic Discovery and Exploration (INDEX), based in New York; and Southwest Academy for Nanoelectronics (SWAN), based in Texas.
- Semiconductor Research Center (SRC)
- NIST, SRC-NRI: \$18.5M over 5 years

# JQI and JILA

- Are these effective models? Is the leveraging effect real?
- Track record (Firsts(?), Nobels, MacArthur)
- Generation change
- Research foci ok?



# HML, UMBI/CARB

- Bio-partnerships (NOAA, HML, UMBI)
- Relevance? Leveraging effects?
- Results?
- Revised MOU w/UMBI centers
- RIC

# TIP

- Technology Innovation Program
- Measurement Science, standards, technology
- Identifying Critical National Needs? Do we agree with the 7 topic areas (civil infrastructure, energy, mfg, water, comm, complex nets, personal med)
- TIP criteria adequate?
- Do we endorse the plan?

# MEP

- Mfg extension partnership
- Model ok (Fed/State/Industry)? Bridging mfg to technology sources?
- Geographic coverage?
- Focus (mfg short term needs)?
- Metrics of effectiveness?
- Smart Machining a good test?

Backup

# Standards

- Large scope (lots of stds groups)
- Heavy participation by NIST
- Do we agree with premise (utility of standards, benefits to US and int'l?)
- Do we agree with the examples and claims associated? (biometrics, nanotech, biofuels)
- Enabling commerce and competition through standards

# Baldrige Program

- Does it work?
- What are the effects? Do we agree with the metrics and measurements? (coral springs answer!)
- Best quote of the day (“worth educating expense? What if you don’t educate and they stay?”)
- Process and practices, not simply an award. Not ISO 9000 (results count)