Regional Innovation Ecosystem Boulder/Colorado Region Assessment

Dr. S. Shyam Sunder

Senior Science Advisor National Institute of Standards and Technology

National Institute of Standards and Technology U.S. Department of Commerce

Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology October 30, 2019

National and Economic Security Need



- Leadership in industries of the future is vital to U.S. economic competitiveness and national security in the 21st Century
- The pace of innovation is accelerating globally enabled by revolutionary technology advances
- The U.S. must adopt creative, new ways to rapidly transition laboratory R&D in emerging technologies to marketplace innovations
- Innovation and entrepreneurship is often, although not always, highly concentrated in regions referred to as innovation ecosystems
- NIST has a unique mission to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness, and is industry's National Laboratory



21st Century Innovation Ecosystems



We've come a long way since 1980....

Federal Government, Universities, Federal Labs, Research Organizations, Entrepreneurs remain at the heart of innovation ecosystems



NIST Joint Institute and Center Locations NIST



Gaithersburg, MD Boulder, CO **Joint Institutes and Centers** National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence Institute for Bioscience & **Biotechnology Research** Joint Institute for Quantum **Computer Science** Joint Quantum Institute JILA Hollings Marine Laboratory **Brookhaven National Laboratory** Joint Initiative for Metrology in Biology **Atomic Clock Signal Stations** NIST Kauai HI WWVH NIST Ft. Collins CO WWV **NIST Centers of Excellence Forensic Science Disaster Resilience**

NIST Director's Charge





Advanced Manufacturing



Quantum Science



Engineering Biology



Artificial Intelligence



Recommend *purposeful* and *regular* mutually beneficial engagements needed to strengthen NIST's innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem



Recommend actions NIST should take for the benefit of American society through ecosystem engagement

Leverage Strengths and Best Practices



Partnerships



Existing and new mutually beneficial partnerships between NIST and regional stakeholders



Lab-to-Market

Collaborative development with industry partners, investors, and the research community



Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurial activities by NIST staff and associates and support for venture formation and development



Learning & Support

Experiential learning, mentoring and coaching, and innovation hubs

Thoughtful and Deliberate Approach



BENCHMARKING

Benchmarking with selected research universities and federal laboratories

REGIONAL RESOURCES

Review of potential innovation & entrepreneurship partners/resources in the Boulder/Colorado region

ASSESSMENT

Assessment of how NIST fits into the regional innovation ecosystem, and NIST's equities/needs

Scope of Assessment



Better understand the perspectives of *NIST staff and managers* as well as *NIST stakeholders* about the *existing state* and *future opportunities*:

- What is NIST's *role* in the regional innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem?
- In what ways do innovation and entrepreneurship entities in the region *interact* with NIST? Who are the key players? How do they benefit?
- In what ways—*formal and informal*—does NIST interact with the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region? Who are the key players? How do we benefit?
- Is NIST fully engaged with this regional ecosystem in ways that support NIST's mission? What are the *gaps*? What can we do to help fill them?
- Are NIST staff and associates knowledgeable about the resources available to them in the region? What are the *gaps*? What can we do to help fill them?
- What other information would be useful for us to consider as part of this baseline assessment?
- Who else should we talk to as part of this baseline assessment?

Assessment Process



Assessment (In Progress)

One-on-one and small group meetings with NIST staff and managers and NIST stakeholders

- NIST Boulder site director, division chiefs, and scientists
- University leaders (VC, Directors)
- Entrepreneurs and venture investors (CEOs/Presidents)
- Economic development leaders (industry, state, local)
- Others (MEP, CO-LABS, SBDC)

Recommendations to NIST Director based on analysis of inputs and perspectives of NIST staff and managers and NIST stakeholders

Analysis

- Address systemic barriers
- Leverage best practices
- Advance major opportunities aligned with NIST priorities

Next Steps

NIST Director's decision and guidance on next steps based on assessment findings and recommendations

 Develop and implement action plan



National Institute of Standards and Technology U.S. Department of Commerce

Thank you!



Manufacturing Extension Partnership



51 MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP CENTERS

NIST