

**DARPA Tech, DARPA's 25th Systems and Technology Symposium
August 8, 2007**

Anaheim, California

Teleprompter Script for Ms. Mary Vander Linden, Director, Human Resources

» **Mary Vander Linden:**

Good Afternoon!!

DARPA is **ALWAYS** looking for new and creative Program Managers.

As you've already heard today, DARPA exists to "maintain the technological superiority of the U.S. military and to prevent technological surprise from harming our national security.

We do this by sponsoring revolutionary, high-payoff research that bridges the gap between discovery and military use.

In short, we explore, exploit, and transform technology with potential to advance warfighter capabilities.

We can do this because we hire only the best and most qualified to be DARPA Program Managers!!

Without question DARPA is America's preeminent research organization.

Our strength is in our people; and those people most responsible for achieving

DARPA's mission are the Program Managers.

These brilliant men and women truly are America's "secret weapons" it is through the application of their considerable skills that ways are found to protect and to advantage those in our military.

We hire only the most highly qualified individuals with innovative ideas -- typically we hire them for two, four, or six year terms.

While this term experience is not what one would consider an actual career, it is **WORTH** an **ENTIRE CAREER**, according to most of our program managers.

These appointment limits ensure that we maintain a fresh outlook in our exploration of ideas and concepts.

To help us do that -- we have a variety of hiring vehicles to ensure we attract, retain, reward, and regularly replace first rate program managers.

We can hire directly using competitive commercial industry standards; reassign DOD personnel through details and memoranda of agreement; use authorities of the National Security Personnel System; sign people from affiliated institutions of higher learning -- and other eligible organizations we do that by maximizing use of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act; and, finally, we fill SES and ST positions as they become available.

Successful candidates are **TECHNOLOGICALLY AND SCIENTIFICALLY WELL GROUNDED**, inquisitive, **ENERGETIC**, creative, **ARTICULATE**, persuasive, **PERSISTENT**, and **PASSIONATE!!**

They are effective leaders who **MANAGE WELL**, **WORK** hard, and are **NOT AFRAID OF FAILURE**.

They learn from mistakes and make breakthrough discoveries.

Our Program Managers are patriots and **INNOVATORS** dedicated to National Service.

They join us from a wide variety of backgrounds, at different stages in their professional lives, and they possess a wide variety of experiences.

They bring to DARPA unique ideas to help develop high payoff solutions that maintain America's technological supremacy.

There are a variety of ways for you to obtain a DARPA sponsorship.

You may submit your resume, idea, and cover letter to the DARPA employment address.

Our technical staff will review and consider your submission.

If your credentials, skills, and interests match

DARPA's mission, we will invite you to begin preliminary interviews.

Another avenue would be for you to meet and work with current DARPA Program Managers possibly some may be able to offer you their assistance and mentorship.

And don't discount the opportunity to have your contacts recommend you to our senior leadership.

At DARPA, you'll have total intellectual freedom to pursue ideas without boundaries.

As a Program Manager you really will be given a chance to develop your potential and advance your career all the while -- turning your dreams into reality.

You've heard a great deal about DARPA today and there's much more to come in the following days.

We hope you are as excited about the possibility of joining our team as we are about having you here to meet us.

The HR staff would like to discuss opportunities with you and help you learn more about the application process.

PLEASE stop by the **DOING BUSINESS WITH DARPA** booth --

WE'LL BE LOOKING FOR YOU !

...SO ENJOY THE EXHIBITS and come with me to meet some of our Program managers!