

U. S. Department of Defense
FY 2014 Appropriations Request



HACU requests:

A U.S. Department of Defense appropriations of \$20 million for FY 2014

- *\$15 million for research development, testing and evaluation infrastructure support for Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs);*
- *\$5 million for faculty development programs for HSIs.*

Funding History: The security of the nation depends on a military with the most up to date technology and training. To achieve this objective, Congress provides the DoD with significant appropriations for infrastructure enhancement programs to the nation's higher education community with STEM research capacity and human resource development and training as a priority. While a sizable number of HSIs have the research and training capacity to meet DOD needs only minimally numbers of HSIs receive research and training grants.

Need:

- The DOD provided limited funding for a research and capacity building program for HSIs; \$4.3 million in FY 2002, \$6 million for FY 2003 , \$5 million for FY 2004 and \$4.3 million in FY 2005. Congress decreased funding HSI specific defense funding for DOD for FY2006.
- Many HACU member colleges and universities, because of historic funding inequities, lack resources to expand much-needed research and science education programs in areas of study where Hispanics are seriously under-represented, and in fields where national security needs are greatest.
- Infrastructure grants program provide resources essential for upgrading the research caliber and capacity of scientific/technology laboratories available to higher education institutions with a history of providing research for the Defense Department.
- Past funding levels for HSIs by DoD was insufficient to allow HSIs to benefit from DoD research opportunities. While over 242 HSIs were eligible to compete for \$4.3 million in DoD infrastructure support programs limited level of funding resulted in only a limited number of HSIs to secure those funds.
- Today there are over 300 HSIs with the capacity to undertake research in select areas of interest and critical for the national defense of the nation.
- The DoD offers unique opportunities to expand the research laboratory experiences and teaching skills of HSI faculty and students, while also enhancing the security of the United States. The nation also needs expanded avenues for increasing the number of qualified Hispanics serving in DoD civilian management and military officer ranks through contact with faculty and students from HSIs.

HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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