



MURI AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Science and Technology, Delores Etter announced today plans for the Department of Defense (DoD) to award \$7.9 million in FY99, and up to \$13.5 million per year starting in FY00 over three years to 17 academic institutions to conduct multidisciplinary research in 13 topic areas of basic science and engineering. These grants will be made under the FY99 DoD Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative program (MURI), a program designed to address large multidisciplinary topic areas representing exceptional opportunities for future DoD applications and technology options.

Subject to the successful completion of negotiation between DoD and the academic institutions, the 19 awards will provide long-term support for research, graduate students, and the purchase of equipment supporting specific science and engineering research themes vital to national defense.

The average award will be \$3 million over a three-year period. Two additional years of funding will be possi-

ble as options to bring the total award to five years. This option would be subject to the availability of appropriations.

Today's announcement is the result of a seven-month competition under the DoD MURI program. The competition for the awards drew 176 white papers, from which 58 full proposals were encouraged. Sixty-five full proposals were submitted for the final competition phase, and 19 of those were found to be suitable for funding.

Editor's Note: This information is in the public domain. A complete copy of the awards list is at www.defenselink.mil/news/Feb1999/muri-awards.html on the World Wide Web.