

DCN 7152
Executive Correspondence

**MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**

Office of the President

BRAC Commission

AUG 08 2005

Received

August 3, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

You have heard me brief you on two separate occasions as a spokesman for the general "Fort Monmouth Community." Today, I write to you as President of Monmouth University and as a former naval officer who spent a decade within his career as a Navy science and technology administrator, seven years in the two top S&T positions: Commander of the Naval Research Laboratory and, later, Chief of Naval Research.

In my several jobs in the Office of Naval Research and in several other Navy positions I had intimate contact with, if not the ultimate responsibility for, Navy-academic relations. In fact for generations the Navy dedicated the largest amount of science and technology funding to American colleges of any service. I believe I can comment credibly on DOD-university relationships.

You will hear from several New Jersey universities about their relationships with Fort Monmouth and about the culture of science, technology and innovation in New Jersey. Those relationships include offering courses for professional development and collaborative research including, in our case, research supported with funds from the University sent to Fort Monmouth and vice versa. One will also find other kinds of partnerships that include consortia, advisory councils and cooperative research and development agreements. There is a continuing and close (programmatic and geographical) linkage among New Jersey universities, New Jersey's innovation industries and Fort Monmouth. I believe you will find useful comments about New Jersey as a science and technology state from Rutgers, Princeton, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Stevens Tech, as well. Let me briefly recount Monmouth University's role with nearby Fort Monmouth.

Fort Monmouth's Software Engineering Center sponsors and funds an "Internship" program for Monmouth University students. These fully paid internships permit new software engineering employees at Fort Monmouth to complete a master's degree in software engineering at Monmouth University while working at the Fort. The Army pays their salary and their tuition and allows them to spend two days per week studying and attending classes. The program, which has been in place since 1986, has attracted in excess of two hundred, clearable, software engineers to the Army; most have remained with the military for their entire career. Monmouth University is one of the few ABET accredited schools providing bachelor's and master's degrees

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in software engineering, partly due to the demand for talented, clearable employees by the Army. There are currently 35 Army civilian employees in the program, and we expect 18 new Army employees to join the program in September.

Monmouth University's Center for Rapid Response Database Systems is a software engineering research facility developing system specifications to support first responder and other units' efforts in combating terrorism, especially bio/chem-based terrorism. Part of the University's funding for the project supports the Software Engineering Center (SEC) at Fort Monmouth for systems architecture development.

Such collaborations are not uncommon. The University's Software Engineering Department is supported by a contract administered by the SEC that deals with the Advanced Multiplex Test System (AMTS). The AMTS is an example of research efforts by faculty members in our Software Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science Departments done in collaboration with Fort Monmouth. One part of that work is aimed at developing predictive methods for maintenance of Army helicopters. A second portion of that project is assisting with the development and evaluation of human computer interfaces between the equipment and maintenance technicians.

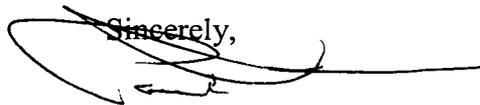
Top representatives from Fort Monmouth play significant roles in University governance as well, serving in advisory positions for the School of Science, Technology and Engineering, for the Software Engineering and Computer Science Departments and for the Center for Rapid Response Database Systems.

The foregoing focuses on technical programs, but one must also point out Monmouth University-Fort Monmouth relationships in other degree programs. There have been hundreds of master's and bachelor's level students who have graduated from Monmouth University in the last decade in non-technical fields, most in the MBA program which enhances acquisition certification qualifications.

Monmouth University is not a "Research I" university, but it, like Princeton, Rutgers, Stevens and NJIT, is near Fort Monmouth and can (and does) provide research partnerships through its faculty members who are active researchers, and educational opportunities for Army civilian and military employees through its degree programs and its continuing adult education programs.

One understands well the Defense Department's consistent cry, over the past few years, that the technical workforce in the Department (and within its partnering contractor workforce) is in crisis. There is a dwindling supply of students choosing science and engineering fields and fewer yet are clearable. Monmouth University understands this issue and has, therefore, structured software engineering and computer science courses to help feed the workforce pipeline for Fort Monmouth.

Sincerely,



Paul G. Gaffney II
President, Monmouth University