

# Technology Management Training Group

## Program Assessment and Evaluation Efforts Enhance Capabilities

**T**echnology Management Training Group, Inc. (TMT Group) is busy connecting a diverse network of U.S. Army ambassadors with K-12 and college and university students, teachers, and administrators to support human capital development. This initiative is needed to help shape the future workforce for the Department of Defense (DoD) on Redstone Arsenal through TMT Group's Educational Outreach Programs in North Alabama. Science Technology Engineering and Mathematic (STEM) learning

U.S. Army Aviation Missile Life-Cycle Management Command (LCMC) drive these programs.

In addition to helping provide a comprehensive network of support to these areas, TMT Group has expanded its Educational Outreach capacity to support other federal agencies, including the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) in national program assessment and evaluation. "The OSD and NSF work provides us with an opportunity to impact higher educational programming on a national scale," President/CEO Dorothy Huston states. The OSD effort is a national assessment of HBCU/MI funding in DoD mission-specific areas.

Recently, TMT Group was awarded a contract to support the NSF's Science Master's Program (SMP) with program evaluation support. NSF funded 21 grants totaling \$15 million dollars to establish a SMP that prepares graduate students for careers in business, industry, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies by providing them with a strong foundation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Each SMP provides students with research experiences, faculty internship experiences, and interdisciplinary skills to succeed in those careers. This program was offered as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and is intended to catalyze the creation of institution-based efforts that can be sustained without additional federal funding. Each SMP encourages diversity in student participation in an effort to contribute to a broadly inclusive, well-trained science and engineering workforce. TMT Group leads a team of small businesses and nonprofit organizations in providing evaluation support for SMP by establishing a senior level advisory group; assisting the program in developing the program theory of action, conducting a descriptive review of the SMP portfolio, developing a cross-project data collection capability for collecting quantitative and qualitative data to respond to the program metrics, critiquing and synthesizing of project assessment and evaluation plans, and developing a plan for tracking graduates.

With a growing concern about the technological workforce needed in a global economy and statistics that show a decline in developing and preparing students for careers needed to keep up with that growth, TMT Group plays a critical role in helping to narrow that gap. "If we're not producing students at the master's and doctoral level prepared for career opportunities in areas critical to maintaining a superior workforce, especially areas needed to address America's national interest, we are entertaining future risk," Executive Vice President/COO Dan Farmer says. "As we see it, if maintaining a superior global economy, unmatched national defense and the highest educated workforce in the world are the tip of the spear, then strong human capital development is the handle that pushes it." ■



Dan Farmer and Dorothy Huston

opportunities with the U.S. Army Aviation Missile Research Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) and aviation and missile technology development and management for the