



Griffiss Institute (GI) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, located in Rome, NY. Established in 2002 by the State of New York to foster collaboration between government, academia, and industry to advance technology and promote economic growth across upstate New York.

We **Elevate** Talent ● We **EMPOWER** Innovation ● We **Enable** Experience

A designated Partnership Intermediary (“PIA”) for the Air Force since 2008, the GI has built durable partnerships and programs around the world-class research of the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (“Rome Lab”) that are focused on elevating STEM talent and translating AI/ML, cyber, quantum and UAS research into innovative solutions that serve both defense and commercial needs. The GI also offers innovative national talent development programs for the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (“OUSD”) that support DOD-ready graduates to enter technical service with the Army and Navy, as well as AFRL. Empowering diverse teams with talent and technology development programs that lead the nation in technical and economic impact is the GI's primary focus.

Griffiss Institute collaborates with AFRL, the private sector and various academic institutions to promote research, development, and technology transfer in the fields of Quantum, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning, and Uncrewed Aerial Systems. The GI also offers workforce development, education programs and K-12 STEM camps to support the development of cradle to career pathways for skilled workers in these fields.

Central to this mission is Innovare Advancement Center (IAC) in Rome; an open innovation campus with shared laboratories operated by the GI to support defense tech collaboration and workforce development. IAC is home to intensive experiential learning programs for OUSD's Virtual Institutes for Cybersecurity and Electromagnetic Spectrum Research and Employ (VICEROY), AFRL's nationally-recognized Advanced Course in Engineering (ACE) cybersecurity bootcamp, faculty and postdoctoral fellowships in AFRL's Information Institute, international workshops in quantum information science (QIS) and terahertz (THz) communications, and startup incubation programs such as the HUSTLE Defense Accelerator, aimed at developing the next generation of national security-focused tech seed stage startups to start strong and grow healthy in Upstate New York.

In the past few years, the GI has grown to be a global destination hub for tech-based innovation and collaboration across upstate New York and has formed new and exciting new partnerships with the region's universities and leading-edge businesses to advance use-inspired research and workforce development aimed at meeting local needs.

It is anticipated that new federal regional innovation programs at the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Commerce, and National Security Innovation Network (NSIN) will be pivotal to these efforts, helping to build the region's STEM workforce and attract private capital to invest in emerging growth industries. Programs such as NSF's Regional Innovation Engines, the Economic Development Administration's (EDA's) Tech Hubs, and other EDA initiatives are expected to boost high-tech development in regions such as upstate New York, located outside the nation's traditional tech hubs in Silicon Valley, Boston and Austin.

In this spirit, the GI launched Elevate Upstate: an initiative to better align the region's high-tech assets in the fields of UAS and embedded autonomous systems to spur greater job creation, economic growth, and meet regional societal needs. Academic partners include Rochester Institute of Technology, Binghamton University, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, SUNY-ESF, Syracuse University, Mohawk Valley Community College, and Vernon Verona Sherrill School District, as well as key private sector collaborators such as Marquardt, Upstate Venture Connect, and Community Foundation of HOC. Fifty-five regional organizations in all joined forces in this effort in 2023.

Griffiss Institute enables the development of the next generation of STEM talent and defense technologies that will strengthen U.S. national security and create economic opportunity for our region, state and nation.



TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Reporting Period 2018-2022

STEM PROGRAMS



519

Camp Grads

+ 32 Department of the Air Force Sites Supported

TECH INTERNSHIPS



1,034

Student Interns

VISITING FACULTY



309

Visiting Faculty & Fellows

VENTURE DEVELOPMENT

Reporting Period 2018-2022

T2 SUPPORT



113

Facilitated Patents Issued

STARTUP INCUBATION



52

Incubator Clients

27

New Startups

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

Reporting Period 2018-2022

ACADEMIA



211

Partnering Universities

150

Educational Partnership Agreements

INDUSTRY



15

Commercial Test Agreements

83

Cooperative Research and Development Agreements



CRADLE TO CAREER

