

National Center for Border Security and Immigration

A Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence

MARCH 2009

Providing the tools and information required to proactively respond to our Nation's border issues

The National Center for Border Security and Immigration, led by The University of Arizona in Tucson and The University of Texas at El Paso, is developing technologies, tools and advanced methods to balance immigration and trade with effective border security, as well as assess threats and vulnerabilities, improve surveillance and screening, analyze immigration trends, and enhance policy and law enforcement efforts.

RESEARCH LEAD The University of Arizona



**National Center for
Border Security and
Immigration**

The University of Arizona

Research Objectives

BSI's research team is a consortium of 14 premier institutions that is dedicated to the development of innovative technologies, proficient processes, and effective policies that will help protect our Nation's borders, foster international trade, and enhance long-term understanding of immigration determinants and dynamics.

Our Mission and Importance

BSI's focus is to provide government agencies and stakeholders with scientifically-informed knowledge to expedite the development of innovative, practical, and cost-effective solutions to meet the ever-changing operational demands at the northern and southern borders. BSI is aligned with the DHS Science and Technology Directorate's Border and Maritime Division to create linkages between relevant agencies including CBP, ICE, CIS, TSA, FBI, CIA, NSA, DOD, DEA, and ATF (among others) as well as state and local law enforcement authorities.

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EDUCATION LEAD The University of Texas at El Paso



Education Objectives

Through a robust education curriculum, the Center will develop the future scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians, to create processes and technology that will meet the emerging challenge of homeland security in a global context. Integrated with the research program is a strong educational component that will convert NCBSI research lessons learned into educational products for current homeland security professionals as well as future academics; fostering involvement of other Minority Serving Institutions (MSI). To accomplish this, the Center, among other things, will:

- Deliver comprehensive, integrated products that are needed to secure the Nation's borders and to control illegal immigration
- Propose solutions that are integrated with users
- Employ a multi disciplinary, systems approach, involving engineers and physical, behavioral and social scientists

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BSI Partner Institutions

University of Arizona [LEAD]
Arizona State University
Migration Policy Institute
New Mexico State University
Pennsylvania State University
RAND Corporation
RTI International
San Diego State University
University of California - Irvine
University of Minnesota
University of New Mexico
University of Texas - Pan American
University of Washington
West Virginia University



NCBSI Partner Institutions

[LEAD] University of Texas at El Paso
Duke University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
North Dakota State University
Prairie View A&M University
RTI International
Texas A&M University
Texas A&M University - Kingsville
University of California - Irvine
University of Connecticut
University of Texas at San Antonio
University of Washington
Wayne State University

BSI RESEARCH AREAS

Our research focuses on 8 inter-related areas:

- Detection: Humans and Vehicles
- Networks: Interoperability, Reliability and C³
- Fusion: Tools and Approaches
- Risk: Mitigation, Assessment and Alignment
- Population: Methods, Metrics and Estimates
- Immigration: Economics and Policies
- Governance: Enforcement and International
- Law: Civil Liberties and Rights

BSI is engaged in both visionary and user-inspired research. The Center will serve as a systems integrator, using lessons learned from multiple disciplines, to help define optimal approaches and speed the implementation of innovative solutions to complex border problems in the form of new technologies and policy recommendations.

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NCBSI RESEARCH PROJECTS

Our research focuses on 5 topics:

- Surveillance and Tracking Technologies
- Procedures at Border Crossing Ports of Entry
- Operational Analysis
- Screening, Scanning and Inspection Processes
- Command, Control and Communication

Education Program

- K-12
- DHS Scholar Academy at UTEP
- Minor/Certificate Course
- Customer Education Needs Assessment

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