



Director, Strategic Deterrence Programs

Position Announcement

The National Strategic Research Institute (NSRI) at the University of Nebraska is seeking applications for a Director, Strategic Deterrence Programs to direct and provide research and analytical support to Department of Defense (DoD) and U.S. Government sponsors on the ever-evolving requirements in defining, developing, maintaining, and enhancing U.S. strategic deterrence. These strategic deterrence research efforts will directly address the strategic deterrence mission of U.S Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), and such research is expected to be conducted both in close coordination with USSTRATCOM (especially the J5, Plans and Policy), along with mission partners such as the National Nuclear Security Administration, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the State Department. The Director will be responsible for providing leadership and support for research across the broad array of elements related to strategic deterrence: the ever-evolving requirements of strategic deterrence; foreign strategic threat assessments; escalation dynamics and control; nuclear employment policy, operations, options, targeting and consequences; conventional-nuclear integration issues; and strategic wargaming and experimentation. Responsibilities will include development of business opportunities and identification of resources that support Department of Defense, Department of Energy and Department of State equities in strategic deterrence. Varying and complex responsibilities are performed in a high-visibility, fast-paced environment to ensure accomplishment of NSRI's overall mission. This position reports to the NSRI Research Director for USSTRATCOM Programs.

National Strategic Research Institute Profile:

NSRI is a non-profit IRS 501c(3) supporting organization of the University of Nebraska, established in 2012 to operate one of only 14 DoD University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC)s in the nation. NSRI is engaged in a long-term, strategic partnership with our DoD sponsor, USSTRATCOM. NSRI provides essential research, development and support for USSTRATCOM, other DoD components and federal agencies focused on established research core competencies, including Nuclear Detection and Forensics, Detection of Chemical and Biological Weapons, Active and Passive Defense against Weapons of Mass Destruction, Consequence Management, and Mission Related Research. NSRI receives funding from project sponsors through contracts generated from our sole-source, Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity contract with USSTRATCOM, as well as other direct contract vehicles and grants.

Website: <https://nsri.nebraska.edu>

Applicants should note:

This is a full-time 1.0 FTE position that is based at NSRI Headquarters at 6825 Pine Street, Suite 150, Omaha, Nebraska 68106, with routine work from NSRI's Field Office in the USSTRATCOM Command and Control Facility, Offutt AFB, Nebraska. Periodic travel is required to NSRI's offices in Lincoln, Nebraska, University of Nebraska System Campuses, NSRI Field Offices in Maryland, Virginia and Florida, and other locations where business and/or training is conducted. There may be the opportunity for partial and/or periodic remote work, at the discretion of NSRI management.



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Compensation: This is a managerial/professional position that is considered salaried/exempt. Salary will be commensurate with Experience and Contributing Attributes, with \$125,000/year as the expected minimum.

Benefits: NSRI employees receive University of Nebraska-like benefits, per underlying service agreements, to include paid vacation and sick leave; insurance options; and a retirement program. NSRI also currently observes twelve (12) paid holidays each year. Applicants accepting a job offer must pass a background check and a drug test prior to starting in the position.

Job Responsibilities: Responsibilities listed below is not an exhaustive statement of duties & responsibilities. Employees may be required to perform other job-related activities as requested.

Director, Strategic Deterrence Programs key responsibilities include, but are not limited to, accomplishing the following activities:

Supervisory:

- Assist NSRI leadership and staff in recruiting, interviewing, hiring, and training new staff, in conjunction with Human Resources.
- Oversee contractual and sponsor engagement activities within the strategic deterrence portfolio, providing direct leadership and oversight of support staff, as required.
- Provide constructive and timely performance evaluations for any subordinate employees.
- Handle discipline and termination of subordinate employees in coordination with the Research Director for STRATCOM Programs and Human Resources, in accordance with company policy.

Position-Specific:

- Serve as NSRI's main day-to-day point of contact for federal sponsors in the areas of strategic deterrence.
- Serve as NSRI's day-to-day lead in interacting with the USSTRATCOM J5 staff.
- Identify, contact and interact with the University of Nebraska, other partner universities or agencies who may be appropriate to meet the needs of federal sponsors in the strategic deterrence mission space.
- Assist the NSRI Research Director in developing business plans and a strategic roadmap of potential research opportunities, as well as establishing measurable goals and metrics of success for the Strategic Deterrence Directorate as a whole.
- Lead NSRI strategic deterrence activities across all areas of business and sponsors, including working with University of Nebraska faculty and staff on collaborative projects.



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- Work with DoD and University senior leaders to promote, develop, synchronize, and execute educational initiatives, ranging from undergraduate internships to PhD programs, addressing human capital development needs across the strategic deterrence mission space.
- Identify business opportunities and build market position in the strategic deterrence portfolio by locating, developing, defining, and closing business relationships.
- Collaborate directly with project sponsors, stakeholders, and NSRI staff to identify and match current and projected strategic deterrence capability gaps with solution sets specifically focused on U.S. Government sponsor requirements.
- Collaborate directly with project sponsors, stakeholders, and NSRI Directors and staff to develop and implement project plans, timelines, expense projections, and execution strategies to facilitate successful completion of project goals.
- Provide subject matter expertise regarding all aspects of strategic deterrence and participate as a member of a team to accomplish all stated and implied project related tasks.
- Develop deterrence-related research, development, and testing capabilities at both NSRI and partner facilities to aid in the building of long-term strategic resources as well as the facilitation of immediate project needs.
- Produce timely articles, books and other publishable materials, to include peer-reviewed journals.
- Assist NSRI leadership on engaging and assessing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to NSRI's to relationships and business supporting its U.S. Government Sponsors.
- Perform other duties as assigned.
- Job duties and responsibilities are subject to change based on the needs of NSRI.

Required Qualifications:

- Master's degree
- At least 5 years of experience in strategic deterrence and nuclear operations to include the following:
 - Academic research and/or government engagement activities within the areas of: nuclear deterrence, escalation management, and/or nuclear policy and planning.
 - Methodologies of policy research, international relations research, and/or tabletop exercises and wargaming
 - Staff recruitment and management
 - Leading at a level effectively equivalent to GS-14/15 or O-5/O-6 levels.
 - Interacting with USG sponsors or collaborators at the GO/SES level.
- Experience and demonstrated production at the peer-reviewed journal level.
- Willingness to travel as required to execute position responsibilities.
- Current Department of Defense (DoD) Security Clearance at the TOP SECRET-level, with eligibility for SCI access. – *see below*.

Preferred Experience:

- Ph.D.



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- Experience working with Independent Research and Development (IRAD) and evaluating proposals for funding feasibility.
- Experience working with defense contractors and federal government contracts.

Security Clearance:

NSRI is a DoD-designated UARC that performs sensitive and sometimes classified research for DoD and other federal government entities. This position requires a DoD Security Clearance at a minimum of the TOP SECRET-level. All cleared employees are subject to certain reporting requirements and random drug testing.

Ideal candidates will exhibit the following attributes and personality traits:

- A skilled technical expert in all aspects of strategic deterrence and nuclear operations mission areas.
- Ability to be a self-starter comfortable with attention to detail.
- Be collaborative and team-oriented with the ability to work independently, exercise sound judgment to seek input from others when necessary.
- Strong communication skills to effectively interact with senior government leaders, training audiences, management, employees, vendors and external partners.
- Comprehension and knowledge of corporate-level business, operations and organization.
- Advanced organizational skills and the ability to prioritize multiple and complex tasks and work effectively in a fast-paced environment, with short deadlines and frequent interruptions.
- Ability to manage sensitive and confidential interactions with sponsors and partners.
- Advanced problem-solving and decision-making skills necessary to independently recommend appropriate actions and solutions.

How to Apply:

Application review begins May 31, 2022 and continues until position is filled.
Applications processed through the on-line job posting at <https://careers.nebraska.edu>.

Follow instructions to complete the Applicant Profile and supplemental questions. Along with your application, attach a cover letter, resume, and the names, relationship to you and contact information for at least three professional references.

Direct questions about the position to Dr. Chris Yeaw at (318) 532-1348 or cyeaw@nsri.nebraskaresearch.gov.

Questions about the on-line application process should be directed to Mr. Tyrel Unger at (402) 554-8303 or hr@nsri.nebraskaresearch.gov.

As an EO/AA employer, qualified applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation.