



# The Information Directorate's Information Institute<sup>®</sup> (II)

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**AFRL/RI SEPTEMBER 2021**



# The Information Institute<sup>®</sup> (II): Established in 1996

- Acknowledgement: Former Key “Contributors”



American Society for Engineering Education\*  
\*currently contributes through the NDSEG



Cyber Research Institute (CRI)

JAG Technologies



## The Information Institute<sup>®</sup> (II): Mission

- Strengthen and expand information technology research within the Information Directorate
- Develop collaborative relationships among and between the academic members and the Information Directorate
- Increase research emphasis in areas of information technologies critical to RI's mission

The II is a virtual organization created by the Information Directorate

The II facilitates **on-site\*** fundamental research collaborations with academia

\* on-site collaborations will be the goal, but in deference to directorate health/safety policies

The AFRL/RI Information Institute<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of the United States Air Force

## The Information Institute® (II): Description and Roles



- A Registered Trademark in 2018
- An RI Office
  - Established 1996
  - RI's principal outreach to academia
- A Virtual Organization
  - Membership through Educational Partnership Agreements (EPAs)
  - Consortium of universities performing research in areas of information technology of interest to the Information Directorate
- A Focal Point, Coordinator and Facilitator
  - RI faculty/student programs
  - AFOSR-funded faculty/student programs
  - National faculty/student programs

## The Information Institute<sup>®</sup> (II): An RI Office

- Located in Building 106, second floor, room F2B-09 and F2B-12
- Faculty and Students are located:
  - In Building 3 with their Advisors/collaborators
  - At the Griffiss Institute (when necessary, e.g., for US Permanent Resident faculty and students)
    - On Griffiss Park
    - Conveniently close
- 2020/2021 have been unique years for everyone including the II
  - AFOSR's programs have been implemented/transitioned to remote collaborations for this year; updates on this policy to follow at later time
  - RI likewise has implemented their II component programs as remote collaborations; updates on this policy to follow at a later time
  - These policies are necessary but will impact some collaborations, e.g., when specialized equipment cannot be accessed by associates

## The Information Institute® (II): A Virtual Organization, via Educational Partnership Agreements

- Formal, non-binding agreement, that establishes a mutual understanding between the university and RI
  - Establishes II membership for the university
- Useful for
  - Equipment exchange
  - Personnel hosting
  - Information exchange
- II membership benefits
  - Early access to program announcements, II bulletins
  - Notifications, like employment opportunities
  - Research networking/collaborations

# Information Institute Membership



Air Force Academy  
Air Force Institute of Technology  
AFRL Information Directorate  
Arizona State University  
Boise State University  
Brescia University  
California State University, Northridge  
Central State University  
City College of New York  
Clarkson University  
Clayton State University  
Colorado State University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth Collage  
**Dillard University**  
Duke University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Farleigh Dickenson University  
Florida Atlantic University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Florida International University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
George Mason University  
Hamilton College  
**Howard University**  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
Iowa State University  
Kansas State University  
LaSalle University  
Louisiana State University  
Louisiana Tech University  
Michigan State University  
Missouri University of Science & Technology  
Navajo Technical University  
New Jersey Institute of Technology

New York University  
**North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University**  
Northeastern University  
Northern Arizona University  
Northwestern University  
Norwich University  
Ohio State University  
**Prairie View A&M University**  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
St. Mary's University  
San Diego State University  
SUNY Binghamton  
SUNY Polytechnic Institute  
SUNY Stony Brook  
Syracuse University  
Temple University  
**Tennessee State University**  
Texas A&M University  
**Texas Southern University**  
The Pennsylvania State University  
Tuskegee University  
Universidad Ana G. Méndez, Gurabo  
University at Albany  
**University of Arkansas**  
University of Buffalo  
University of California, Berkley  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Riverside  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
**University of Central Florida**  
University of Cincinnati

University of Connecticut  
University of Dayton  
University of Florida  
University of Hawaii  
University of Illinois  
University of Kansas  
**University of Maryland**  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
University of Missouri, Kansas City  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
University of New Mexico  
University of North Texas  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Rochester  
University of South Alabama  
University of Southern California  
University of South Carolina  
University of South Florida, Tampa  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Texas, Dallas  
University of West Florida  
University of Tulsa  
Utah State University  
Utica College  
Vanderbilt University  
Villanova University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Washington University, St. Louis  
Wichita State University  
Wright State University  
York College of Pennsylvania

Memberships with 107  
Institutions in 40 States

## The Information Institute<sup>®</sup> (II): A Focal Point of Programs

- AFRL/RI's focal point for fostering of, administration and oversight of, component on-site faculty (and student) research programs
  - AFOSR Summer Faculty Fellowship Program (SFFP)
    - Faculty and their Graduate Students
  - RI Visiting Faculty Research Program (VFRP)
    - Faculty and their Students
  - AFRL Science and Technology Fellowship Program (STFP)
    - (Formerly the National Research Council (NRC) Post-Doc Program)
    - Administered by The National Academies of Sciences Engineering and Medicine
      - Post-Doctoral Researchers, Senior Researchers
  - RI Research Fellowship Program
    - PhD Candidate Researchers
    - Post-Doctoral Researchers
    - Senior Researchers
  - National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowship
    - PhD Students
    - Administered by Systems Plus Inc. (SysPlus)



# The Information Institute® (II): A Focal Point of Programs

## Information Directorate

### Function

- Funding support; II function
  - VFRP
  - Extension Awards (VFRP and SFFP)
  - RI Research Fellowship
  - II Membership EPAs



## AFOSR

### Function

- Funding support
  - SFFP – Contracted through SysPlus, Inc
  - STFP – (Science and Technology Fellowship Program) Contracted through the National Academies



## NDSEG

### Function

- Solicit input from labs



# Information Institute

VFRP

SFFP

RI Research Fellowship

STFP

NDSEG

# The Information Institute® (II): SFFP, VFRP, By the Numbers



- II Visiting Research Faculty Program (VFRP)**

- Funded by II and Technical Divisions

<http://www.wpafb.af.mil/afri/ri/>

- AFOSR Summer Faculty Fellowship Program (SFFP)**

- 31 Fellows in 2020
  - 21 Fellows in 2019
  - 20 Fellows in 2018

<http://afsffp.sysplus.com/>

Year	Professors	Students
2016	64	25
2017	54	15
2018	56	16
2019	42	11
2020	61	17

**\*SFFP = 36 F; 9 S**      **VFRP = 34 F; 8 S**  
 Current as of 9/27/2021

## The Information Institute<sup>®</sup> (II): Impact

### Impact to AFRL/RI

- Early access to innovation
- Help us stay abreast of new technology trends
- Enhance the RI workforce
- Help foster a collegial environment for research
- Serve as mentors for staff enrichment
- Source of seminar speakers
- Serve as a clearing house and broker for collaborative research opportunities

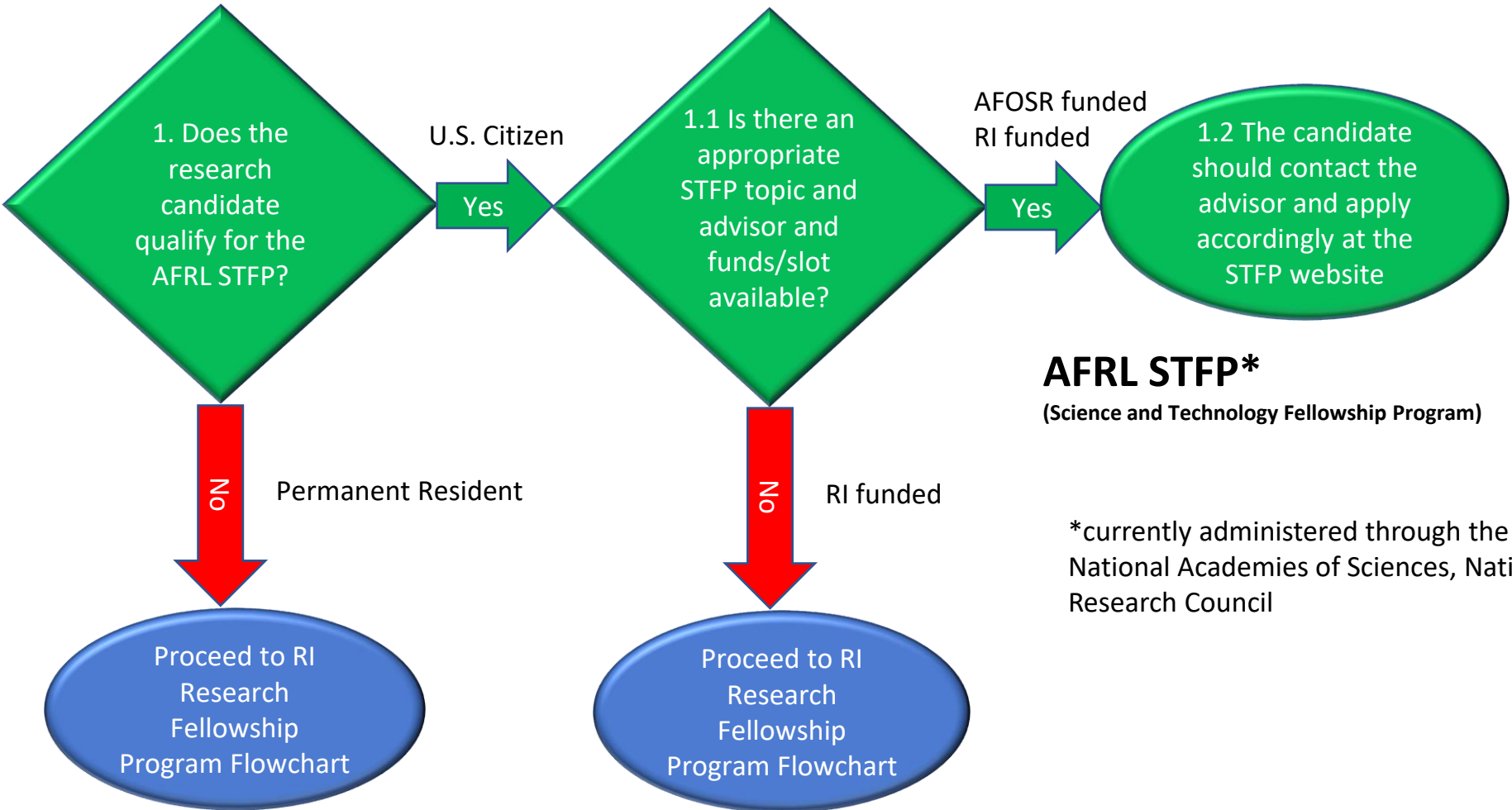


### Impact to Academia

- Interesting problems
- Opportunities for collaborative research
- Employment opportunities for students (and Post-Docs)
- Sabbatical leave appointments
- Financial support for research
- Aid in the transition of technology to customers
- Connection to research opportunities with AFOSR

# The Information Institute® (II): General Background on Hosting On-Site Post-Doctoral and Senior Researchers

## Fellowship Programs Utilization Steps



**AFRL STFP\***  
(Science and Technology Fellowship Program)

\*currently administered through the National Academies of Sciences, National Research Council

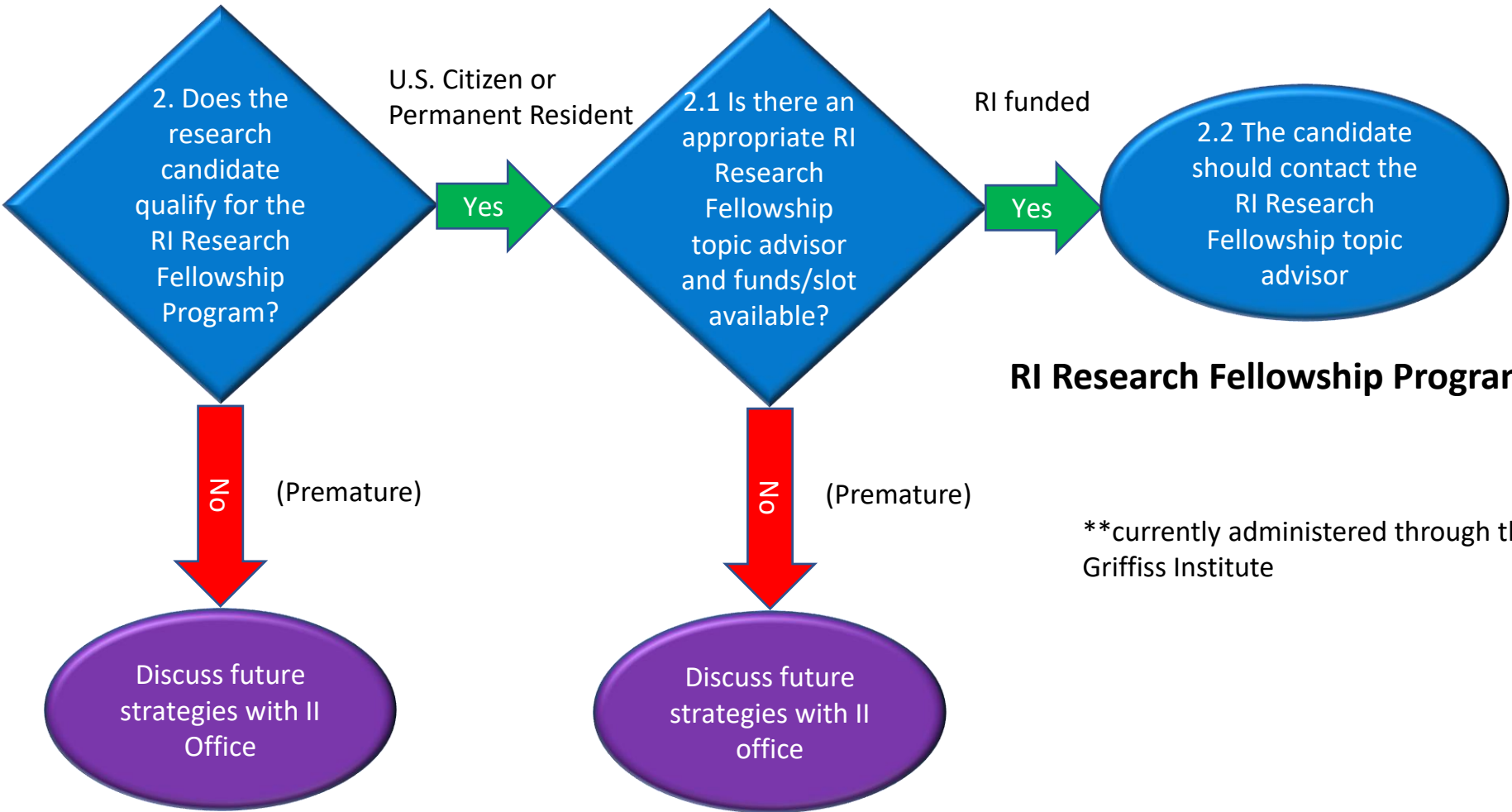
## The Information Institute® (II): General Background on Hosting On-Site Post-Doctoral and Senior Researchers

The following chart can be used by RI research topic advisors (VFRP, SFFP, or STFP) and others as a guide for the RI Research Fellowship Program.

Note: these are funded by the advisor with RI project funds.

# The Information Institute® (II): General Background on Hosting On-Site Post-Doctoral and Senior Researchers


## Fellowship Programs Utilization Steps



## Other Example Opportunities for Research

- II related:
  - **Extension Awards (formerly called Extension Grants)**; watch for our call for proposals (open to VFRP or SFFP summer associates at RI)
- Non II related (contractual):
  - **SBIR/STTR**; Small Business Innovative Research, Small Business Technology Transfer <https://www.sbir.gov/tutorials/program-basics/tutorial-1>
  - **BAAs**; Broad Agency Announcements <https://www.wpafb.af.mil/afri/ri/>
- AFOSR sponsored
  - **BAA**; <https://www.afri.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Fact-Sheet-Display/Article/2282103/afosr-funding-opportunities/>
    - Includes various things, such as Multi-disciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI)

# The Information Institute® (II): Program Utilization Matrix

 e-mail: <a href="mailto:rrs.iweb@us.af.mil">rrs.iweb@us.af.mil</a>		II Hosting Mechanism						
		AFOSR Summer Faculty Fellowship Program (SFFP)	RI Visiting Faculty Research Program (VFRP)	AFRL Science and Technology Fellowship Program (STFP)		RI Research Fellowship Program		
				Post-Doc	Senior	Doctoral Candidate	Post-Doc	Senior
Program Characteristics	AFOSR Funded	Yes	Not Directly	6 "slots"		Not Directly	Not Directly	Not Directly
	RI Funded	No	Yes	Can be	Can be	Yes (advisor)	Yes (advisor)	Yes (advisor)
	U.S. Citizen	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Permanent Resident	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Tenure Dates	Summer	Summer and Flexible	See below	See below	See below	See below	See below
	Opening Flexibility	No	Can be (if outside of main summer component)	Quarterly	Quarterly	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Tenure Duration Flexibility	No	Can be (if outside of main summer component)	1 Year with 1 Year Renewal Possible	Typically 1 Year	Minimum 2 Months	Typically 1 Year, Minimum 2 Months	Typically 1 Year, Minimum 2 Months
	On-Site Location	RI Facilities	Permanent Residents Hosted at Open Campus	RI Facilities	RI Facilities	Permanent Residents Hosted at Open Campus	Permanent Residents Hosted at Open Campus	Permanent Residents Hosted at Open Campus

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# Questions?

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  - \* Best to use e-mail while we are unable to regularly be in our physical offices

## The Information Institute<sup>®</sup> (II)

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