Robotics: Page 8
Unmanned Systems

WHAT'S INSIDE:

BDPA Members head to Washington this month to attend one of Government's largest procurement events of the year.

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HHS announces additional $162 Million in Recovery Act (ARRA) investments to advance meaningful use of Health IT.

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Students benefit from SITES Programs. Community support,, grants and HSCC sponsors sought. New law supports STEM.

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Advancing technical careers from the classroom to the board room

washington dc chapter

April | 2010

bdpatoday

Volume 32
Issue 04.10

House Passes Historic Healthcare Reform Bill

Final Approval of Senate Bill heads to the White House for Signature

Washington, D.C. | March 21, 2010—The U.S. House of Representatives gave final approval Sunday to some of the most significant health policy changes in almost 40 years, expanding insurance coverage to nearly all Americans and handing President Barack Obama a historical victory. The final vote on the House's package—which included the Senate-passed bill, HR 3590, the **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act**—was passed late Sunday evening by a narrow margin of 219 to 212 votes. The House needed 216 votes for passage. This sweeping healthcare bill heads to the White House for President Obama to sign into law. As one of the President's top domestic priorities, once this bill becomes law, it would usher in the largest changes in the $2.5 trillion U.S. healthcare system's history since the creation of Medicare in 1965. bt

BREAKING NEWS @ PRESSTIME ***What's in IT for BDPA Members?*** See ***HIT***, Page 5.

Intelligent Transportation Systems

DOT uses ***ITS*** to harmonize all modes of transportation to make vehicles "smarter"

Photo credit : **DOT**

Washington, DC—The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) ITS program focuses on intelligent vehicles, intelligent infrastructure and the creation of an intelligent transportation system through integration with and between these two components. The Federal ITS program supports the overall advancement of ITS through investments in major initiatives, exploratory studies and a deployment support program. Increasingly, the Federal investments are directed at targets of opportunity – major initiatives – that have the potential for significant payoff in improving safety, mobility and productivity. See ***ITS***, Page 5.

NAVY MEDICINE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

U.S. NAVAL HOSPITAL SHIP
COMFORT

CARIBBEAN SEA Navy Medical Corps personnel are conducting humanitarian and disaster relief assistance as part of Operation Unified Response after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010.

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BDPADC and BDPA NoVA

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Dulles Expo Center
Chantilly, Virginia
8:30 am – 3:30 pm

2010 OSDBU PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE!

The OSDBU (Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization) Procurement Conference is a national conference fostering business partnerships between the Federal Government, its Prime Contractors, and small businesses. Each year, regional members of BDPA participate during the conference. Shown above (L-R) during last year's conference are Jason Sherrod (BDPA Charles County SIG), Perry Carter (BDPA-DC), Hala Strohmier (BDPA-DC), and Dwight Handon (BDPA Northern Virginia). Later this year, NBDPA is celebrating its 35th Anniversary from July 28th through 31st at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. Visit chapter web sites for the latest commemorative events near you. Visit **www.bdpa.org** .

Our Next MBE & IT Networking Event

The Washington, D.C. Chapter of BPDA (BDPA-DC) will not have a Program Meeting this month because our fourth Wednesday in April of 2010 will see most of its members participating in the 20th Anniversary OSDBU Procurement Conference at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly, Virginia. This annual event is one of the largest and most comprehensive procurement events for private sector firms and academia to trade with federal, state, and local governments.

Visit www.osdbu.gov for registration and additional details. BDPA members and stakeholders continue to network during these national events to form special interest groups (SIGs) within their respective regions. BDPA Chapters provide technical and professional support along with professional development services for student members while cultivating strategic industry partnerships. Visit our national and local chapter Groupsites for events and related industry announcements.

To schedule a BDPA event near you, visit our chapter's website at *www.ncr-bdpa.org* for meeting and event locations or call our national office in Largo, MD at 800.727.BDPA (2372).

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National High School Computer Competition
July 2010—Philadelphia, PA
800.727.BDPA (2372) | www.bdpa.org

SAVE THE DATES

EVENTS CALENDAR 2010–2011

WOMEN OF COLOR STEM CONFERENCE

A multi-cultural event for men and women in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.

October 28–29, 2010
Sheraton Dallas Hotel
Dallas, Texas
http://www.womenofcolor.net

CCG EVENTS

BEYA STEM Global Competitiveness Conference
February 18–20, 2010
Baltimore Convention Center
Baltimore, Maryland
www.beya.org

Black Family Technology Awareness Week
February 14–20, 2010
www.blackfamilynet.net

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Baltimore, MD 21202
410-244-7101

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Miller Roberts, ext. 124

ITS, from Cover Page

Organization of DOT's Federal ITS Program

A corporate-style "board of directors" – the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Management Council – develops and directs Federal ITS policy and ensures the effectiveness of the ITS program. Members include the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and Intermodalism, USDOT's Chief Information Officer and the Administrators of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the Maritime Administration (MARAD).

In May 2006, the RITA Administrator became chair of the ITS Management Council, giving the RITA Administrator responsibility for the strategic direction and management oversight of USDOT's ITS program. In November 2006, this leadership and policy-making authority were further delineated in a signed memorandum of understanding between FHWA and RITA.

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) established a Federal program to research, develop, and operationally test Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and to promote their implementation. The program was designed to facilitate deployment of technology to enhance the efficiency, safety, and convenience of surface transportation, resulting in improved access, saved lives and time, and increased productivity.

The ITS program carries out its goals through research and development, operational testing, technology transfer, training and technical guidance in the areas of intelligent vehicles, advanced traffic and transit management, commercial vehicle operations, public safety, traveler information, and intermodal freight.

For more information regarding ITS careers, grants, and projects, visit **www.its.dot.gov** and **www.itsa.org** or contact BDPA-DC. bt

Health IT (***HIT***) , from Cover Page

Health IT | How the new bill may affect BDPA Members

The following highlights of **H.R. 4872**, ***The Health Care & Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010***, represent opportunities and challenges for BDPA Members, families, or small business stakeholders if passed.

- **TITLE I, Coverage, Medicare, Medicaid, and Revenues**
  TITLE I, Subtitle C: Medicaid
  Sec. 1303. CMS-IRS data match to identify fraudulent providers. This section allows the Secretary of Treasury to share IRS data with HHS employees to help screen and identify fraudulent providers or providers with tax debts, and to help recover such debts. Strict controls on the use of such information to protect taxpayer privacy either will create new positions or extend inter-agency IT personnel.

  TITLE I, Subtitle F: Other Provisions
  Sec. 1501. TAA for communities. This section appropriates half of a billion (**$500M**) dollars per year for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 in the ***Community College and Career Training Grant*** programs for community colleges to develop and improve educational or career training programs. BDPA Chapters may opt to work with one or more Community Colleges to develop and deliver courseware across all STEM disciplines.

- **TITLE II – Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions**
  TITLE II, Subtitle A: Education
  Sec. 2102. Student Financial Assistance. This section provides **$13.5 billion** in mandatory appropriations to the Federal Pell Grant program.
  Sec. 2104. Investment in HBCU/MSIs. This section amends section 371(b) of the Higher Education Act by extending funding for key programs at HBCU/MSI's to 2019, including programs that help low-income students attain degrees in the fields of **science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM)** by the following annual amounts: **$100 million** to Hispanic Serving Institutions, **$85 million** to HBCUs, **$15 million** to Predominantly Black Institutions, **$30 million** to Tribal Colleges and Universities, **$15 million** to Alaska, Hawaiian Native Institutions, **$5 million** to Asian American and Pacific Islander Institutions, and **$5 million** to Native American non-tribal serving institutions. Sec. 2104 addresses BDPA's primary target markets and CS-STEM initiatives.

  TITLE II, Subtitle B: Health
  Sec. 2303. Community Health Centers. Increases mandatory funding for community health centers to **$11 billion** over five years (FY 2011 – FY 2015). Task or IT career opportunity for infrastructure upgrades. bt

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- Social Networks
- Community Websites
- Faith-based Websites
- Family Websites
- Reunion & Special Event Groups

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>
> VentureBeat

David Adewumi, contributing writer, Venturebeat

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FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. Based in Manchester, NH, the 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit public charity designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills.

The *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) is the final and largest event of this year's annual robotics competition. Find everything you need to know about this Championship event, such as location, attending teams, local hotels, and ultimately event results in Atlanta. For BDPA Members, this year's conference also features workshops on topics of interest to ***FIRST* Robotics Competition**, ***FIRST* Tech Challenge**, and ***FIRST LEGO League*** teams, coaches, mentors, students, and prospective leaders. This event is open to the public, free of charge. Several BDPA Members support local *FIRST* events. bt

The Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) provides the United States Air Force, joint battle field commanders, and homeland security teams near real-time "eyes-in-the-sky" high resolution intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) imagery.

U.S. Air Force **photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Jenkins**

"Educate to Elevate"—BDPA Richmond Chapter students showcased their presentation skills and robot kit assembly talents during BEYA's 2009 Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) workshops.

bdpatoday photo by Pamela Gilliam

Government 2.0 | Visit www.hhs.gov

HHS Gets $162 Million for Health IT

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced in March an additional $162 Million in Recovery Act (ARRA) investment to advance widespread meaningful use of Health IT. Final awards of state health information exchange cooperative agreement program work to build health information exchange infrastructure throughout the states. bt

Washington, D.C.—U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently announced awards to help states facilitate health information exchange and advance health information technology (health IT). Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, March 2010's awards are part of the $2 billion effort to achieve widespread meaningful use of health IT and provide use of an electronic health record for every citizen by the year 2014. Every state and eligible territory has now been awarded funds under this program.

The health information exchange HIE awards announced in March provide approximately $162 million to 16 states and qualified state designated entities (SDEs) to facilitate non-proprietary health information exchange that adheres to national standards. Health information exchange is critical to enabling care coordination and improving the quality and efficiency of health care.

These cooperative agreements were awarded under the authority of Title XIII of ARRA, the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act which amends Title XXX of the Public Health Service Act by adding Section 3013, State Grants to Promote Health Information Technology. Section 3013 provides for the awarding of competitive grants to promote health information technology. On February 12, 2010, HHS awarded $385 million to 40 states and SDEs. The awards announced today complete the awarding of cooperative agreements funded by this program.

BDPA's SITES programs, such as the IT Showcase may be eligible for HHS Grants when supporting health IT initiatives. BDPA Chapters may contact HHS, BDPA-DC or visit **www.grants.gov** for additional grant information. bt

BDPA-DC Regional

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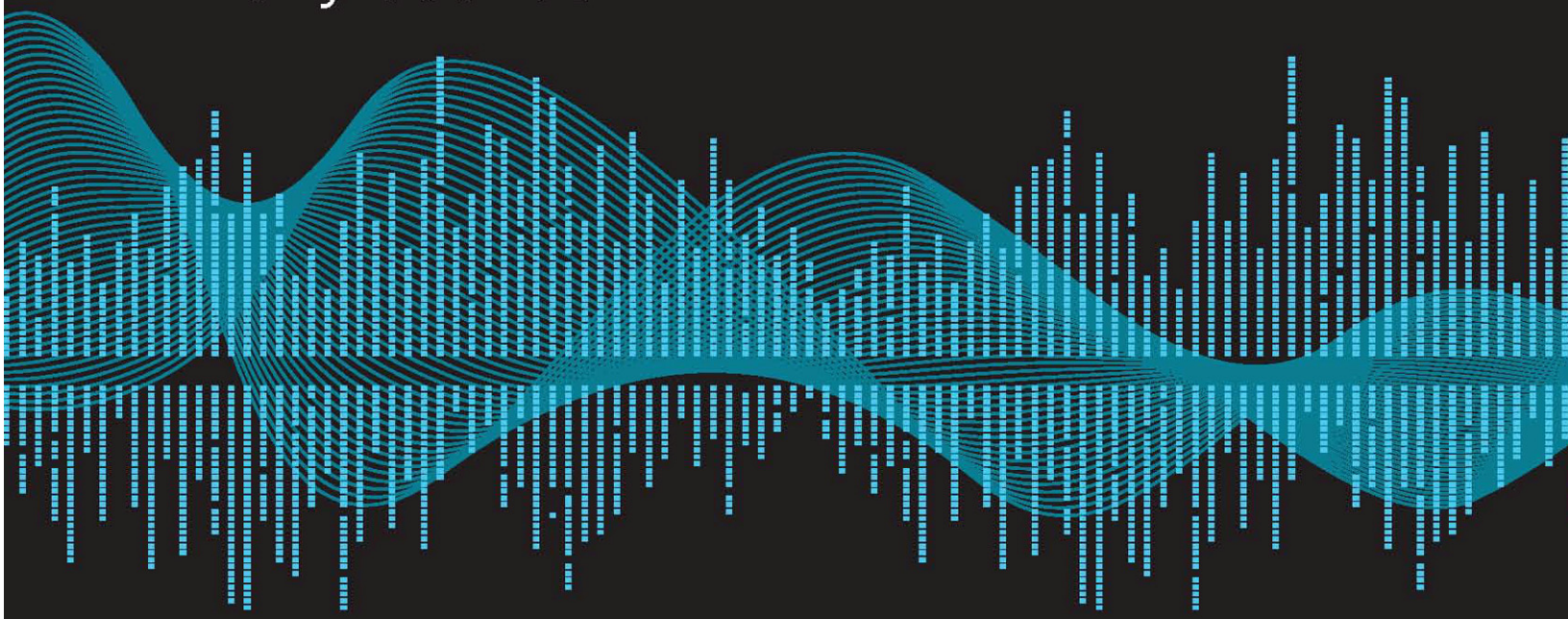
- ✓ Quarterly Recruiters' Roundtable
  - **-- For Senior IT Professionals**
- ✓ Regional High School Computer Competition (HSCC)
- ✓ Regional IT Showcase (ITSC)
- ✓ Advanced Planning Briefing to Interns (APBi) for Fall 2010
  - **– Graduate, College and High School Interns**
  - **– December 2010/January 2011 deadlines**

Register Online by May 15
www.ncr-bdpa.org

For more information on BDPA, BDPA's academic, public, and private sector engagements in the National Capital Region (NCR), join BDPA-DC! Visit the organization's Groupsite enhanced by Groupsite.com. **http://bdpa-dc.groupsite.com**

BDPA DC

Many Sounds.



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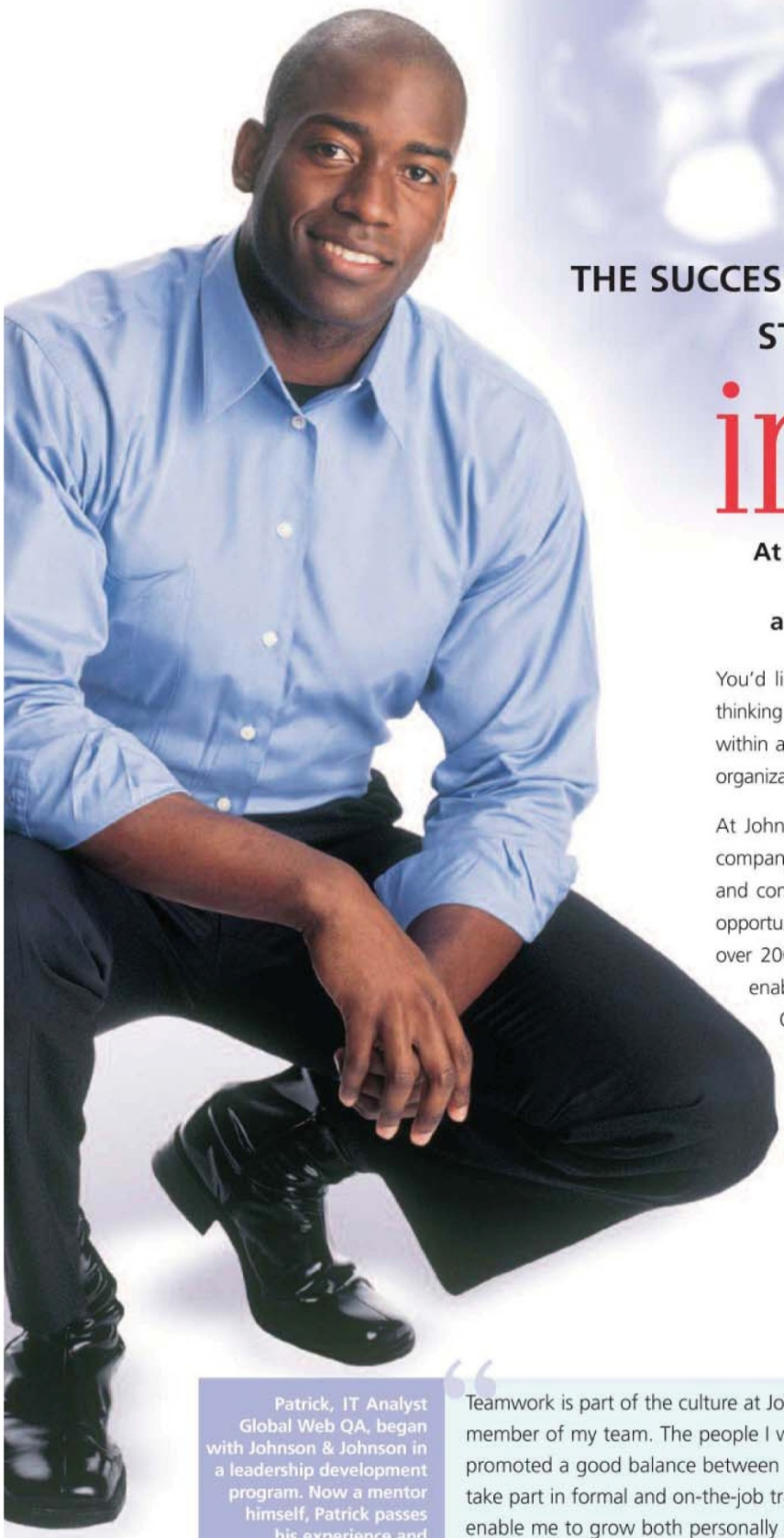

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Patrick, IT Analyst Global Web QA, began with Johnson & Johnson in a leadership development program. Now a mentor himself, Patrick passes his experience and insights on to others.

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this issue's success story

The Health Care & Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010 will amend section 371(b) of the Higher Education Act by extending funding for key programs at HBCU/MSI's through to 2019, including programs that help low-income students attain degrees in the fields of **science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM)** by the following annual amounts: **$100 million** to Hispanic Serving Institutions, **$85 million** to HBCUs, and **$15 million** to Predominantly Black Institutions.

Inside our next issue:

GFY-11

Federal Government's Outlook & IT Budgets for Next Fiscal Year

student programs: GET THEM INVOLVED!

NBDPA's SITES (Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship) initiative is designed to introduce students grades K-12 of African-American descent and underserved communities to the field of Information Technology (IT) and CS-STEM (Computer Science | Science. Technology. Engineering. Mathematics) disciplines through computer training by encouraging them to seek higher levels of education and grooming many of them to become our next generation of IT Professionals. Our programs are offered to students across the country at no cost to interested students. Contact NBDPA at **1.800.727.BDPA** (2372) for participating BDPA Chapters near you or visit our web site at **www.bdpa.org**.

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