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Center will help create technical intelligence experts

By John Nolan

Staff Writer

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DAYTON — A nonprofit center that would team with Wright State University and others to offer training in intelligence and sensor-technology skills for government and defense contractor jobs could start up by mid-2008, if additional funding and a facility are finalized.

The Advanced Technical Intelligence Center for Human Capital Development is working with Wright State University, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base agencies, the Dayton Development Coalition and others to develop training curricula and all the public and private funding it will need, organizers said Friday.

"The purpose of this is to help create the next generation of technical intelligence experts," said Marvin King, president and chief executive officer of Riverside Research Institute, which is to operate the center and already has research offices in Dayton and Beavercreek.

Riverside Research Institute is a New York City-based nonprofit research organization which also provides classroom training for institutions including the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson. The government is preparing requirements for the training, then Wright State will develop the curriculum to fit those needs, King said. Wright State would award course degrees but the center would not, he said.

The Advanced Technical Intelligence Center would provide training as part of degree programs that Wright State or other schools would offer, as well as short-course training for current government or defense contractor employees seeking additional expertise, King said. The nonprofit center would also help its students obtain security clearances needed for their jobs, he said.

The training is intended to fill as many as 500 jobs that will be needed to support additional military research programs being relocated to Wright-Patterson by 2011 and the defense contractors which support those programs, King said. The training could also help fill similar jobs in and around Washington, D.C., he said.

The training is critical to ensuring the long-term success of the research programs that will move to Wright-Patterson from elsewhere in the country, particularly research in sensor systems that collect technical data for defense agencies, said Jim Leftwich, a vice president of the Dayton Development Coalition.

The center was formed in 2006, but still doesn't have a home and all the funding it will need, and the staffing and operating budget are still being determined, King said.

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Richard Annas, the center's vice chairman who is also Riverside Research's executive research director, said Congress has appropriated \$2 million and Ohio \$3 million for the center. But more public and private funding is needed if the center is to be self-sustaining, King said.

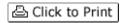
The center could start operating by June 2008 if funding and its location in either a new or leased facility are finalized, Annas said.

Wright State, the Dayton Development Coalition and Ohio State University's super-computing center are on the center's board with Riverside Research Institute, King said. Agencies at Wright-Patterson including the National Air & Space Intelligence Center and Air Force Institute of Technology are advising the board, King said.

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