TATRC to Play a Key Role in New Army Research Task Areas

In FY19, the Medical Simulation and Information Sciences Research Program, led by Dr. Janet Harris will launch three new Army research task areas: Autonomous and Unmanned Systems, Virtual Health, and Medical Robotics respectively.

TATRC will play a key role in all three of these new research task areas, and planning for these new activities is already underway in earnest. Specifically, Dr. Gary Gilbert, TATRC's Operational Telemedicine Lab Manager, has been named as the Capability Area Manager (CAM) for the Autonomous and Unmanned Systems and Medical Robotics research. Additionally, Ms. Jeanette Little, TATRC's Mobile Health Innovation Center Lab Manager, will serve as the CAM for Virtual Health research.

Each of these new research areas will focus on future capabilities, including the technologies and practices that would support the Multi-Domain Battlefield concept in 2030 and beyond. On 4 May, the first IPT for these new research activities took place at Fort Detrick.

COL Dan Kral, TATRC's Director, stated, "Presently, TATRC is working collaboratively with other laboratories within the Command involved in shaping the overarching goals and objectives for these new research areas. These intramural collaborations include the United States Army Institute for Surgical Research and the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. TATRC is eager to help shape these new and evolving research task areas. "Over the years TATRC has strategically positioned itself, and its portfolio of capabilities, to specifically align with what we identified as a critical emerging field; that of telemedicine. We see TATRC's prominent position within the Medical Simulation and Information Sciences Research Program as a validation of that vision. And now, as TATRC's talented team and their great body of work truly begin to get enterprise exposure, we see TATRC perfectly suited to continue to provide the innovative foundational research necessary to support MEDCOM's ever evolving mission." ⑊