

NSI | CENTER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY INITIATIVES

High-impact national security research and workforce development enabled by world-class research scientists and essential infrastructure

The **Center for National Security Initiatives (NSI)** has established core capability research areas across the **University of Colorado Boulder** campus, engaging with **60+ research faculty** that align to research and development priorities of the Department of Defense (DoD) and the intelligence community, and providing advanced training for the next generation workforce.

As the **sole Tier-1 research institution in Colorado**, CU Boulder creates a prime opportunity for on-demand collaboration among technical experts in the aerospace and defense enterprise.



Applied and fundamental research supporting national security priorities



Workforce development including hiring, internships and student projects



Access to intellectual capital through world-class faculty, specialized academic programs and topical studies

Core Capabilities

- Geospatial Data Analytics**
- Autonomous Systems**
- Space Domain Awareness**
- Positioning, Navigation & Timing**
- Hypersonics**
- RF Engineering**

- Remote Sensing**
- Quantum Technologies**
- Space Weather**
- SmallSat Technologies**
- Materials Science**
- Human Performance**

A Powerful Convergence of Research & Technical Collaborators

DEFENSE CONTRACTORS

- Lockheed-Martin
- Ball Aerospace
- Sierra Nevada
- Northrop Grumman
- Raytheon
- L3-Harris

CU Boulder

- Tier 1 research university
- Top 20 entrepreneurial university
- College of Engineering & Applied Science
 - LASP
 - JILA
 - CIRES

ACADEMIA

GOVERNMENT

- 33 federally-funded labs in CO (with a \$2.5B impact)
- Air Force
 - Army
 - Navy
 - NGA
 - NRO
 - NSA
 - DOE

Be Boulder.

CU Boulder National Security Capabilities: Highlights



Space Domain Awareness

Missions: Space ops, anomalies

Challenges: Info fusion, perception, human factors, space environment, activity interference

CU Strengths: Astrodynamics, sensor tasking, autonomy, estimation, GNC, space weather

NSI Research Leader: Marcus Holzinger



Position, Navigation & Timing

Missions: Pervasive to land/sea/air/space ops

Challenges: GNSS limited/denied environment, high precision, resilient operation, low SWaP

CU Strengths: GNSS science, instrumentation, algorithms, vision & LIDAR, quantum sensing

NSI Research Leader: Dennis Akos



Hypersonics

Missions: Strike, defense, ISR

Challenges: Strongly coupled physics, materials, testing, validation

CU Strengths: Aerothermodynamics, high-temperature materials, structures, GNC

NSI Research Leader: Iain Boyd



Autonomous Systems

Missions: Swarm, Urban/Subterranean, Space

Challenges: Non-determinism, certification, test & evaluation

CU Strengths: Field robotics, assured algorithms, control theory

NSI Research Leader: Chris Heckman



Colorado's Front Range: A World-Class Innovation Ecosystem



Colorado is the **2nd largest** aerospace economy in the nation



Home to **Space Command**, **NORTHCOM** and 4 DoD installations



Colorado's aerospace industry generates **\$15.4B** in total annual output



CU Boulder is the **#1 public university recipient** of NASA research awards (#2 overall)



900+ active duty, reserve, National Guard and veteran students



1,800+ patents filed and/or issued for CU Boulder inventions since 2006



Colorado Front Range is one of the **top entrepreneurial ecosystems** in the nation

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University of Colorado **Boulder**