



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
20511

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 9, 2008

ODNI News Release No. 01-08

DNI Names First Director of IARPA

Director of National Intelligence Mike McConnell announced today that Dr. Lisa Porter was selected to be the first Director of the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA).

“This is an important milestone for the Intelligence Community,” said McConnell. “We are incredibly fortunate to have someone of Dr. Porter’s stature take on this vital role.”

The selection of the Director of IARPA is a key piece of the Intelligence Community’s 500-Day Plan for Integration and Collaboration. IARPA sponsors research aimed at game-changing breakthroughs and compliments the mission-specific science-and-technology research already being conducted by intelligence agencies.

Porter, of Scituate, Mass., comes to IARPA following service as the NASA Associate Administrator for the Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate. In this position, she managed the agency's aeronautics research portfolio and guided its strategic direction. As well, Porter co-chaired the National Science & Technology Council's Aeronautics Science & Technology Subcommittee.

Prior to her service with NASA, Porter served as a senior scientist in the Advanced Technology Office of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). While there, she created and managed programs in diverse technical areas ranging from fundamental scientific research to multi-disciplinary systems-level development and integration efforts.

Porter has a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and a doctorate in applied physics from Stanford University. She has authored more than 25 publications in a broad range of technical disciplines including nuclear engineering, solar physics, plasma physics, computational materials modeling, explosives detection, and vibration control of flexible structures.

Dr. Tim Murphy has served as Acting Director of IARPA since June 2007, when he replaced Steve Nixon. Murphy will serve as Deputy Director of IARPA when Porter begins as Director. Nixon currently serves as Director of Science and Technology for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

###