

GeneCapture

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GeneCapture Wins National Department of Defense Nunn-Perry Award

Prestigious Award Recognizes GeneCapture's Advances in Breakthrough Rapid Pathogen Detection Platform

HUNTSVILLE, AL – GeneCapture, developer of a novel point of care pathogen diagnostic platform technology, has been awarded the prestigious Nunn-Perry Award from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP). The Mentor Protégé Program is designed to assist small businesses with technical and organizational skills to prepare for DoD contracting.

GeneCapture, an associate company on the campus of the *HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology* in Huntsville, Alabama, is developing a rapid, portable multi-pathogen detection system for far forward, remote and austere environments where the Warfighter is vulnerable to infection. The platform also addresses a wide variety of applications in public health, biothreat and rural health needs.

The annual award, named for Senator Sam Nunn and former Secretary of Defense William Perry, both of whom were pioneers in the development of the program, recognizes GeneCapture's momentum as the company prepares for the next stage of commercialization. *Tec-Masters, Inc.*, a defense contractor in Huntsville, AL served as the company's mentor during the multi-year program. The award criteria are based on milestones achieved, revenue growth, workforce growth and impact to the Warfighter.

Deputy Undersecretary of the Army Mr. Mario Diaz presented the award to CEO Peggy Sammon at the Mentor Protégé Summit in Orlando, Florida on March 30th. Sammon, a veteran entrepreneur and cofounder of GeneCapture with Dr. Krishnan Chittur, is commercializing the multi-pathogen detection platform and a complementary point of care antibiotic susceptibility platform to address the Defense, Government and Commercial Health space.

The company forecasts submission for FDA clearance for the pathogen identification platform next year, with analytical and clinical study designs developed and internal testing underway.

The efforts facilitated by the Mentor Protégé Program, helped GeneCapture win eight additional contracts totaling \$4 million from the DoD to mature the technology. GeneCapture also won a spot in the highly competitive Xtech Accelerator for dual use technologies. DoD agencies that have supported the development include the office of Chemical and Biological Defense, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Defense Health Agency, U.S. Air Force, and a U.S. Army-funded contract through the Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium. During the program period, several patents were filed, a sample-to-answer cartridge was produced, a novel antibiotic susceptibility platform was developed, and a handheld viral diagnostic was designed. Pathogen diagnostic panels for biothreat, wound, urinary tract and invasive fungal infections have been developed. The platforms are currently in various phases of prototype and test in the GeneCapture lab. Once commercialized, GeneCapture's technology platforms are expected to provide a transformative capability in protecting Warfighter health and improving readiness against emerging biological threats, in addition to the numerous public health benefits.

"This is a team win for the remarkable scientists and engineers at GeneCapture and the companies that supported us during this Mentor Protégé Program, including Tec Masters, Inc, Meharry Medical College, The Catalyst and Oakwood University. We are grateful to be recognized for this most prestigious Nunn-Perry Award from the Department of Defense Mentor Protégé Program, which continues to support small businesses that are bringing innovations and solutions to the Warfighter," remarked Peggy Sammon, GeneCapture CEO.

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GeneCapture's mission is to bring 'infection detection' out of the lab and directly to the patient location, whether at a doctor's office, an airport, a cruise ship, or a battlefield. Our rapid infection detection platform and antibiotic susceptibility platform are designed for point of care medicine. GeneCapture, Inc. is an associate company on the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology campus in Huntsville, Alabama, a leading research institute in genetics and genomics. Learn more about GeneCapture at www.genecapture.com, or contact the company at info@genecapture.com.





GeneCapture's handheld viral detector model is displayed next to the Nunn Perry Award.



CEO Peggy Sammon accepted the award for the entire Mentor Protégé team at the annual conference in Orlando, Fla.