

Dr. Adam Cox
Acting Director of the Homeland Security Advanced
Research Projects Agency
U.S. Department of Homeland Security



Created at the same time as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Science and Technology Directorate's (S&T) mission is to strengthen America's security and resiliency by providing knowledge products and innovative technology solutions for the Homeland Security Enterprise. S&T's partners comprise the operational components; first responders; the private sector; and other members of the Homeland Security Enterprise. Dr. Adam Cox became the Acting Director of the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA) in August 2013. He is responsible for ensuring that HSARPA programs provide new capabilities and operational efficiencies for DHS components and First Responders. The HSARPA research and development portfolio includes the thrust areas of Explosives Detection, Border and Maritime Security, Cyber Security, Chemical and Biological Security, and Infrastructure Protection and Resiliency.

Dr. Cox has worked at DHS S&T as a federal employee and contractor since 2003. From 2006 – 2010, he served as the Chief of Staff and the Deputy Director for the Strategy, Policy and Budget division. In this role, he acted as a principal liaison with congressional staff, DHS CFO, and OMB and worked to align DHS S&T programs with the priorities and goals of the Administration, Congress, and the Department.

Prior to his work at S&T, Dr. Cox contributed to research projects at Vanderbilt University on electromechanical systems for micro and meso-scale robotics. His work in bio-mimetic robotics and micro-aerial vehicles was conducted for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, and the Central Intelligence Agency (Office of Research and Development). In 2003, he earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Mechanical Engineering, and a dissertation on piezo-electrically driven, flapping flight for micro-aerial vehicles.

Dr. Cox also received his bachelor's and master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Vanderbilt University.