Biographies
Table of Contents

Dr. Nabil R. Adam Page 5
Mr. Dean Checknita Page 6
Mr. Christopher Doyle Page 7
Dr. Thomas A. Cellucci, PhD, MBA Page 8
Mr. Rand Beers Page 9
Dr. Scott T. Weidman Page 10
Mr. Christopher A. Hart Page 11
Mr. Tom Finan Page 12
Mr. David Throckmorton Page 13
Mr. Corey Gruber Page 14
Mr. Brandon Wales Page 15
Dr. K. "Mitch" Crosswait Page 16
Mr. Alan D. Cohn Page 17

Naphatali David Rishe Page 18
Biography: Dr. Nabil R. Adam

I. Research: Dr. Adam serves as a Fellow and Sr. Program Manager at the US Department of Homeland Security – Infrastructure & Geophysical Division, Science & Technology Directorate where he manages the Complex Event Modeling, Simulation, and Analysis program initiated in 2008. He also serves as the technical lead for the Unified Incident Command & Decision Support System program and has initiated the Cyber-physical Systems Security initiative. Dr. Adam is a Professor of Computers and Information Systems at Rutgers University; the Founding Director of the Rutgers University Center for Information Management, Integration and Connectivity; and the Director of the information Technology for Emergency mAnageMent (i-TEAM) Research Laboratory. Dr. Adam is one of the Co-founders and past Director of the Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute. Additional research positions held include serving as past Chair of the MSIS Department at RBS.

II. Publication and Invention: Dr. Adam has published numerous technical papers covering such topics as information management, information security and privacy, data mining, Web services and modeling & simulation. His papers appeared in refereed journals and conference proceedings including, IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering, ACM Computing Surveys, Communications of the ACM, Journal of Management Information Systems, and International Journal of Intelligent and Cooperative Information Systems. He has co-authored/co-edited ten books. Dr. Adam is the co-founder and the Executive-Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal on Digital Libraries and serves on the editorial board of a number of journals including Journal of Management Information Systems, and the Journal of Electronic Commerce. He is also the co-founder and past chair of the IEEE Technical Committee on Digital Libraries. Dr. Adam holds a European issued Patent and has two pending patent applications submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, all related to Web services.

III. Grants: Dr. Adam’s research work has been supported by over $18 million from various federal and state agencies, including: Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Security Agency (NSA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (DLA), the National Library of Medicine, the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, and NASA.

IV. Entrepreneurship: In late 1998, Dr. Adam founded aTi, a software company specialized in providing state-of-the-art Web-based Knowledge Management Enabling software products and associated decision support tools targeted to the pharma/biomedical/healthcare industry. aTi’s product suite was used by major content providers to deliver their contents to users around the world. Furthermore, aTi’s products were licensed to some of the top 10 global pharmaceutical companies. In 2008, aTi was acquired for millions of dollars by Elsevier Health Sciences.

Biography: Mr. Dean Checknita

Mr. Checknita joined the Department of Homeland Security in January, 2009. He is a Senior DHS Fellow and is Chief of the Risk Developing and Modeling Branch for the Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center, Office of Infrastructure Protection, National Protection and Programs Directorate. Mr. Checknita leads the National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis Center that in 2010 responded to over 700 requests for information or analysis and produced 17 major analytic studies. In addition to the complex modeling and simulation based analyses Mr. Checknita is responsible for developing the analytic capability to perform infrastructure risk decision support. Mr. Checknita has led the development and application of Capabilities Based Planning and Assessment and its integration with the DHS processes in the DHS Acquisition Instruction. Mr. Checknita has provided facilitation and other support to many DHS components in the areas of process reengineering, analytic framework development and implementation, and analytic capability integration.

Prior to joining DHS, Mr. Checknita led the Department of the Army Critical Infrastructure Risk Management Program. Mr. Checknita developed a holistic risk management program through the development and conduct of an Integrated Process Team involving DOD components, Army Secretariats, HQDA Staff, and Army commands. This resulted in the establishment of a Three Star led Critical Infrastructure Risk Management Steering Committee to address complex remediation. Mr. Checknita developed and implemented the Critical Infrastructure Risk Analysis Center in the Army Operations Center which produced analytic products and services for which the Center received laudatory comments from the Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. Mr. Checknita also served at the Headquarters, United States Army Material Command where he was a lead analyst for terrorist threats and for impact analysis for disruptions to Army Material Command logistics support to Combatant Commands.

Mr. Checknita has managed regional service operations for the nation’s largest electronics retailer and received awards for process reengineering and operations research applications to transportation and distribution.

Mr. Checknita retired from career in the Army Special Forces. Mr. Checknita had a variety of leadership assignments with the 7th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces Group, J-3 Special Operations Command South, and the United States John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School. Mr. Checknita has extensive experience in intelligence, counterterrorism, antiterrorism, and strategic industrial target analysis.

Mr. Checknita has received numerous military awards and academic awards. He holds a M.B.A. degree from Fayetteville State University and a B.S. degree from Liberty University.
Biography: Mr. Christopher Doyle  
Acting Director, Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency  
Science and Technology Directorate  
United States Department of Homeland Security

Mr. Christopher Doyle currently leads the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Science and Technology Directorate’s (S&T) Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA). As Acting Director, he is responsible for overseeing DHS’ research and development (R&D) initiatives in the areas of borders and maritime security, chemical and biological defense, cyber security, explosives, human factors and behavioral sciences, and infrastructure protection and disaster management. Prior to this role, he led R&D for emergency response and critical infrastructure protection as the Director of the Infrastructure Protection and Disaster Management Division.

In his 18 years of public and private sector service, Mr. Doyle has developed a proven track record for identifying and anticipating trends in critical infrastructure protection and emergency management. He has successfully managed recovery efforts in several disasters, including the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, where he was responsible for the administration of over $6 billion in recovery grant funds. He was also responsible for the development of several policies related to disaster recovery to facilitate the streamlined award of grant funding to local and State governments.

After the creation of DHS and the assimilation of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) into DHS in 2003, Mr. Doyle was requested to serve as the Deputy Director of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Portfolio of Research and Development. In this role, he was essential to the formation of the DHS S&T Directorate. He has taken great strides to partner with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and DHS National Protection and Programs, Office of Infrastructure Protection to collaboratively develop an R&D agenda to address their highest priority R&D needs.

From 2001 until 2003, Mr. Doyle managed the day-to-day operations of both the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program and the National Dam Safety Program, facilitating transition of both programs into the post 9-11 environment. He was appointed by the FEMA Director to lead the Office of Corporate Affairs in 2000, where he worked numerous partnering arrangements between FEMA and the private sector to provide enhanced disaster protection at the local level.

He began his Federal career began in 1992 in the headquarters of FEMA where he learned response and recovery from the field and headquarters perspective. Prior to joining the Federal government, he spent three years in the private sector designing infrastructure development plans and managing flood plain development plans.

Since joining S&T, Mr. Doyle has received numerous awards of special distinction from the Undersecretary for Science and Technology for his outstanding public sector leadership. Most recently, one of his programs earned the annual Undersecretary's Award for Science and Technology for 2010. In 1993, he was recognized by the FEMA Director for his achievements during Hurricane Andrew response to relocate disaster victims from tents to trailers and received personal congratulations from then-President George H. W. Bush.

Mr. Doyle graduated from Virginia Tech in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Civil Engineering. He has been a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) since 2007.
Biography: Dr. Thomas A. Cellucci, PhD, MBA

Chief Commercialization Officer, Director of Public-Private Partnerships and
Director of Research and Development Partnerships Group (Acting)

Science and Technology Directorate
United States Department of Homeland Security

Dr. Cellucci accepted a five year appointment in 2007 from the Department of Homeland Security to serve as its first Chief Commercialization Officer. He is responsible for initiatives that identify, evaluate and commercialize technology for the specific goal of rapidly developing and deploying products and services that meet the specific operational requirements of the Department of Homeland Security’s operating components, first responders and critical infrastructure/key resources owners and operators. Cellucci conducts DHS-S&T’s outreach with both the private and public sectors to establish and foster mutually-beneficial working relationships that facilitate cost-effective and efficient product/service and technology development efforts. He has published eight comprehensive books dealing with the development of operational requirements and innovative public-private partnerships, developed and implemented a commercialization process for the entire Department and established both the SECURE™ and FutureTECH™ programs—innovative public-private partnerships to cost-effectively and efficiently develop products/services and technologies for DHS’ Operating Components, the First Responder community and other DHS stakeholders.

In 2010, while continuing to serve as Chief Commercialization Officer, Cellucci was appointed the Director of the Office of Public-Private Partnerships which oversees the Long Range Broad Agency Announcement (LRBAA) procurement process, Office of SAFETY Act Implementation (OSAI), Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Office as well as the Commercialization Office. In addition, he was named Director of Research and Development (R&D) Partnerships Group (Acting) responsible to leverage the billions of dollars in assets and the expertise of more than 1400 team members through the group’s investments in national labs, universities, international partners, the private sector and government interagency partners to develop technologies and products for the Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE).

Cellucci is an accomplished entrepreneur, seasoned senior executive and Board member possessing extensive corporate and VC experience across a number of worldwide industries. Profitably growing high technology firms at the start-up, mid-range and large corporate level has been his trademark. In 1999, he founded a highly successful management consulting firm, Cellucci Associates, Inc. He has authored or co-authored over 160 articles on requirements development, commercialization, nanotechnology, laser physics, photonics, environmental disturbance control, MEMS test and measurement, and mistake-proofing processes. Cellucci co-authored ANSI Standard Z136.5 “The Safe Use of Lasers in Educational Institutions.” He has also held the rank of Professor or Lecturer at institutions like Princeton University, University of Pennsylvania and Camden Community College.

As a result of his consistent achievement in the commercialization of technologies and role as DHS’ first Chief Commercialization Officer, Cellucci has received numerous awards from industry, government and business. In addition, he has had the opportunity to interact with high ranking members of the United States government—including the White House, US Senate and US House of Representatives—having provided several executive briefs to three Presidents of the United States and ranking Members of Congress.

Cellucci earned a PhD in Physical Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania, an MBA from Rutgers University and a BS in Chemistry from Fordham University. He has also attended and lectured at executive programs at the Harvard Business School, MIT Sloan School, Kellogg School and others.
Biography: Mr. Rand Beers
Under Secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD) and Counter-Terrorism Coordinator
United States Department of Homeland Security

Rand Beers was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as the Under Secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD) at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). On June 19, 2009, Beers was confirmed by the United States Senate to direct NPPD’s integrated efforts to reduce risks to physical, cyber and communications infrastructures. NPPD collaborates with all levels of government, the private sector, non-government organizations, and international bodies to prevent, respond to, and mitigate threats to U.S. national security from acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other catastrophic events. In March 2010, Secretary Janet Napolitano designated Mr. Beers as the Counter-Terrorism Coordinator to better organize and synchronize DHS’ counter-terrorism related efforts and activities.

As Under Secretary for NPPD, Beers oversees the coordinated operational and policy functions of the Directorate’s subcomponents – Cybersecurity and Communications (CS&c), Infrastructure Protection (IP), Risk Management and Analysis (RMA), and the United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) program – in support of the Department’s critical mission.

Before his appointment, he was the co-lead of the DHS Transition Team for the incoming Obama Administration. Prior to the 2008 election, Beers was the President of the National Security Network, a network of experts seeking to foster discussion of progressive national security ideas around the country, and an Adjunct Lecturer at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, starting both in 2004.

Beers began his professional career as a Marine officer and rifle company commander in Vietnam (1964-1968). He entered the Foreign Service in 1971 and transferred to the Civil Service in 1983. He served most of his career in the Department of State, including as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Regional Affairs in the Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, focusing on the Middle East and Persian Gulf (1992-1993). He was Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (1998-2002).

Beers also served on the National Security Council (NSC) under the previous four Presidents: Director for Counter-terrorism and Counter-narcotics (1988-1992), Director for Peacekeeping (1993-1995), and Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Intelligence Programs (1995-1998), and Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Combating Terrorism on the NSC Staff (2002-2003). He resigned from the NSC in March 2003, retired from government service in April 2003, and served as national security advisor for the Kerry-Edwards campaign (2003-2004).

Beers earned a bachelor’s degree from Dartmouth College and a master’s degree from the University of Michigan.
Biography: Dr. Scott T. Weidman

Scott T. Weidman is the director of the National Research Council’s Board on Mathematical Sciences and Their Applications (BMSA). He joined the NRC in 1989 with the Board on Mathematical Sciences and moved to the Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology in 1992. In 1996 he established a new board to conduct annual peer reviews of the Army Research Laboratory, which conducts a broad array of science, engineering, and human factors research and analysis, and he later directed a similar board that reviews the National Institute of Standards and Technology. He has been full-time with the BMSA since mid-2004. During his NRC career, he has staffed studies on a wide variety of topics related to mathematical, chemical, and materials sciences, laboratory assessment, risk analysis, and science and technology policy. His current focus is on building up the NRC’s capabilities and portfolio related to all areas of analysis and computational science. He holds bachelor degrees in mathematics and materials science from Northwestern University and M.S. and PhD degrees in applied mathematics from the University of Virginia. Prior to joining the NRC, he had positions with General Electric, General Accident Insurance Company, Exxon Research and Engineering, and MRJ, Inc.
Biography: Mr. Christopher A. Hart

Christopher A. Hart is the Vice Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, having been nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the Senate in 2009. The NTSB investigates major transportation accidents in all modes of transportation, determines probable cause, and makes recommendations in an effort to prevent recurrences. He was previously a Member of the NTSB in 1990, having been nominated by (the first) President Bush.

Mr. Hart’s previous positions have included:
- Deputy Director, Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service,
- Federal Aviation Administration,
- Assistant Administrator for System Safety, Federal Aviation Administration,
- Deputy Administrator for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA),
- Deputy Assistant General Counsel to the Department of Transportation,
  Managing partner of Hart & Chavers, a Washington, D.C., law firm, and
- Attorney with the Air Transport Association.

Mr. Hart has a law degree from Harvard Law School and a Master’s Degree (magna cum laude) in Aerospace Engineering from Princeton University. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association, and he is a pilot with commercial, multi-engine, and instrument ratings.
Biography: Mr. Tom Finan

Tom Finan is a Senior Counsel and Cyber Strategist with the Department of Homeland Security’s National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD), where he is currently leading the effort to develop proposals for a resiliency-focused analysis and modeling office for NPPD that examines both cyber and physical threats to critical infrastructures, systems, and the public. Prior to his current project, Mr. Finan led discussions across DHS about how to establish a predictive analytics capability regarding cyber threats and facilitated the development of four programmatic options for consideration by senior DHS and NPPD leadership. Mr. Finan also was selected to work on an Integrated Project Team (IPT) to transform NPPD from a DHS Headquarters component into a stand-alone, operational component focused on promoting resilience and economic/homeland security.

Prior to his work as Senior Counsel and Cyber Strategist, Mr. Finan worked as a Senior Advisor for Intelligence, Analysis and Operations for the Department’s then Acting Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis. He previously served for four years as the Director for the Subcommittee on Intelligence, Analysis and Terrorism Risk Assessment with the House Committee on Homeland Security. During his service with the Committee, Mr. Finan authored two major reports: *Beyond Connecting the Dots: A VITAL Framework for Sharing Law Enforcement Intelligence Information* and *LEAP: A Law Enforcement Assistance and Partnership Strategy*. Both reports informed many of the statutory provisions that Mr. Finan developed for Title V of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53).

Mr. Finan had previously worked as a litigator in private practice and, following the 9/11 attacks, worked as an Assistant General Counsel within the FBI’s Office of General Counsel Civil Litigation Unit I. Mr. Finan is a cum laude graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School and received his B.A. With High Honors from the University of Virginia. He resides with his wife and three children in Silver Spring, Maryland.
Biography: Mr. David Throckmorton

David Throckmorton is currently on detail from Department of Homeland Security’s Science & Technology Directorate to Customs and Border Protection Office of Technology Innovation and Acquisition. He has over 25 years of acquisition experience primarily in DoD. Mr. Throckmorton’s background is in systems engineering and program management. He was responsible for several weapons integration efforts for US Navy aircraft. He also spent 9 years in the Missile Defense Agency developing system architectures and specifications. He is currently the Director of Technology Management for CBP/OTIA developing a technology roadmap, technology transition strategies, and identifying modeling requirements, capabilities, and gaps.

Mr. Throckmorton holds a B.S. in Aerospace and Ocean Engineering from Virginia Tech and a M.S. in Systems Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He is certified DAWIA Level III in both Program Management and Systems Planning, Research, Development and Engineering.
Corey Gruber serves as the Assistant Administrator of the National Preparedness Directorate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security. The Directorate has six components with over 300 personnel, including seven senior executives, and a budget of $500 million. The Directorate is charged with providing guidance, programs, activities and services to prepare the Nation to prevent, protect from, respond to and recover from all hazards. The Directorate oversees sixty-four training institutions and providers, supports nearly 150 homeland security exercises annually, including National-Level and Principal-Level (i.e., Cabinet-level) Exercises, and provides grants and cooperative agreements that target key preparedness initiatives in States and the Nation’s largest urban areas. In 2006-7, he served as Acting Deputy Administrator of the newly formed Directorate and led its integration into the Agency. As Assistant Deputy Administrator he oversees establishment of the National Preparedness System required by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 (National Preparedness) and the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA), which includes eight components ranging from standards development to establishment of a comprehensive national preparedness assessment system. He is a recipient of the 2006 Secretary’s Meritorious Service Award – Silver Medal. In 2010 he received the Presidential Meritorious Rank Award. He received his bachelor’s degree from Pennsylvania State University, and his master’s degree from Chapman University. He was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician in the State of Georgia in 1980. He is married and has two children, including a son who currently serves in the U.S. Army Special Forces.
Biography: Mr. Brandon Wales

Brandon Wales is the Director of the Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center (HITRAC) and responsible for managing the Center’s $40 million budget and approximately 100 threat and risk analysts. Under his leadership, HITRAC has grown from an intelligence-centric organization to a robust all-hazards analytic resource for public and private sector partners covering the full-array of risks and challenges facing the infrastructure community.

Mr. Wales also oversees the Department’s advanced modeling, simulation, and analysis program at the National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis Center (NISAC), where researchers from the Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories conduct ground-breaking and forward-leaning analysis of some of the Nation’s most complex infrastructure challenges.

Prior to joining the Department, Mr. Wales served as the principal national security advisor to United States Senator Jon Kyl and as a Senior Associate at a Washington-based foreign policy and national security think-tank.

Mr. Wales received his Bachelor’s degree from George Washington University and his Master’s degree from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.
Biography: Dr. K. "Mitch" Crosswait

CURRENT POSITION: Deputy Director, Strategic Requirements, Capabilities and Assessments Division, Office of Policy (Strategic Plans), Department of Homeland Security. Responsibilities include development and management of the Department’s Strategic Requirements Planning Process, which translates strategic goals into measurable requirements, and the integration of this process with the Department’s programming, budgeting and execution processes.

EDUCATION: B.S., Applied and Engineering Physics, Cornell University, 1984
Ph.D., Nuclear Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1994

2004-2007: Director, Strategy, Planning and Integration, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security

2001-2004: Senate Armed Services Committee Staff Member

1996-2001: Senior Analyst, Strategic Defensive and Space Programs Division, OSD(PA&E)


1990-1994: Graduate Student, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

1984-1990: Technical Manager/Project Engineer, DoD/Naval Reactors Program
Biography: Mr. Alan D. Cohn
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy (Strategic Plans)

Alan D. Cohn is Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy (Strategic Plans) at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Cohn is responsible for directing the Department’s strategic planning activities, including strategy development, strategic analysis, and strategy input and direction to the Department’s planning, programming, and budgeting process, its investment and acquisition process, and various capability development and Department management processes. He also represents DHS on several interagency strategy and policy committees and reviews. Cohn directed the first Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR) and oversaw the development of the QHSR Report (2010) and the follow-on DHS Bottom Up Review Report (2010). He is a member of the career Senior Executive Service and served as the Office of Policy’s Senior Transition Officer for the 2008-2009 Presidential transition.

Cohn previously served as Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response Policy in the DHS Office of Policy Development from June 2006 to December 2007. During that time, he was responsible for developing and coordinating Department-wide policies regarding the Department’s preparedness, response, and recovery mission. Cohn received the Secretary’s Silver Medal in 2007 for his work in that position. Prior to joining DHS in June 2006, Cohn was counsel at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP in Washington, D.C. He practiced labor and employment law and counseled clients with respect to homeland security issues.

Cohn is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where he teaches a course he developed on domestic preparedness law and policy. He authored or co-authored chapters on federalism and catastrophic events, sources of public funding for preparedness, and mutual aid agreements in HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: A LEGAL GUIDE FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (Ernest B. Abbott & Otto J. Hetzel eds., 2d Ed., American Bar Association 2010), and has written and spoken on a variety of homeland security and emergency management issues.

Cohn has been a certified emergency medical technician (EMT) since 1990, and was associated with FEMA’s National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System from 1995 until he began service with DHS in 2006. He served as a Planning Officer on the Fairfax County US&R Task Force from 1998 to 2006, as a US&R officer in the Joint Field Office in Austin, Texas during the response to Hurricane Rita in 2005, and as a US&R officer in the National Response Coordination Center during the initial FEMA US&R response to the attacks of September 11, 2001 as well as during the 1995 and 1996 hurricane seasons. Cohn responded to the 1993 World Trade Center bombing as an EMT with the New York City emergency medical services system. Cohn holds an A.B. from Columbia University and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.
Biography: Naphatali David Rishe
The inaugural Outstanding University Professor
Professor of Computer Science
Director, FIU High Performance Database Research Center
Director, NASA Regional Applications Center in Miami
Director, NSF FIU-FAU-Dubna Industry/University Cooperative Research Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement
Director, NSF Center of Research Excellence in Science and Technology at FIU
Director, Health Information Technology Initiative

Dr. Rishe is the Author of 3 books on database design and geography; Editor of 5 books on database management and high performance computing; Inventor of 4 U.S. patents on database querying, semantic database performance, Internet data extraction, and computer medicine; Author of 300 papers in journals and proceedings on databases, software engineering, Geographic Information Systems, Internet, and life sciences; Awardee of over $40 million in research grants by Government and Industry, including NASA, NSF, IBM, DoI, USGS; Architect of major industrial projects -- both prior to his academic career, and as a consultant since; Founder and Director of the High Performance Database Research Center at FIU (HPDRC); Director of the NSF Center for Research Excellence in Science and Technology at FIU (CREST) and of the NSF International FIU-FAU-Dubna Industry-University Cooperative Research Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement (I/UCRC); Mentor of 70 postdocs, PhDs and MS; the inaugural FIU Outstanding University Professor. Rishe's TerraFly project has been extensively covered by worldwide press, including the New York Times, USA Today, NPR, Science and Nature journals, and FOX TV News.

Principal Projects:
- TerraFly -- a 40 TB database of aerial imagery and Web-based GIS
- Semantic Wrapper of Relational Databases and Application of SQL for Concise Semantic Querying
- Semantic Database Management
- Medical Informatics

High Performance Database Research Center, School of Computing and Information Sciences, University Park, FIU ECS-243, Miami, FL 33199
Telephone: (305) 348-1706; FAX: (305) 348-1707; rishe@fiu.edu http://hpdrc.fiu.edu