ABSTRACT

“You haven’t truly lived until you have reviewed over 50 research proposals in less than a week. The lessons from that and other experiences in creating new research programs, finding the best people and organizations to fund, and managing research projects to a conclusion, can be particularly helpful in seeking research funding from the Department of Defense (DOD), which will spend ~$70B this year on research and development. What the human beings in the DOD are looking for, what keeps them up at night, and why they fund what they do, and of course, how their needs might intersect with Mines’ EE Department, will be the focus of my presentation.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Stefanie Tompkins is the vice president for research and technology transfer at the Colorado School of Mines. She has spent much of her professional life leading scientists and engineers in developing new technology capabilities.

She spent 10 years in industry, as a senior scientist and later assistant vice-president and line manager at Science Applications International Corporation, where she conducted and managed research projects in planetary geology and imaging spectroscopy. Later, as a DARPA program manager, she created and led programs in ubiquitous GPS-free navigation as well as in optical component manufacturing. She has also served as a DARPA office director and the acting deputy director of the agency.

Tompkins received a Bachelor of Arts degree in geology and geophysics from Princeton University and Master of Science and doctor of philosophy degrees in geology from Brown University. She also served as a military intelligence office in the U.S. Army.