

Dr. Darren Crum has over 30 years of distinguished service in strategy, innovation, and engineering within the U.S. government and military defense sector. With a robust background in engineering management, Dr. Crum has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to advancing organizational impact through bold strategic initiatives and collaborative endeavors.



Currently serving as the Director of the Microelectronics Lab at the Purdue Applied Research Institute (PARI), Dr. Crum spearheads the design and execution of microelectronics strategies to bolster national security and defense capabilities. His leadership fosters high-performing teams and specialized labs dedicated to advancing microelectronics technologies.

Dr. Crum comes to PARI having held pivotal engineering leadership roles within the U.S. Department of Defense, including his influential position supporting the Office of Undersecretary for Defense for Research and Engineering. In this capacity, he served as the Technical Area Lead for Microelectronics Advanced Packaging, leveraging his expertise to shape government investments and ensure access to cutting-edge technology.

Dr. Crum's career also includes leadership positions in the Department of the Navy, where he played instrumental roles in technology protection as a Technical Warrant Holder and Technology Coordinator, guiding impactful investments in defense technology. His exemplary contributions were honored with the Department of Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, acknowledging his pivotal role in establishing and executing critical defense initiatives.

Dr. Crum holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Kentucky, a Master of Public Administration from Indiana University, and a Ph.D. in Organization & Management from Capella University.