Dr. George Papanicolaou  
Professor  
Stanford University  

Dear Professor Papanicolaou:  

On behalf of the California Governor’s Military Council, we want to congratulate you and your research team at Stanford University on your selection as a recipient of a 2018 Defense Enterprise Science Initiative (DESI) pilot program. Your selection highlights the contributions of California’s prestigious academic institutions to the innovation of our nation’s security and defense capabilities.

California has long been the home of advancements and innovations that propel our country forward, and Stanford University located in Silicon Valley is often the engine that drives this. The DESI pilot program will support university-industry research collaboration focused on accelerating the impact of basic research on defense capabilities to foster sustainable university-industry partnerships, identify and apply new discoveries and knowledge on existing defense capabilities, and accelerate the transfer of basic research to innovative technologies. Your particular contributions to the defense applications of remote sensing will further our fundamental knowledge of these technologies and their application to upcoming defense problem sets.

The Governor’s Military Council, made up of retired flag and general officers, state legislators, and civic leaders, serves the Governor and State Legislature as the statutory advisor on national security matters, including the defense industry and innovations in defense technologies. If, during the course of your research, you find that the state can be helpful to your efforts, or that we should be proactive in supporting the adoption or commercialization of your findings, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Our staff contact for defense industry matters is Gareth Smythe, who can be reached at Gareth.Smythe@OPR.CA.GOV or +1(916)322-6034.

We are grateful to you and your team for your service and dedication to this state and our nation. Congratulations again on receiving this pilot program, and keep up the innovative academic excellence that you have so clearly demonstrated.

Sincerely,

Colonel Rocky Chávez, USMC, Retired  
Chair, Governor’s Military Council  
Assemblymember, CA-76  

Vice Admiral Jody Breckenridge, USCG, Retired  
Vice Chair, Governor’s Military Council  

CC: Dr. Stacie Williams, DESI Research Topic Lead-Remote Sensing, U.S. Air Force