

**Defense Innovation Board  
Fall Board Meeting Minutes  
Virtual  
November 14, 2023**

The Defense Innovation Board (DIB) is a federal advisory committee in the Department of Defense (DoD) operating pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976, and other related federal regulations.

The DIB held its first fiscal year 2024 (FY24) quarterly board meeting on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> virtually on MS Teams. The public portion of the meeting was livestreamed and recorded by the Defense Media Agency. The livestream was viewed by 878 participants. The recording has been posted on the DIB website at [innovation.defense.gov](https://innovation.defense.gov).

**DIB Members Attending (7):**

Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Chair  
Hon. Susan Gordon  
Mr. Reid Hoffman  
ADM (Ret) Michael Mullen, US Navy  
Mr. Charles Phillips  
Mr. Ryan Swann  
Hon. William "Mac" Thornberry

**DIB Members Not Present (3):**

Dr. Gilda Barabino  
Ms. Mary Meeker  
Hon. Dr. William Roper Jr.

**Guest Speakers (4):**

Mr. Ryan Connell, Deputy Director, Commercial Item Group, Defense Contract Management Agency  
Ms. Meridith Fonseca, Chief Data Officer, U.S. Army Pacific  
CWO3 Matthew Pine, U.S. Marine Corps  
Mr. Tom Sasala, Deputy Director, U.S. Army Office of Enterprise Management

**DIB Staff Team (12):**

Dr. Marina Theodotou, Executive Director & Designated Federal Officer (DFO)  
Staff: Craig Hughes [Alternate Designated Federal Officer (ADFO)], Logan Hatfield, Khalia Alexander, Sevan Araz, Zack Crahen, Melanie Heinlein, Christina Hilf, Abigail Linman, Dr. Juan Merizalde, Jacob Sharpe, Elliot Silverberg

**Open Board Meeting:**

The Defense Innovation Board convened its public meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 4:00 PM ET. Dr. Theodotou initiated the session with an introduction, providing a glimpse of the public meeting schedule. She outlined the board's mission, operating authority, and assured attendees of no significant changes to the agenda. Expressing gratitude for comments on the website, she thanked the Department of Defense (DoD) and officially commenced the public session.

DoD, proposing more robust partnerships with industry, re- and up-skilling the workforce, and aligning pay and other incentives to optimize recruiting and retention of top tech talent.

Dr. Theodotou closed out the meeting with a preview of several proposed future studies, for example, on optimizing relationships with international allies and partners, aligning incentives for innovation, the Fifth Dimension (i.e. cyberwarfare), and leveraging Web 3.0 and blockchain as instruments for innovation. Public comments included a focus on increasing academia's access to classified information, facilities, and opportunities to work on classified initiatives.

At 5:00 PM, Dr. Theodotou adjourned the public meeting and the board members signed off.

I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.



Michael Bloomberg  
Chair, Defense Innovation Board