

Editorial: APL Collaborations Within The Johns Hopkins University

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PL staff are collaborating with colleagues from the other divisions of The Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and have been for many decades. These collaborations foster innovation while enhancing knowledge,

strengthening intellectual resources, meeting challenges, and broadening connections to the larger universe of science, engineering, and technology.

Collaborations among the various divisions within JHU happen because two or more investigators from different divisions decide to pursue a common interest. APL's ability to harness the intellectual capacity of staff from the entire JHU enterprise on behalf of its programs is a major strategic advantage, and APL's presence within JHU provides strong leverage for attacking and solving diverse problems. Mutual benefit is the best reward for fostering continued collaborations.

On 11 August 2009, a Collaborative Research Symposium was held in APL's Kossiakoff Center, sponsored by APL and the JHU Whiting School of Engineering. However, contributions to the symposium spanned all major JHU divisions. Each presentation consisted of a 35 × 46-in. poster, some with supplementary audiovisual content and others with hardware or software exhibits. The richness and diversity of topics were evident to the more than 350 attendees from the JHU community.

This issue of the *Johns Hopkins APL Technical Digest* evolved and expanded from that symposium. Each of the 43 articles composing this unique issue is a two-page glimpse of APL collaborations within JHU. Together they illustrate the breadth and depth of collaborative research, development, and technology within JHU.

The APL authors in this issue of the *Technical Digest* are mostly located on the APL campus, which is geographically positioned between Baltimore and Washington at various distances from the other campuses and academic divisions of JHU (Fig. 1). The coauthors have appointments in JHU's Whiting School of Engineering and Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, both on the Homewood campus in northern Baltimore; at JHU's Peabody Institute on Mount Vernon Place in downtown Baltimore; in JHU's Bloomberg School of Public Health, School of Medicine, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital in east Baltimore; and at JHU's Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, DC's Dupont Circle area. In addition, 15 other institutions around the United States and the world are represented among the coauthors.

Clearly, geography has not been a hindrance to inter-divisional JHU collaboration. It is hoped that these articles will encourage interested readers to interact with the authors and thereby generate additional future collaborations. To facilitate this, an APL author is identified as a point of contact in each article.

As you read about the various projects, it should become apparent that these collaborative efforts provide further avenues for satisfying the stated mission of JHU:

to educate its students and cultivate their capacity for life-long learning, to foster independent and original research, and to bring the benefits of discovery to the world.¹

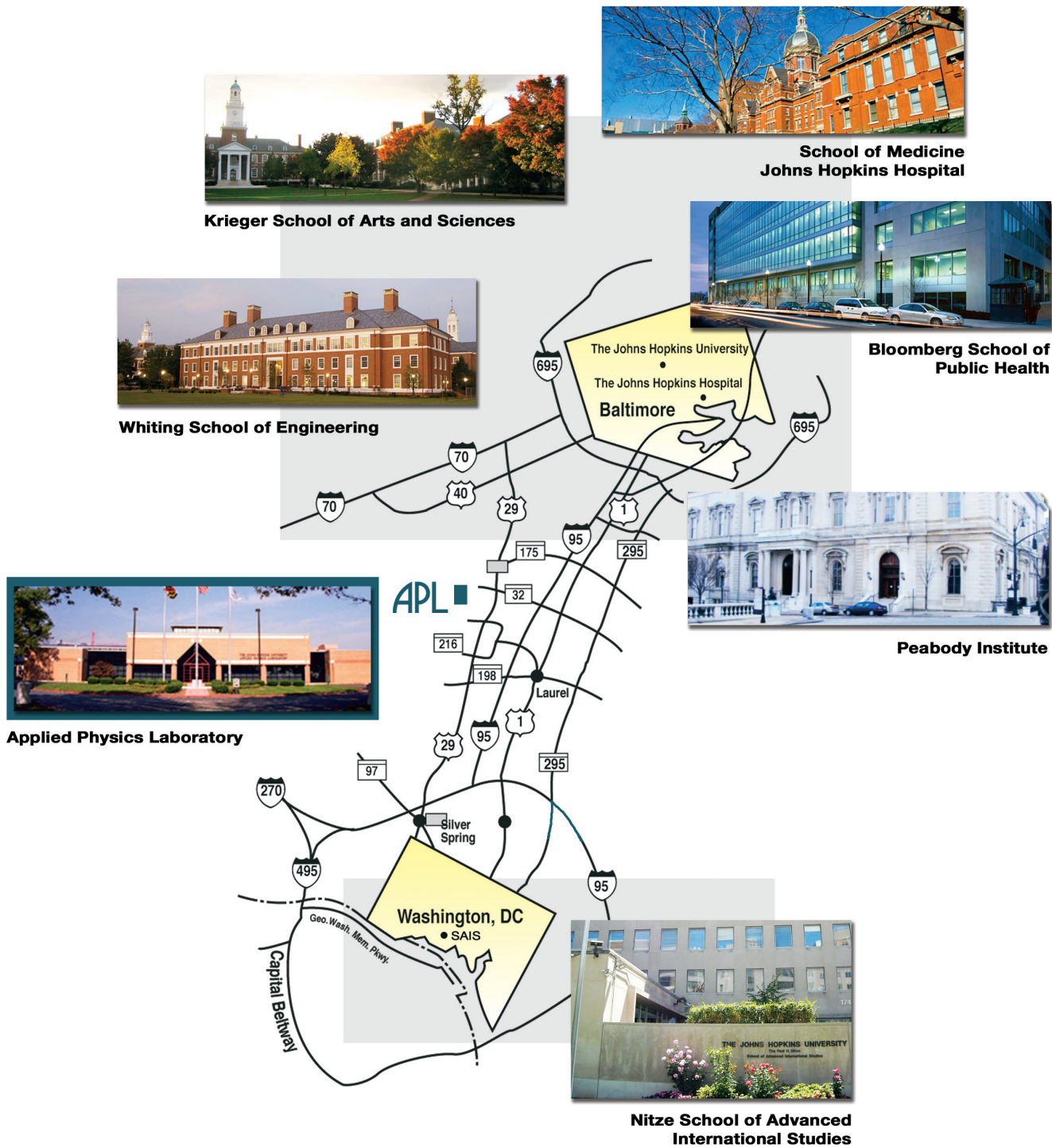


Figure 1. Geographic spread of the major JHU campuses in the Baltimore–Washington area.

¹JHU website, *Johns Hopkins University Mission Statement*, http://webapps.jhu.edu/jhuniverse/information_about_Hopkins/about_jhu/mission_statement/index.cfm (accessed 8 Jan 2010).