



CUMMINGSRESEARCHPARK  
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA



Insights into Research Parks

**September 22-24, 2025**

Huntsville, AL  
(As of 8.4.25)

## Unlocking Innovation: Immersive Insights into Research Parks at CRP

Join AURP in Huntsville this September for a dynamic, hands-on exploration of **Cummings Research Park**—the nation's second-largest research park and a cornerstone of the U.S. innovation economy. Over three action-packed days, *Insights into Research Parks* will immerse attendees in the people, partnerships, and possibilities that make CRP a model for thriving innovation ecosystems.

**Why Attend?:** This high-impact program brings together thought leaders, economic developers, research park managers, and university and industry partners to witness first-hand the infrastructure, culture, and community that support groundbreaking research and commercialization in Huntsville. Whether you're launching a new park, growing your research assets, or looking for collaborative models to drive regional innovation, this site visit delivers valuable takeaways.

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### Monday, September 22, 2025

Recommendation: Element Huntsville Marriott, 6810 Governors West NW Huntsville, AL, 35806  
Closest Airport: Huntsville International Airport, approx.. 15-minute drive to the hotel

#### 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM CHECK IN

*Element Huntsville [6810 Governors West NW]*

#### 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM REDSTONE ARSENAL TOUR

A federal R&D center of excellence with more than 65 federal tenants across 30,000 acres that advances research, development, testing and engineering that put the US at the forefront of solutions to address national and global challenges and opportunities through its largest tenants the U.S. Army, the FBI and NASA Marshall Space Flight Center among them.

**\*REQUIRED:**

**Attendees who are US Citizens MUST bring their valid Drivers License and provide their name, DL Number and State that it was issued.**

**Attendees who are Foreign Nationals must provide name as it appears on their passport, passport number and country that it was issued BEFORE AUGUST 22ND.**

**ONLY FOREIGN NATIONALS NOT ON THE UNITED STATE RESTRICTED COUNTRY LIST ARE ALLOWED TO ATTEND.**

**IF THE US IS INVOLVED IN A CONFLICT OR WAR, THE TOUR WILL BE CANCELLED.**

*Transportation Provided*

**6:00 PM – 8:30 PM DINNER BITES & LIGHTS (music provided by ASCTE or Columbia Jazz Band)**  
*Westin Courtyard*

## **Tuesday, September 23, 2025**

**7:30 AM – 7:45 AM    MEET IN HOTEL LOBBY (depart at 7:45)**

**7:45 AM – 7:55 AM    TRANSPORTATION**

**8:00 AM – 9:30 AM    CRP HISTORY, FROM AG TO HIGH-TECH: WELCOME AND DISCUSSION (with breakfast)**

*Huntsville/Madison Chamber of Commerce [225 Church St NW, Huntsville]*

- Welcome from Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle and Huntsville/Madison Co Chamber of Commerce CEO Chip Cherry
- CRP Overview by Erin Koshut
- Taking a step back in time with Huntsville history
- Moderated conversation with Mike Ward, Senior VP of Government Affairs, Huntsville/Madison County Chamber

**9:30 AM – 10:15 AM    CRP NUTS AND BOLTS:**

The role of the City in support of CRP daily operations and events with John Hamilton, City Administrator, City of Huntsville

**10:15 AM – 11:15 AM    DRIVING TOUR OF CUMMINGS RESEARCH PARK**

**11:15 AM – 1:30 PM    HIGHER EDUCATION RISING: WHERE IMPACT MEETS OPPORTUNITY**

*The University of Alabama in Huntsville Student Services Building*

- Welcome and Presentation from UAH President, Dr. Chuck Karr
- Luncheon panel featuring
- Dr. Robert Lindquist, Vice President for Research, UAH
- Jonathan Pettus, Director, Auburn Applied Research Institute
- Dr. Jimmy Hodges, President, Calhoun Community College

**1:45 PM – 2:30 PM    CYBER SCHOOL SHOWCASE**

*Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering [229 Wynn Dr NW, Huntsville]*

The Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering is a statewide residential magnet high school that is the first of its kind in the nation with 300 students focused on cyber and engineering. This visit includes a student-led tour of the school and discussion with ASCTE leadership.

**3:30 PM – 4:30 PM    WALK AND TALK HAPPY HOUR**

*The Orion Amphitheater [701 Amphitheater Drive, Huntsville]*

See how a European-style amphitheater can uniquely add to the quality of life for employees in the Park. The Orion is a City of Huntsville cultural asset that is managed by TVG Hospitality. Grab an Orion signature cocktail and learn why, how and see the Orion and our neighbor MidCity District, positions itself differently among its industry and in the country.

**4:30 PM                ATTENDEES RETURN TO HOTEL**

**5:45 PM-6:00 PM    MEET IN HOTEL LOBBY (depart at 6:00)**

*Transportation provided*

**6:15 PM                GROUP DINNER IN DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE AT MAZARA'S**

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## **Wednesday, September 24, 2025**

**7:30 AM – 7:45 AM MEET IN HOTEL LOBBY**

**7:50 AM – 7:55 AM TRANSPORTATION DEPARTS**

**8:00 AM – 10:30 AM Breaking the Mold: HudsonAlpha Institute**

*HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology [601 Genome Way NW, Huntsville]*

HudsonAlpha is a nonprofit research institute on a 152-acre biotech campus that sits in the heart of CRP. With more than 50 companies on its campus, the Institute is leading human and plant genomics to change the health of our world. Meet the HA leaders that drive the change in the world and hear their stories.

Breakfast panel discussion followed by a tour of HudsonAlpha Institute

**10:30 AM – 11:15**

**A GLIMPSE INTO CRP'S CORPORATE ECOSYSTEM**

*HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology [601 Genome Way NW, Huntsville]*

With nearly 350 companies of all sizes across multiple technology-forward industries, CRP is a robust ecosystem that solves hard problems. Meet those companies who chose to locate in the Park and hear why.

**11:15 AM – 11:45**

**PEEK INTO CRP'S FUTURE WITH US**

*HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology [601 Genome Way NW, Huntsville]*

- Shane Davis, Director of Urban and Economic Development
- Dennis Madison, Long Range Urban Planner, City of Huntsville
- Erin Koshut, Executive Director, Cummings Research Park

**11:45 AM**

**ATTENDEES RETURN TO HOTEL AND TRAVEL HOME SAFELY**

### **OPTIONAL TOURS (TBD)**

**1:30 – 3:30**

**TOUR OF UAH RESEARCH CENTERS**

The University of Alabama in Huntsville is a high-ranking research activity focused university with more than 9,000 students. Over the past five years, UAH has performed \$555 million in contracts and grants, awarded more than 3100 graduate degrees. UAH has the largest research expenditures in the nation when compared to all public universities of its size. They rank 13<sup>th</sup> in the US for NASA-funded research and 16<sup>th</sup> in the nation for Department of Defense-funded research. Visit these research centers on campus:

- **Center for Applied Optics:** The Center for Applied Optics (CAO) advances optical science and engineering research and development in support of high-technology educational, industrial, and government interests and requirements. The CAO is also home to UAH's Nano and Micros Devices Center, a national user facility for cutting-edge research and development of devices and components that require nano-and micro-fabrication.
- **Propulsion Research Center:** The Propulsion Research Center (PRC) mentors students, conducts research, and provides detailed assessments of liquid, solid, electric, and air-breathing propulsion devices—including cryogenic propellants. The PRC also has a supersonic wind tunnel and other test facilities.

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