



Dr. Brian R. Smith is retired from General Dynamics Land Systems where he was instrumental in quantifying the injury tolerance limits induced by battlefield threats such as, mine blasts and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). His cutting-edge research in this field has influenced the design of Combat Vehicles for the benefit of General Dynamics and the men and women of our armed forces.

Dr. Smith is a community leader involved with social, historical, and educational programs. Dr. Smith is the first African-American to earn a PhD in Biomedical Engineering at Wayne State University and has been recognized as such by the Michigan House of Representatives.

Brian has been a diligent and devoted member of the Tuskegee Airmen for more than 35 years. He is the son of a WWII POW. He currently serves as President and CEO of the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum and is Director of Youth Programs for the Detroit Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc., Brian uses his personal aircraft to support the programs and helps fly and maintain fourteen aircraft at the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum.

He was a recipient of an Outstanding Civic Award from the Detroit Engineering Society, largely as a result of his work with Tuskegee Airmen youth programs. He also initiated and coordinates with Wayne State University the Aviation Career Education Academy and has initiated the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum Flight Academy, Detroit Tuskegee Airmen EAA Chapter 1351, Wild Blue Wonders Program, Tuskegee Airmen Glider Club, Tuskegee Airmen National Museum Rocket Club and Tuskegee Airmen National Museum Drone Program.

Brian was also Director of the Conant Cougars Pathfinders Club for 35 years, started and conducted a drum corps that traveled around the state leading parades, playing at rallies, basketball games, and at church events.

Dr. Smith frequently lectures on the Tuskegee Airmen speaking on their formation, combat experiences and what the Airmen contributed to America during and after WWII.

Dr. Smith resides in Detroit, teaches Math, Biology, Chemistry and Physics at Wayne County Community College and has flown over 1200 Young Eagles.