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Clara has managed the NIST SBIR Program since 2001. She is also responsible for marketing NIST technologies. In her roles she proposed, designed and implemented an innovative NIST-wide Technology Transfer program facilitating the transfer of federal technology to industry by leveraging the SBIR Program for seed funding along with access to federal research assets.

Prior to her current assignments, Clara was a CRADA and Licensing Officer at NIST, where she executed several licenses, more than 50 CRADAs and conducted more than 30 commercialization assessments on inventions disclosed from the NIST Labs.

Clara previously was Project Leader for Optical Scatterometry research in the Physics Laboratory in NIST. There she published 19 peer reviewed articles and established BRDF competency at NIST. She was actively involved in standards committees work in her area of research, cooperating with Sematech, ASTM, ISO and other federal agencies.

Clara received two M.S. degrees, one in Optical Sciences from the University of Arizona (1988) and one in Physics from Tulane University (1986). Her B.S. in Physics is from Fordham University (1984).