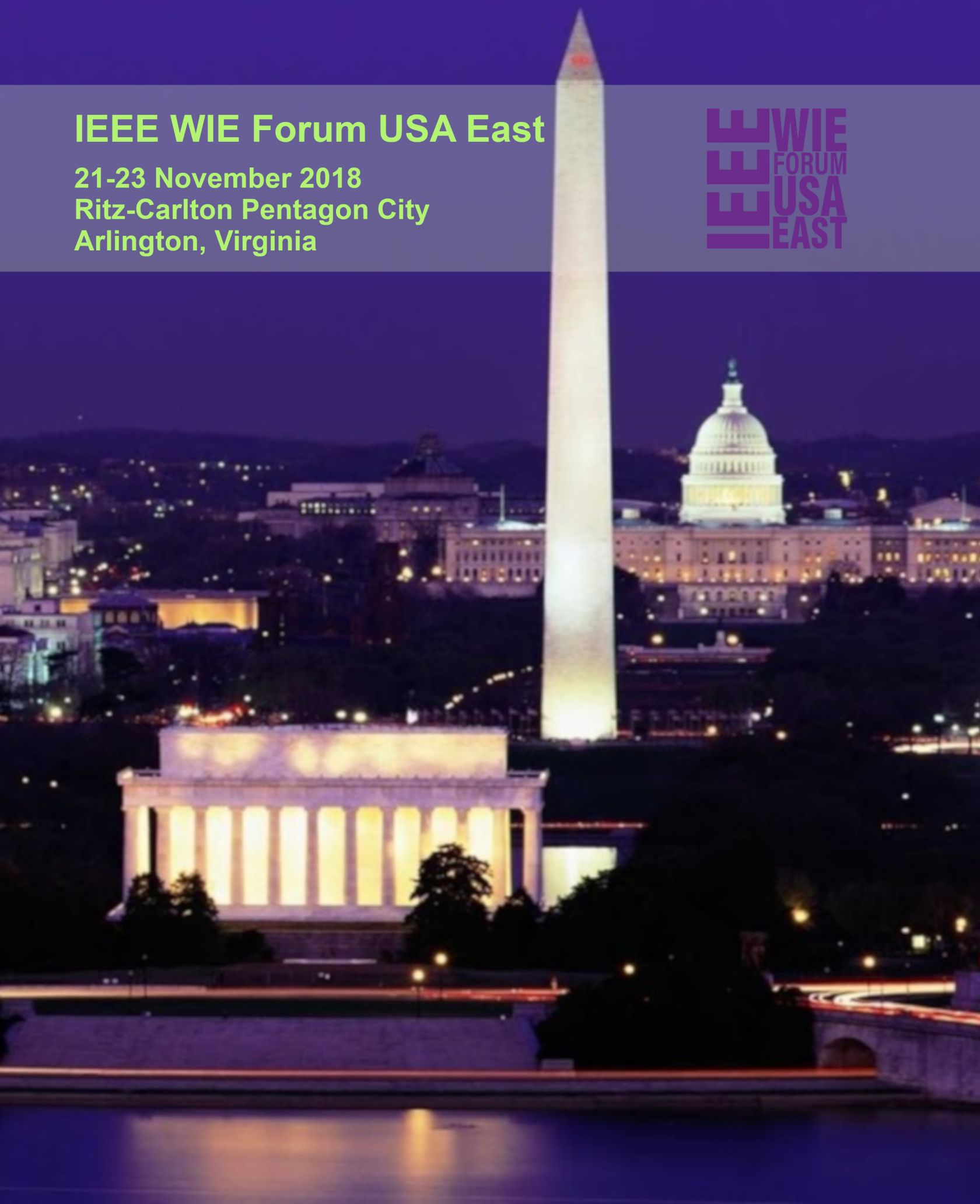
IEEE WIE Forum USA East

21-23 November 2018
Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City
Arlington, Virginia



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Process Engineering Mgr. at Northrop Grumman

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IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ONSITE VOLUNTEERS!

Schedule at a Glance

THURSDAY, 21 NOVEMBER

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	STEM Event: Boolean Girls Volunteer Training (separate registration required)
4:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Registration
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Networking Reception
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM	Social Event 1: National Monuments and Moonlight Walking Tour (pre-registration required – inquire at registration)

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

7:00 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration
7:15 AM – 9:10 AM	Welcome Breakfast & Keynotes
9:10 AM – 9:40 AM	Break & Exhibits

	Track 1: Innovation	Track 2: Leadership	Track 3: Inc. & Empowerment	Track 4: Career
9:40 AM – 10:10 AM	PANEL	PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION	WORKSHOP
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM		PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION	
10:50 AM – 11:20 AM	PRESENTATION	PANEL	PRESENTATION	
11:25 AM – 11:55 PM	PRESENTATION		PRESENTATION	

12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Lunch & Panel
2:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Career Fair & Exhibits

	Track 1: Innovation	Track 2: Leadership	Track 3: Inc. & Empowerment	Track 4: Career
1:35 PM – 2:05 PM	PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION	WORKSHOP	CAREER FAIR
2:10 PM – 2:40 PM	PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION		
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	PANEL	PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION	
3:20 PM – 3:50 PM		PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION	

3:50 PM – 4:30 PM	Break & Exhibits
4:30 PM – 5:45 PM	Keynotes & Day 1 Wrap-Up
6:00 PM –7:30 PM	Social Event 2: Treats & Tales (5-year Anniversary Reception)

SATURDAY, 23 NOVEMBER

7:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Registration
7:15 AM – 9:15 AM	Welcome Breakfast & Keynotes

	Track 1: Innovation	Track 2: Leadership	Track 3: Inclusion & Empowerment
9:20 AM – 9:50 AM	PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION	PANEL
9:55 AM – 10:25 AM	PRESENTATION	PRESENTATION	

10:25 AM – 10:45 AM	Coffee & Transition Break
10:45 AM – 11:45 PM	Keynote, Closing Remarks & Scholarship Raffle Drawing
3:00 PM – 6:00 PM	STEM Event: Boolean Girls Coding Workshop (separate registration required)

DETAILED SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, 21 NOVEMBER

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM — GRAND BALLROOM SALON I

STEM EVENT: BOOLEAN GIRLS VOLUNTEER TRAINING (SEPARATE REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM — GRAND BALLROOM FOYER

REGISTRATION

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM — GRAND BALLROOM SALON II

NETWORKING RECEPTION

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM — RITZ-CARLTON LOBBY

SOCIAL EVENT 1: NATIONAL MONUMENTS EVENING WALK (PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

7:00 AM – 4:30 PM — GRAND BALLROOM FOYER

REGISTRATION

7:15 AM – 8:15 AM — GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

BREAKFAST

8:00 AM – 8:10 AM (OPENING) — GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

OPENING REMARKS

Neeta Basantkumar, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

Felicia Harlow, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

8:10 AM – 8:40 AM (KEYNOTE) — GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

MONICA MCMANUS

Vice President & Chief Information Officer at Lockheed Martin's Rotary and Mission Systems

Pay It Forward: How Family, Champions and Experiences Shaped My Leadership Journey

Who we are and where we come from can influence our careers. Monica will share the points and learning along her career path that motivated and empowered her advancement and inspired her to support others in STEM fields.

8:40 AM – 9:10 AM (KEYNOTE) — GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

KENDRA MOORE

President at Boston Fusion Corp.

The Greatest Risk is Avoiding Risk

Many studies show that women are risk averse in decisions about types of companies to work at, positions to apply for, and requests for advancement. Early in my career, I found it hard to ask for new responsibilities or even look for new opportunities. I spent years hoping that hard work alone would lead to advancement. At some point, I realized I had to take some risks if I wanted to advance. While some of the risks I took didn't lead to the outcome I hoped for, they did lead me to an honest assessment of the opportunities at hand and what I needed to do to change my options. Active, well-defined risk taking, coupled with clear assessments of opportunities, led me to a better, more satisfying career. This talk will contain a mix of (1) information from studies on women and risk in the workplace, (2) anecdotes from my own career path, and (3) some general thoughts on how and when to take risk.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

9:10 AM – 9:40 AM GRAND BALLROOM SALON II

COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITS

9:40 AM – 10:45 AM (PANEL)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION PLAZA AB

THE ROLE OF CYBERSECURITY AND PRIVACY IN THE THRIVING SMART CITIES OF THE FUTURE

Moderator: Maryam Rahmani, *Consultant and Strategist*

Panelist: Myla Pilao, *Security research communications Lead at TrendLabs*

Panelist: Ana Jevtic, *PhD student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Panelist: Juanita Koilpillai, *Founder & Chief Executive Officer at Waverley Labs*

More than 58% of the United States population resides east of Mississippi and in the IEEE Eastern Regions (1, 2 and 3) and approximately 80 percent of Americans reside in the urban areas; this is despite their desire to live in rural areas. The metropolitan cities have to deal with many challenges including dwindling budgets, environmental constraints, aging population, and much more that if not addressed will continue eroding the quality of life for everyone. Many cities are embracing technologies like Big Data, AI, 5G, IoT, etc. to overcome their challenges; however, if not given adequate consideration to privacy and cybersecurity, they could unknowingly put their citizens' privacy and safety at risk. Our panelists will discuss the role of governance, standards, security by design, and public-private partnership to ensure thriving smart cities.

9:40 AM – 10:10 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

LEADING BY EXAMPLE: TAKING A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH AND PAYING IT FORWARD

Lauren Thompson, *Director for the Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Interagency Program Office*

Dr. Lauren C. Thompson is a prominent leader with more than 30 years of experience dedicated to advancing health information technology and transforming the delivery of healthcare for Service Members, Veterans, and their families. She has built on her expertise by learning from others, leading collaborative efforts, and mentoring newcomers. Her graduate studies in health policy, strategic management, and health services administration steered her career into improving health-related programs by making them more transparent, efficient, and effective through collaborations. As Director of the Department of Defense (DoD) and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Interagency Program Office (IPO), she strives to enhance health data sharing across the continuum of care through a modernized electronic health record. Learning from and working with her colleagues as she leads the way to safe and useful exchange of health data interoperability, she continues her commitment to improve healthcare for approximately 18.7 million beneficiaries worldwide.

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT PLAZA C

OVERCOMING FEELINGS OF INFERIORITY

Zipporah Mondy, *KJIW-FM 94.5 in Helena, Arkansas and KCAT 1340 AM in Pine Bluff, Arkansas*

Many women are familiar with the feeling of inferiority. Often, beneath the perceptions of confidence are the quiet battles women face in their vulnerable places. Feeling inferior is a hurdle from within that can be based on something clear and specific or can stem from subconscious means. In this presentation, Zipporah welcomes vulnerability and transparency in sharing her experience with discovering sources of inferior feelings. The presentation explores practical ways women can overcome, or mentor someone through, feelings of inferiority in order to maximize capacity, especially in engineering.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

9:40 AM – 11:25 AM (WORKSHOP)

TRACK 4: CAREER GRAND BALLROOM SALON I

ACING ANY INTERVIEW

Anthony Gold, *Entrepreneur, Director, Advisor, Startup Investor*

Interviews can be tense and stressful – and it can be difficult to put your best foot forward when you are in a nervous state. This is where most people lose their opportunity to get the job. Not because they aren't good enough but because they don't nail the interview. It doesn't have to be that way. Believe it or not, it is not very difficult to go from hating interviews to loving them. In this workshop, you will learn how to ace the interview and put yourself in a position to negotiate your next role. How do I know? Two reasons. First, I've conducted tons of interviews for roles in engineering, sales, and marketing at all levels from intern through CEO. I've seen every mistake that can be made and know exactly what it takes to wow the interviewers. But, even more importantly, I used to be that person who hated interviews, got nervous and stressed before each one, and lost opportunities as a result. And I had some great mentors who helped me turn that weakness into a major strength. In this workshop, you'll learn:

- The underlying reasons why we get nervous before and during the interview
- How to ace the interview feeling comfortable and confident each step of the way
- How to follow-up after the interview to maximize your chances for success.

This is a hands-on workshop. We will conduct mock interviews, discuss what is working, and what changes need to be made. Come prepared to make monumental strides in your interviewing process.

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

INVESTIGATING ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

Araceli Ortiz, *Executive Director and Research Associate Professor at Texas State University*

This session will feature topics on leadership, teamwork and cultural contexts as fundamental skills necessary for engineers to actively learn and practice as part of their engineering practices. Research in the field of leadership and collaborative team skill development will be presented to understand the impact of novel leadership and teamwork skill development approaches. A mixed methods international comparative study research design will be discussed that is planned to focus on research questions related to not only technological practices but to impacts upon women engineering students and other underrepresented minority students.

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT PLAZA C

NEUROSCIENCE OF INCLUSION

Asma Abuzaakouk, *Social and Behavioral Scientist at MITRE Corporation*

Our brain is emotional and social, which means that in order to survive and thrive, we need to feel as if we belong. There is hard science behind neuroscience research. In fact, a paradigm shift is happening, because we can now model and visualize how our brain works and how it influences our actions, mood, and overall behavior. New research is revolutionizing how we practice leadership, inclusion and diversity, and its myriad of benefits for an individual, team and organization's overall health. Recent studies have shown how fostering psychological safety, an inclusive practice, can be used effectively to harness the power of diversity on teams and inspire creativity and innovation.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

10:50 AM – 11:20 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION PLAZA AB

THE PATENT LANDSCAPE – IOT

Christopher Turoski, *Director of Patent Law Programs at the University of Minnesota Law School*

Patent activity in the IoT field is booming. This workshop will explore the state of the art of IoT through the lens of patent activity. We'll highlight major technologies, companies, and inventors. You'll learn how patents in IoT might impact your business and research. You'll also learn to use patents to identify potential research partners and collaborators, acquisition targets, and competitive threats.

10:50 AM – 11:55 AM (PANEL)

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

DARPA 101 & ENHANCING COLLABORATION

Moderator: Kendra Moore, *President, Boston Fusion*

Panelist: Cynthia Daniell, *Director, Research Directorate at National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency*

Panelist: Thomas Rondeau *DARPA Microsystems Technology Office (MTO)*

Panelist: Renee Wegrzyn, *DARPA Biological Technologies Office (BTO)*

For sixty years, DARPA has held to a singular and enduring mission: to make pivotal investments in breakthrough technologies for national security. DARPA explicitly reaches for transformational change instead of incremental advances – however, it does not pursue this undertaking in isolation. DARPA works within an innovation ecosystem that includes academic, corporate, and governmental partners to create new strategic opportunities and novel tactical options, with a constant focus on the Nation's military Services. For decades, this vibrant, interlocking ecosystem of diverse collaborators has proven to be a nurturing environment for the intense creativity that DARPA is designed to cultivate.
The DARPA Panel discussion will equip attendees with a better understanding of DARPA's history and mission, the critical role of the Program Manager, and how new ideas turn into DARPA programs.

10:50 AM – 11:20 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT PLAZA C

HAVING IT ALL—NAVIGATING YOUR WAY

Carrie Root, *CEO and Founder of Alpha UMi Inc*

Women in engineering experience their own set of challenges for achieving a successful and satisfying career. How does a desire to "have it all" impact those challenges? While "having it all" varies with the individual, the female engineer's need to satisfy work goals and personal goals requires compromise, time management and realistic goal setting to achieve this sought-after balance. The term 'work-life balance' is gaining popularity to describe the management of competing needs between work and other aspects of life. But is it really 'work-life imbalance', or a concept setting women up to be disappointed in themselves? How do other women do it? Have things changed in the past 20 years? This talk is an exploration of work-life balance and what it means to the woman engineer. It will be conducted as an interactive discussion with the participants.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

11:25 AM – 11:55 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION PLAZA AB

LEVERAGING THE CLOUD TO ACHIEVE NEAR REAL-TIME PROCESSING FOR DRONE-GENERATED DATA

Sayani Sarkar, *PhD candidate in Computer Engineering at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette*

Low-cost drones are an emerging technology area that opens the horizon for intelligent new Internet-of-Things (IoT) and a host of other applications. Cloud-based online processing of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) captured data is an attractive and interesting option toward real-time data processing, as it accommodates viewing and analyzing data from a variety of sources, thereby making data accessibility across devices significantly smooth and easier. This results in more effective and seamless professional collaboration. Cloud-based solutions also make information technology (IT) management easier by automatically installing software updates, storing backups and eliminating the need for high-specification and expensive computers for data processing and storage. The ability to upload more than one just data-set at a time also provides greater flexibility, while security matters are handled using log-in credentials. In the present work, we discuss a comparative study between two data processing approaches: in one case the data captured by a UAV has been processed using an onboard low-cost single-board computer; in the other case, the captured data has been off-loaded to the cloud for further processing. Processing times between these two approaches are compared, statistical analysis applied, in order to confirm the superiority of the cloud-based processing approach. Challenges inherent with cloud-based processing have also been identified, which will be the subject of future research work.

11:25 AM – 11:55 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT PLAZA C

MANAGING YOUR CAREER LIKE A CONSULTANT

Teresa Allison, *Senior Policy, Risk, Governance, and Compliance Specialist at Booz Allen Hamilton*

For nearly two decades, I have been a consultant at firms, small, medium, and large. Consultants have a way of managing their careers that everyone in the workforce should know and can benefit from, during this presentation, I will share eight valuable lessons for career management including marketing your skills, staying in demand, and navigating your way through career transitions. Learn how to “Manage Your Career Like A Consultant”.

12:00 PM – 01:30 PM

BUFFET LUNCH GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM (PANEL) GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION @ SENSATA – WALKING THE TALK IN THE SMART & CONNECTED VENTURE

Moderator: Nicole Allen, *Consultant at Sensata Technologies*

Panelist: Valentina Videva, *Senior Director Business Operations at Sensata Technologies*

Panelist: Aditya Balasubramanian, *Electrical Design Engineer at Sensata Technologies*

Panelist: Rosanna Heidt, *Mechanical Design Engineer at Sensata Technologies*

Panelist: Frank Sienkiewicz *Design Engineering Manager at Sensata Technologies*

The passion of the Smart & Connected leadership and grass roots activities, and applying the Sensata Diversity & Inclusion strategies, delivers a diverse culture that helps drive innovation. From hiring diverse new college graduates as well as experienced engineers, pairing new talent with Technical Ladder titleholders as part of a new onboarding process and showcasing the impact and opportunity of the Technical Coaching Program, the venture exemplifies the Sensata quest to be a place of belonging, inclusion and innovation. Come join the Sensata panel as they share their experiences and lessons learned.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM — GRAND BALLROOM SALON II & GRAND BALLROOM FOYER

CAREER FAIR

01:35 PM – 2:05 PM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION — PLAZA AB

FUTURE OF SPACE SYSTEMS

Nelli Mosavi, *Senior Professional Staff and the Van Allen Probe Project Manager at the Space Exploration Sector at Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory*

Over the past four decades, satellites in orbit around Earth have become critical to commerce, communication, and national security. The Goddard Space Flight Center lists 2,271 satellites currently in orbit, and many more will be launched in the near future. In the near future, constellations and clusters of cooperating and maneuverable satellites will enable new missions and performance capabilities but will be more complicated. These new missions will need high-speed data links, onboard intelligence, and a new ground support infrastructure. As constellations continue to grow in size and complexity, it will be important that the levels of autonomy and automation using techniques from artificial intelligence be increased and be integrated into operations. It is also important to trust the decisions made by them and make them cyber resilience. In this talk we will be focusing on integrating the AI, Big Data and Cybersecurity in the next generation of space systems.

01:35 PM – 2:05 PM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP — PLAZA C

LEADERSHIP SECRETS OF AN EX-CEO

Dean Lane, *Senior Vice President for Cyber Intelligence at The Institute of World Politics*

This session presents important foundations that will enhance your Leadership abilities. Real life experiences for each Leadership principle presented will provide you with Leadership knowledge that will remain top of mind well after the conference has concluded. We will discuss the various Leadership styles and attributes that underpin the very different ways of directing a team, a division, or a company. Importantly, we will discuss how effective leaders are alike in one crucial way: they all have a high degree of what has come to be known as emotional intelligence. Leadership components (e.g. self-motivation, teamwork, etc.) will be shared, not only in concept, but through examples of how to recognize it in potential leaders, and how it can be learned. The Leadership secrets revealed in this session will enable you to stand out as a leader, develop leaders under your supervision and bring recognition, based on contributions, to both you and your organization.

01:35 PM – 2:45 PM (WORKSHOP)

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT — GRAND BALLROOM SALON I

DEVELOPING YOUR PERSONAL BRAND

Carrie Root, *CEO and Founder of Alpha UMi Inc*

What is your personal brand? Have you considered this question with respect to your own or someone else's? Why is knowing what your personal brand is relevant to the workplace? Today, companies are looking closely at whether an individual will fit into its corporate culture when making hiring decisions. Knowing your personal brand will enable you to determine if your brand fits within a corporate culture. This knowledge is useful for making hiring or career change decisions, and for understanding why a move up the corporate ladder is more difficult than you expect. In this hands-on interactive workshop, we will develop our own personal brands and explore how "who we are" impacts "what we do".

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

2:10 PM – 2:40 PM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION PLAZA AB

THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA - TOXIC OR TONIC?

Veronica Wendt, *Decorated U.S. Army veteran and experienced professor of higher education*

This presentation will explore the evolution of the Internet and Social Media from their original promise of bringing the world closer, fostering relationships, and unleashing creativity, to what it is today: a fractured Internet with increasingly tribal communities and more than its share of toxicity and disinformation. However, it is also true that today's Internet and Social Media can be a tonic; that there are bright spots and glimmers of hope in the on-line environment, while acknowledging there are challenges in navigating toxicity and disinformation. It will conclude with the importance of choice in this landscape, specifically nuanced choice.

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP PLAZA C

ACCELERATE, PIVOT, & LEAD: THE ADVANTAGES OF WORKING AT INNOVATIVE TECH STARTUP

Ladan Najafizadeh, *Software engineer at Temboo*

Startups offer an accelerated education in technical and leadership skills. These fast-paced, resource-stretched environments motivate engineers to get creative, and explore multiple engineering disciplines at once. What industries are poised to see an explosion in the number of new companies? How does working at a startup impact your career development? What skills will make you successful in a startup environment? This talk will answer these questions, and help attendees explore the career opportunities, skills development areas, and teamwork lessons learned from employees of NYC-based IoT startup Temboo.

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

GRAND BALLROOM SALON II & GRAND BALLROOM FOYER

CAREER FAIR

2:45 PM – 3:50 PM (FIRESIDE CHAT)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION PLAZA AB

5G HYPE HAS SLOWED DOWN – WHAT IS THE BUSINESS CASE NOW FOR 5G AND WHY HAS IT SLOWED DOWN?

Charlotte Blair, *Lead Application Engineer for ANSYS Inc.*

Jean McManus, *Executive Director of Emerging Technologies at Verizon*

Payam Sharifi, *Group Vice President - Worldwide Service Provider Sales at Oracle Corporation*

5G and IoT have been discussed since the early 2000s. It's almost two decades later, has the marketplace for 5G technology and IoT devices reached its peak or has the Hype fizzled out? Has the accelerated introduction of 5G been replaced with its development in Big Data and artificial intelligence? Come and join the 5G discussion with women and men leaders and experts from industry, academia, and government with your questions and opinions.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

2:45 PM – 3:15 PM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP PLAZA C

CONNECT TO LEAD: HUMAN SKILLS FOR FUTURE-READY LEADERSHIP

Rachel Druckenmiller, *Founder & CEO, UNMUTED*

What leadership skills will be needed for the future of work? With the rise of technology and artificial intelligence, human skills will set apart the good leaders from the great. A recent study of over 50,000 managers found human skills to be a greater predictor of leadership effectiveness than technical skills or competence, though the best leaders have both. This session will inspire and empower you with relatable stories and equip you with practical skills and techniques to improve your performance and relationships. Leaders who implement the skills explored in this session will foster greater collaboration, creativity and collaboration, and our workplace cultures will be positively impacted because of their future-ready leadership. Learning Objectives

1. Explore three key skills necessary for effective, future-ready leadership
2. Discover strategies for self-awareness that will help you lead by example at work and at home
3. Apply a simple framework to personal and professional relationships to foster psychological safety and connection

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT GRAND BALLROOM SALON I

SMART CAREER MANAGEMENT: WORK TO BUILD A CAREER, NOT JUST PAY THE BILLS!

Chitra Venkatraman, *Distinguished Engineer at IBM*

Many engineers spend years or even decades delivering solid technical performance without recognizing the need to manage their careers, and they often point to external factors if their careers stall. This presentation explores the concept of Smart Career Management, which is a continuous process of aligning oneself with the work environment in addition to focusing on effective execution of work assignments. Key topics covered in this presentation include Personal Development, Organization, Time Management, Communication, Management of peer/manager interfaces, Performance Review, Networking and Corporate awareness. Examples collected from engineers and managers with decades of experience will be used to illustrate how most work assignments and events can be executed to get both short-time results and long-term benefits. Key take-aways will be provided, including a top-10 of “do’s” and “don’ts”.

3:20 PM – 3:50 PM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP PLAZA C

2020 LEADERSHIP: BUILDING HIGH-PERFORMING TEAMS THAT CRUSH IT!

Rhonda Farrell, *IEEE Member | WIE Member*

Looking to better harness the vision, energy, skills, and acumen of your team? Want to build trust, rapport, and empowerment skills? Desiring to drive performance through the roof? Change your style, change your results! Adapting your leadership style to a coaching and mentoring approach builds awareness, trust, shared experiences and knowledge, and drives innovative risk-taking that pays off in high rewards. Move your team from burn-out and apathy to peak performance using mindset, innovation tools and approaches, co-creation, informed risk-taking, focus on the value-add, and recharging. Here’s to your team’s success

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT GRAND BALLROOM SALON I

SOAR TO YOUR MAXIMUM POTENTIAL: TAKE OWNERSHIP OF YOUR CAREER

Maple Ucheonye, *Systems Engineering leader*

There is no better time than now to ignite your long-abandoned dreams or to spark new ones. You can act and cultivate new habits that will transform your goals that uniquely reflect your personality. Taking ownership of your career is the foundation for you to meet and exceed your goals. If you are tired of hovering in place and ready to expand your vision to fly to the next level, then it is time to make your vision a reality.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER

3:50 PM – 4:30 PM GRAND BALLROOM SALON II

COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITS

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM (KEYNOTE) GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

MEGAN SAMFORD

Global Director of Product Security at Rockwell Automation

Industrial Cybersecurity: B sides discussion

ICS and OT Security is a topic of great interest within the world of Industrial Automation. Rockwell Automation's Director of Product Security, Megan Samford, has a lot to say about the matter. In her keynote, Megan will address how Rockwell Automation is actively arming their customers to protect their plants against common and advanced persistent threats. She will also speak to infrastructure threats and how Rockwell Automation is working to protect infrastructure globally.

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM (KEYNOTE) GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

THERESA CARAGOL

Founder & CEO at AchieveUnite Inc

Leadership by Influence

Innovate Yourself

- How do you create a personal and authentic brand and leadership?
- The key to building your personal channel leadership roadmap.
- What are the behaviors that make strong women leaders?
- How to navigate challenging relationships.
- How to become more influential while maintaining your confidence and soul.

Achieve Unite, LLC, an established, innovative partner advisory company that helps generate maximum results from their channel and alliance organizations, has launched ACE: Leadership by Influence. The ACE program was developed by women experts in the Channel and Leadership industries with a combined 75+ years of experience. This uniquely designed presentation, born from the ACE program, will provide participants with high quality tools and insights into their professional development. It will cover key areas, including adaptive leadership, enhancing women's channel expertise and inspiring others to action. The presentation will enable participants to learn from others and empower them to grow as a professional channel leader and mentor. ACE Leadership by Influence; Authentic Leadership, Collaboration, and Empowerment

5:30 PM – 5:45 PM (CLOSING) GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

CLOSING REMARKS

Neeta Basantkumar, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

Felicia Harlow, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM DIPLOMAT ROOM

SOCIAL EVENT 2: TREATS & TALES (5-YEAR ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION)

DETAILED SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, 23 NOVEMBER

7:00 AM – 10:00 AM GRAND BALLROOM FOYER

REGISTRATION

7:15 AM – 8:45 AM GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

BREAKFAST

8:45 AM – 9:15 AM (INTERACTIVE PANEL) GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

EMPOWERING FUTURE FORUM LEADERS – LEAD INSPIRE EMPOWER AND NETWORK

Moderator: Neeta Basantkumar, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

Panelist: Felicia Harlow, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

Panelist: Charlotte Blair, *Lead Application Engineer for ANSYS Inc.*

Panelist: Maryam Rahmani, *Consultant and Strategist*

Panelist: Charles Rubenstein, *Professor at Pratt Institute*

Panelist: Denise Griffin, *Manager, Technology & Franchise Success*

Panelist: Dana Voll, *Electrical Engineer at Northrop Grumman*

Meet the influencers of the forum at this rare interactive panel on the fifth anniversary. The forum committee members will discuss their vision and experience. You will get to hear about what happens behind the scenes. The steering committee members have professional careers and yet make time to volunteer to bring this forum to life. Every year, the committee looks for new members - an excellent opportunity for anyone wanting to build their leadership skills, design a forum or simply network. Ask us how you can volunteer! Finally, we want to hear from you – how have you been inspired or what do you want to see the next five years?

9:20 AM – 9:50 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION PLAZA AB

EXPLORATORY RESEARCH ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND CONFIGURATION OF WIRELESS SENSORS ON HEAVY VEHICLES

Nicole Allen, *Consultant at Sensata Technologies*

Rosanna Heidt, *Mechanical Design Engineer at Sensata Technologies*

Sensata has entered the electrification and smart vehicle markets using a venture funding like business construct. One of these venture initiatives is Smart & Connected, whose goal is to develop a Vehicle Area Network (VAN). This system will enable fleets to deploy sensing systems that can be used to provide actionable insights. The Sensata team is leveraging its extensive sensor knowledge, as well as performing exploratory research to expand the available sensor suite. The results will be used to advise the design process to successfully integrate and configure wireless sensors. This continued research will enable Smart & Connected to increase efficiency, improve uptime, and enhance safety for heavy vehicles.

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP PLAZA C

BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF: CAPABILITY, CAPACITY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Nicole Newmeyer, *Technical Director, Internet of Things at National Security Agency*

Every one of us has felt excitement when learning about an activity in an area that we're passionate about, especially one we feel we could contribute to; and given the opportunity, we often jump in and volunteer ourselves to support one aspect or another. In some of those cases we've later found ourselves unable to make time to provide the level of support we originally wanted to. In situations like these, we are really fighting two battles; the first of capability vs. capacity, and the second of accountability to ourselves. Too often we prevent ourselves from reaching our full potential by not understanding our capability and our capacity, and working to increase both of those, and even more critically being accountable to ourselves for the decisions we make. This talk will explore these three concepts, their interdependence, and provide a few tools to help increase self-awareness of limiting behaviors.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, 23 NOVEMBER

9:20 AM – 10:25 AM (PANEL)

TRACK 3: INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT GRAND BALLROOM SALON I

ADVOCATING FOR STUDENTS: HELPING WOMEN THRIVE IN COLLEGIATE ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

Moderator: Sylvie DeLaHunt, *Guidance, Navigation, and Control Engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory*

Panelist: Kerri Phillips, *Cyber Systems Engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory*

Panelist: Emily Brown, *Cyber Systems Engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory*

Panelist: Mary Ann Saunders, *Senior Professional Staff at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory*

Collegiate engineering and technology programs struggle with both the recruitment and retention of female students. From a young age, girls are exposed to social norms that can reduce their interest and confidence in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). These gendered experiences then facilitate the existence of social phenomena, such as imposter syndrome and stereotype threat, and influence how collegiate women perceive and respond to institutional obstacles commonly associated with traditional engineering and technology programs, including grading policies, lack of transparency, and classroom climate. This panel will overview the individual and institutional obstacles that work together to disproportionately discourage female students, hindering university retention efforts. The panelists will propose ways collegiate engineering and technology programs can adapt to promote the retention and success of women and will discuss strategies for students, faculty, staff, and industry professionals to help cultivate an inclusive and supportive culture.

9:55 AM – 10:25 AM (PRESENTATION)

TRACK 1: INNOVATION PLAZA AB

ZERO TRUST ORCHESTRATION - A NEW SECURITY PARADIGM

Juanita Koilpillai, *Founder & Chief Executive Officer at Waverley Labs*

Zero Trust is a catchphrase that is growing in use and is employed by cybersecurity product and service vendors to promote their offerings. Zero Trust, as the concept implies, requires that users aren't allowed any access to anything until they can prove who they are. Attaching the moniker "Zero Trust" usually misleads buyers into a false sense of security (no pun intended). True Zero Trust requires that no one is allowed into the network without rigorous authentication at the machine and user level along with the use of true multi-factor authentication. Implementing Zero Trust in today's networks is very complicated. Waverley Labs has pioneered an open source reference implementation of an architecture called the Software Defined Perimeter funded by the Department of Homeland Security. This work has been leveraged to provide security for software defined networks and is the ONLY way to implement Zero Trust effectively and efficiently.

TRACK 2: LEADERSHIP PLAZA C

IS THERE REALLY A STEM GENDER EQUITY PARADOX?

Fahmida Chowdhury, *Program Director at National Science Foundation*

In this interactive panel, we will discuss the so-called "STEM Gender Equity Paradox" which has recently received wide publicity. Data show that in some of the countries with lowest gender equity, more women enter and work in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), compared with some countries that are much higher in gender equity. The panelists will present their own points of view, and personal experiences, and will collectively explore the interesting phenomenon of what factors might influence girls to choose engineering (or STEM in general), and why there are such variations between countries. The panel will be interactive, with audience participation and questions and answers. The goal of the panel is to trigger a conversation and action items toward getting information from different countries to better understand the factors behind gender imbalance in engineering.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, 23 NOVEMBER

10:25AM – 10:45 AM GRAND BALLROOM SALON II

COFFEE BREAK

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM (KEYNOTE) GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

MARY BETH BORGWING

President at Standish Cyber Corp

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11:15 AM – 11:30 AM GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE

11:30 AM – 11:45 AM GRAND BALLROOM SALON III

CLOSING REMARKS

Neeta Basantkumar, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

Felicia Harlow, *Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019*

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM GRAND BALLROOM SALON I & III

BOOLEAN GIRL WORKSHOP

https://attend.ieee.org/wie-forum-usa-east-2019/boolean-girl-coding-workshop/

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FORUM SPEAKERS

ASMA ABUZAAKOUK

Social and Behavioral Scientist at MITRE Corporation

As a Social and Behavioral Scientist, Dr. Abuzaakouk applies evidence-based data driven approaches to innovation and transformational change. Currently, Asma works within the MITRE Corporation's Enterprise Strategy and Transformation Technical Center and Human and Organizational Systems department. Her thought leadership spans organizational and leadership development, culture change, stakeholder engagement, strategic planning, human capital management, strategic communications, and inclusion and diversity. She also trains and coaches leaders and students on inclusive leadership practices, emotional intelligence and transformational leadership styles of behavior. Her focus area is on the Neuroscience of Inclusion. She offers seminars to leaders and students at MITRE, government agencies, and universities including New York University. Asma has provided strategic guidance on the enterprise transformation efforts of the Department of Homeland Security, Department of State, Census Bureau, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, Department of Treasury, General Services Administration, and the Internal Revenue Service. Asma obtained her B.S. from Georgetown University in International Relations Law and Organization, her M.A.I.S. from George Mason University in Conflict Analysis and Information Technology, and her Ph.D. in Industrial Organizational Psychology from Capella University. Her research focused on the effects of transformational leadership styles of behavior on innovation potential.

NICOLE ALLEN

Consultant at Sensata Technologies

Nicole Allen recently joined Sensata as a Mechanical Design Engineer in the Smart & Connected venture. With more than 5 years of experience in engineering, prior to Sensata, Nicole worked as a Design Engineer at The Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL). She was able to work with Engineers and Physicists from all over the world while on the Tritium Systems and Diagnostic Teams. Nicole has been involved in STEM Outreach and Diversity and Inclusion efforts throughout her career. She is very passionate about giving back and creating a work environment where everyone is comfortable and capable of reaching their full potential. Nicole earned her BSME from the University of Pittsburgh and enjoys crafting, volunteering, swimming and spinning in her free time.

TERESA ALLISON

Senior Policy, Risk, Governance, and Compliance Specialist at Booz Allen Hamilton

Teresa Allison is a certified Information security professional who has worked in the field of information technology consulting for over 18 years. She is a Senior Policy, Risk, Governance, and Compliance Specialist at Booz Allen Hamilton. Allison provides clients with solutions for managing multi-billion dollar IT programs. She specializes in strategic planning, budgeting, performance management, portfolio management, governance, risk management, legal & regulatory compliance, project management, program management, process improvement, business operations transformation, strategic communications and stakeholder management. Teresa received her bachelor's degree in Political Science from Xavier University. She graduated from Carnegie Mellon University's H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy with a Master of Science in Public Policy and Management with a concentration in Management of Information Systems. She is certified IT professional who currently holds the PMP, CGEIT, CSM, ITIL, Security+, CISA, CISSP, and Lean Six Sigma certifications. Teresa Allison is currently the Vice President of Strategic Relations for the Information System Security Association (ISSA) DC Chapter. She also serves as a volunteer for the Women's Society of Cyberjutsu which encourages women to pursue careers in Cybersecurity. Allison coordinates higher education outreach programs for the Project Management Institute (PMI) as a member of the Higher Education Partnerships committee. She is a member of the Information System Audit and Control Association (ISACA) GWDC Chapter and the Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS). Teresa Allison is the Past President of the Carnegie Mellon University Heinz College Alumni Association comprised of over 11,000 alumni from around the world.

FORUM SPEAKERS

ADITYA BALASUBRAMANIAN

Electrical Design Engineer at Sensata Technologies

Teresa Allison is a certified Information security professional who has worked in the field of information technology consulting for over 18 years. She is a Senior Policy, Risk, Governance, and Compliance Specialist at Booz Allen Hamilton. Allison provides clients with solutions for managing multi-billion dollar IT programs. She specializes in strategic planning, budgeting, performance management, portfolio management, governance, risk management, legal & regulatory compliance, project management, program management, process improvement, business operations transformation, strategic communications and stakeholder management. Teresa received her bachelor's degree in Political Science from Xavier University. She graduated from Carnegie Mellon University's H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy with a Master of Science in Public Policy and Management with a concentration in Management of Information Systems. She is certified IT professional who currently holds the PMP, CGEIT, CSM, ITIL, Security+, CISA, CISSP, and Lean Six Sigma certifications. Teresa Allison is currently the Vice President of Strategic Relations for the Information System Security Association (ISSA) DC Chapter. She also serves as a volunteer for the Women's Society of Cyberjutsu which encourages women to pursue careers in Cybersecurity. Allison coordinates higher education outreach programs for the Project Management Institute (PMI) as a member of the Higher Education Partnerships committee. She is a member of the Information System Audit and Control Association (ISACA) GWDC Chapter and the Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS). Teresa Allison is the Past President of the Carnegie Mellon University Heinz College Alumni Association comprised of over 11,000 alumni from around the world.

NEETA BASANTKUMAR

Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019

Neeta Basantkumar is currently the Assembly & Environmental Process Engineering Manager at Northrop Grumman's Advanced Technology Laboratories (ATL). Previously, she supported the trusted foundry as a Process Integration Engineer. She also worked at Lockheed Martin as a Research Engineer after completing her rotations as Engineering Leadership Development Program (ELDP) participant. She served as a volunteer with IEEE WIE Forum (East) the previous years and was the co-chair in 2017. Neeta is excited to continue supporting this forum. Her other volunteer activities include volunteering at the local Baltimore schools, and APPN (The Asian Pacific Professional Network) an inclusive Employee Resource Group (ERG). She enjoys teaching STEM to young women through hands-on learning activities. Neeta has a professional degree from Columbia University, masters from University of Minnesota, and bachelors from Widener University all in electrical engineering.

CHARLOTTE BLAIR

Lead Application Engineer at ANSYS Inc.

Charlotte Blair, PhD. is a Lead Application Engineer for ANSYS Inc. She received her BS in Electrical Engineering at Rutgers-College of Engineering and her MS and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology. She has supported electromagnetics simulations using industry known tools for over ten years. Her real world experience extends from the design of laser diode transmit modules for Lytel/Lockheed to design of filters for wireless communications applications at Celwave/RFS. She is a professional, self-motivated team player committed to excellence with hands-on RF, microwave, and laser-optic experience; strong field service, customer service, project management and communication skills. With Maryam Rahmani, Charlotte serves as the Technical Co-Chair for the 2016 IEEE R1 & R2 Women in Engineering (WIE) Forum East. Charlotte also serves as the IEEE Connecticut Section Chair for the local Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) and WIE Chapter as well as the IEEE Region 1 Public Visibility Chair.

FORUM SPEAKERS

EMILY BROWN

Cyber Systems Engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory

Emily Brown is a Cyber Systems Engineer at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) in the Cyber Warfare Systems group. Her technical experience focuses on software design, automated testing, and cyber security, with research interests in machine learning, data science, and system vulnerability research. Emily is also a project manager and section supervisor for her group. At the laboratory, Emily volunteers as the president of APL's Asian American Heritage Club and a member of APL's Employee Resource Group. Emily graduated in 2014 from the Center for Women in Technology (CWIT) Scholars program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Computer Science. She is also a recipient of the Maryland Space Grant Scholarship and the Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association (AFCEA) Cyber Studies Scholarship. Emily has presented three times at Society of Women Engineers conferences, on the following topics: "Getting the Innovative Spark for Your Organization", "Planting the Seed: Tips and Tricks for Sustainable STEM Outreach" and "From Passive Supporter to Active Advocate". As a believer in the value of teaching computational thinking to all students, Emily also serves as the Vice President of the Board of Directors for the non-profit organization "HowGirlsCode" which encourages elementary-aged girls to see a place for themselves in computer science and see a place for computer science in their worlds.

MARY BETH BORGWING

President at Standish Cyber Corp

Mary Beth Borgwing, is the President of Standish Cyber Corp. serving technology and security companies with investment, operations and turnaround strategy advisory services. Borgwing serves on several boards and advisor to many high growth cyber security products companies in Silicon Valley, Washington DC and New York City. She is very active in cyber ecosystem in New York and Washington, DC. Mary Beth has extensive experience as a CEO and senior executive of security and technology product companies; LemonFish Technologies, (World Aware), Vigilant (Deloitte), and Sentillion (Microsoft). Borgwing has an established track record at Standish Cyber of building successful teams for high product growth and investor ROI for sales and investment "go to market" using a proven "product, market fit" strategy. Borgwing is a frequent speaker on cyber risk at global cyber conferences and contributing author to many national cyber publications. Mary Beth lives with her family in McLean, VA and is an avid networker.

THERESA CARAGOL

Founder & CEO at AchieveUnite Inc

Theresa Caragol is founder and CEO, AchieveUnite Inc., a strategic consulting and education firm that provides channel, partnering and business acceleration services to global enterprises. AchieveUnite offers partner and channel development, go-to-market strategy, M&A channel integration, and executive education forums. Ms. Caragol has more than 20 years' experience in building and managing multi-million-dollar indirect channel teams and strategic alliance programs from inception to sales success. She co-founded an industry Channel Think Tank designed to influence and support the industry's digital transformation, numerous advisory boards, and was one of 15 women selected for the First Leadership Foundry in Washington, DC – an organization dedicated to mentoring and recruiting women for positions on corporate boards. Ms. Caragol has received numerous IT industry channel accolades including the Informa Top Industry Influencer (2017) and CRN's Top 50 Most Influential Channel Chiefs (2014). Theresa Caragol is also a sought-after speaker, trainer, and facilitator, and was recently featured in the new book, How to Be A Woman in Technology (While Focusing on What Matters Most). Prior to founding AchieveUnite Inc, Theresa held senior executive roles at Extreme Networks, Ciena and Nortel. She holds a Bachelors from Virginia Tech, and MBA from University of Wisconsin, and an Executive Masters in Leadership Georgetown University Business School.

FORUM SPEAKERS

FAHMIDA CHOWDHURY

Program Director at National Science Foundation

Dr. Fahmida Chowdhury is a Program Director in the Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE) at the US National Science Foundation (NSF). Prior to joining NSF in 2008, she was a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, LA, USA, where she held the W. Hansen Hall and Mary O. Hall Endowed Chair in Computer Engineering. Dr. Chowdhury has been active in IEEE for many years; she served on the editorial boards of two IEEE Transactions: on Control Systems Technology and on Neural Networks. She has served as an elected member of the IEEE Control System Society's Board of Governors, and also on the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society's AdCOM. She was one of the Founding Members and Chair of IEEE Control Systems Society's "Women in Control" committee. She has remained actively engaged in promoting women in STEM throughout her academic and government career. Her research interests include complex systems modeling and analysis, non-traditional applications of dynamic systems theory, and detection of abnormal conditions (faults) in dynamic systems. She was a Fulbright Scholar in 2001, a Visiting Professor at the Helsinki University of Technology (Finland) in 2004, and a US State Department Embassy Science Fellow in 2013. She has deep interest in international science, technology and educational collaborations, science diplomacy, and serving society through humanitarian technologies and policy-level activities.

CYNTHIA DANIELL

Director, Research Directorate at National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Dr. Cindy Daniell became the Director of the Research Directorate for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in June 2018. She brings over 30 years of experience in the Department of Defense (DoD) community from both government service and private industry. Her experience at HRL Laboratories and SRI International focused largely on the technology development of image processing, computer vision, and AI. She spent six years as a Program Manager in the Defense Sciences Office of DARPA, leading a portfolio of R&D programs in areas such as surveillance, signal processing, clean energy, and clean water. Dr. Daniell has a BS in electrical engineering from the University of South Alabama and an MS and PhD in electrical engineering from the California Institute of Technology. She holds three patents and has authored or coauthored 12 peer-reviewed publications.

SYLVIE DELAHUNT

Guidance, Navigation, and Control Engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory

Sylvie DeLaHunt is a Guidance, Navigation, and Control Engineer in the Air and Missile Defense Sector at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL). She is President of the Society of Women Engineers affinity group at APL (SWE@APL) and a member of APL's Employee Resource Group. Through SWE@APL, Sylvie has led numerous diversity and inclusion initiatives, including APL's lab-wide Women's History Month Celebration and SWE@APL's annual College Visit Day. She was recognized with a 2018 Johns Hopkins Diversity Recognition Award. Sylvie earned her Bachelor's ('14) and Master's ('16) degrees in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland (UMD). As a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, Sylvie was a founding member of UMD's Women in Aeronautics and Astronautics student group and authored an Op-Ed in the Baltimore Sun titled, "Encouraging Female Engineers" that was featured by the Amy Poehler's Smart Girls Facebook page. Sylvie is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics' Diversity Working Group and an alumna representative on the UMD Department of Aerospace Engineering's Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

FORUM SPEAKERS

RACHEL DRUCKENMILLER

Founder & CEO, UNMUTED

Rachel Druckenmiller is on a mission to humanize the workplace by igniting intentional leadership. She is a catalyst who brings out the best in people and organizations, so they can lead intentionally, connect effectively, and thrive relationally, emotionally and physically. Rachel is an award-winning and nationally recognized thought leader, speaker, and change agent with over a decade of experience in the field of workplace wellbeing and culture. She has guided numerous organizations to earn recognition as “top workplaces” and “healthy employers”. She trains leadership teams to be more self-aware, curious and connected, so they can have greater impact and influence at their organizations. In 2019, Rachel was recognized as a 40 Under 40 Game Changer by Workforce Magazine, and Employ Humanity named her one of “7 Wellness Leaders Making a Positive Impact” in 2018. She was named the #1 Health Promotion Professional in the United States in 2015. Rachel is one of the founding members of the international nonprofit, Global Women 4 Wellbeing (GW4W), and speaks to women's leadership teams about how to be more confident and courageous. She is also a Founding Member of the Baltimore Chapter of HackingHR, a global community of constructively disruptive leaders committed to rethinking HR.

RHONDA FARRELL

Founder, Cyber & STEAM Global Innovation Alliance

Dr. Rhonda Farrell is a humble, servant leader, consistently working to positively increase an organization’s impact and capabilities by working synergistically and cross-functionally. She exemplifies the positive characteristics of good leadership, including strategic vision, commitment, passion, empathy, honesty, integrity, positive communications, and sound decision making capabilities. Dr. Farrell bolsters her leadership competencies by being well grounded in the cybersecurity, technical, innovation, quality management and change management areas. She is certified as a CCMP, CISSP, CMAP, CMQ/OE, CSQE, CSSLP, and recently achieved Prosci Certified Change Practitioner® status which focuses on ensuring organizational success through harnessing and bolstering the three foundational elements of leadership, project management, and change management. She has served commercial, academia, government, and non-profit organizations over the course of her 35+ year career, utilizing the basics of military service in her early years to the United States Marine Corps, and additionally founded non-profit special interest groups, technical alliances and LLCs. She serves (or has served) women, veteran, youth, practitioner, and executive populations at the global, regional, local board, or committee level with ACMP, ASQ, IEEE, ISSA, and WIT.

FORUM SPEAKERS

ANTHONY GOLD

Entrepreneur, Director, Advisor, Startup Investor

Current Co-founder, Board Member: ROAR for Good Advisory Board Member: Penn State, Great Valley Graduate School Advisor: Several commercial and non-profit organizations. After graduating from Drexel University with an electrical engineering degree, I began my career as a hardware engineer for Unisys Corporation, working on their high-end A-Series mainframes. As a result of my prior Unisys co-op experience, I was given a lot of responsibility and trust early on. I was very fortunate to have great mentors and exceptionally talented teams - and found myself quickly promoted through the ranks. As VP & GM of hardware engineering, I led the teams responsible for creating several of Unisys' most successful enterprise server products, generating billions of dollars in revenue and making a huge impact on the world. Along the way, several of my inventions became patents in the field of high-speed computer processing. And one of the servers I helped architect is in the Guinness Book of World Records for its performance. I co-founded the Open Solutions Alliance, a non-profit industry consortium comprised of the world's top open source companies to help usher in the then-new era of open source software. I was honored to be named by Network World as one of the top business leaders in open source software. Even more rewarding was Unisys being named by the industry as "open source's biggest services gun." Most recently, I co-founded ROAR for Good, a wearable tech B-corporation focused on reducing assaults and empowering women. ROAR launched a very successful crowdfunding campaign, leading to the company's initial development and shipment of over ten-thousand safety modules around the world, helping impact many lives.
Holder of eight (8) US Patents 6792497, 6697962, 6640289, 6530069, 6006296, 5926840, 5533201, 5530811

DENISE GRIFFIN

Manager, Technology & Franchise Success

Denise Griffin is in her fourth year as the IEEE Region 1 Women in Engineering Coordinator. She is coordinating the Career Fair for the 2018 IEEE WIE Forum East Career Fair and was the Chair of the 2016 IEEE WIE Forum East in Boston. She recruited the WIE Boston Steering Committee, served as the Chair for 3 years, increased its membership by 30% and led the group to receive the WIE Affinity Group of the Year Runner Up award 2 years in a row. She was the IEEE representative to Engineers Week New England for 7 years, responsible for securing corporate sponsorship. She was on the Steering Committee for the IEEE NATW Conference and ran a session on Women in Engineering. She is currently serving on the Steering Committee for IEEE Future Leaders Forum responsible for the Career Expo. Denise has a BS in Electrical Engineering from Tufts University and works as an Independent Contractor in the area of Business Intelligence specializing in data analysis and operations.

FELICIA HARLOW

Co-Chair, IEEE WIE FORUM USA EAST 2019

Felicia began her current career at the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) after retiring as a Captain from the US Air Force in 2005. She started out in the AFRL Information Directorate working on distributed collaborative systems and currently works developing cyber protections for avionics systems in the AFRL Sensors Directorate. Felicia also manages a state-of-the-art lab supporting multiple in-house research missions and 75+ internal government and contractor users. She received her B.S. in Computer Engineering from the University of Central Florida (summa cum laude) and her M.S. in Computer Engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology. She is happy to be supporting the 5th year of this empowering forum.

FORUM SPEAKERS

ROSANNA HEIDT

Mechanical Design Engineer at Sensata Technologies

Rosie Heidt recently joined Sensata's Smart and Connected venture and is working as a Mechanical Design Engineer contributing towards new product development initiatives. Rosie graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in May 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in both Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering. At WPI, Rosie worked as a tutor and continues to help teach aspiring young engineers in Sensata's STEM Mentoring program. Outside of work, she enjoys travelling, cooking, lifting, martial arts, and rock climbing.

ANA JEVTIC

PhD student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Ana Jevtić is a fourth year PhD student at the Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems (LIDS) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She received her MSc ('15) and BSc ('13) from University of Belgrade, Serbia. Since 2015, she is a part of the Electric Energy Systems Group (EESG@MIT), advised by Prof. Marija Ilić. Her research interests include cyber-security of electric power systems, and more specifically, cyber-attack detection and resilient state estimation and operation of the electric power grid. She is a recipient of the Best Student Paper Award at the 2018 IFAC Symposium on Control of Power and Energy Systems (CPES).

JUANITA KOILPILLAI

Founder & Chief Executive Officer at Waverley Labs

Juanita Koilpillai is Founder & CEO of Waverley Labs, a pioneer in software-defined perimeters (SDP) and digital risk reduction solutions. She has 30 years' experience researching and developing systems in computer security, network management, and real-time distributed software. She leads the open-source software-defined perimeter (SDP) effort for 'black' apps in the cloud with the Cloud Security Alliance and is a frequent contributor to the NIST Cloud Computing Working Group and led the creation of a security risk index system for moving apps to the cloud (NIST SP 500-299). She was a key member of FEMA's Enterprise Security Management Team and serves as Principle Investigator for several DoD & DHS initiatives. She co-founded CyberWolf - an advanced automated attack warning system deployed by the government and later acquired by Symantec.

DEAN LANE

Senior Vice President for Cyber Intelligence at The Institute of World Politics

Mr. Lane serves as the Senior Vice President of the Institute of World Politics (IWP) Cyber Intelligence Initiative. In this capacity, he is responsible for seven Cyber Intelligence Certifications offered by the University. Prior to joining IWP Mr. Lane was the founder and CEO of the Office of the CIO®; an influential consultancy and community of CIOs well known throughout the Silicon Valley and beyond. Members of the Office of the CIO included CIOs from Symantec, Facebook, Polycom, Brocade, Peet's Coffee and 45 other top Silicon Valley companies. Mr. Lane has 30 years of hands on experience in the Cyber world, having been a CIO, as a practitioner, at four different companies: Honeywell Aerospace, ATK, Plantronics, and Masters Institute of Technology. Additionally, he held the Senior IT Director position at Symantec. Mr. Lane has also been a consultant for Gartner, AT&T (Teradata) and Ernst & Young, His experience is global and as found on the internet, he is considered an expert on Cyber. Mr. Lane obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of California (UCLA) and his MBA from National University. He is Certified in the Governance of Enterprise IT (CGEIT) by ISACA and is also certified as a Master Project Manager. Mr. Lane served on the advisory boards of the State of California Veteran's Affairs, Comtrade Inc, TachTech, and SFSU's Center for Electronic Business. Mr. Lane's first book, CIO Wisdom, is a Prentice Hall World-wide #1 Best Seller and a sequel, CIO Perspectives was published by Kendall-Hunt. His most recent book CIO's Body of Knowledge was published by Wiley & Sons. During a Hi Tech Economic Mission to Israel, he consulted with former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barach. Mr. Lane is a highly decorated U.S. Naval Special Warfare Officer who served as the SEAL Team Officer for the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet.

FORUM SPEAKERS

UCHEONYE MAPLE

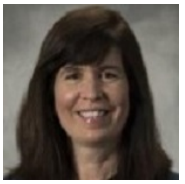
Systems Engineering leader

Ucheonye Maple is a recognized Systems Engineering leader with a proven track record of empowering and motivating STEM professionals. She is a professional speaker, coach and mentor in the STEM community. Her dynamic personality coupled with the determination to overcome any obstacle is what makes her extraordinary. Uche started Aghaeze-Maple Enterprises LLC, a career development coaching and consultant company, because of the struggles she saw African Americans and women STEM professionals were partaking in the advancement of their career. Her mission is to educate STEM professionals on how to take ownership of their own careers, in order to obtain promotions and raises. She is currently a Systems Engineering Manager at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab. Uche received her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Prairie View A&M University, MBA from University of Phoenix and her M.S. in Systems Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. She is also a graduate from the Leadership Essentials Program at Loyola University.

JEAN MCMANUS

Executive Director of Emerging Technologies at Verizon

Jean is the Executive Director of Emerging Technologies in Verizon's Technology and Product Development organization. She is currently responsible for product innovation with emerging technologies such as AI, blockchain, and quantum technologies. Jean leads a product technology proof of concept lab which creates proofs of concept with emerging technologies. Jean was recognized by Fierce Telecom as both a 2011 Woman in Wireline and in a series entitled “Six Faces of IPv6” for her leadership at Verizon during the 2011 World IPv6 Day. She regularly champions Women in Tech initiatives within Verizon including Women’s Developer Summits and Women’s Networking Circles. She was profiled in the 2016 book, “The Internet of Women: Accelerating Culture Change.” Jean was named an @MAKERS in 2017. She received her PhD (Systems Engineering) and MSE (Electrical Engineering) from the University of Pennsylvania and a BSE (Electrical Engineering) from Duke University. She holds several patents.



MONICA MCMANUS

Vice President & Chief Information Officer at Lockheed Martin’s Rotary and Mission Systems

Monica McManus is vice president and chief information officer (CIO) of Lockheed Martin’s Rotary and Mission Systems (RMS) business area. In this role, Monica is responsible for the development and execution of the information technology (IT) strategy. Monica has more than 30 years of experience in business, program and engineering leadership. She began her career at TRW in software engineering and program leadership before joining Lockheed Martin in 1997. Since then, she has moved into leadership positions of increasing scope and complexity, supporting federal, commercial and international markets. Previously, Monica served in several roles with responsibility for profit and loss, engineering performance and IT leadership. These include vice president of applications and CIO of Lockheed Martin’s Enterprise Operations, vice president and CIO of Lockheed Martin’s Information Systems and Global Solutions (IS&GS) business area, vice president of IS&GS Security Engineering and vice president of Geospatial Systems and Services. Monica is a graduate of the College of William and Mary with a Bachelor of Science with Honors in Computer Science. She received a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from Virginia Tech. Monica has been involved in many community activities, with a passion for STEM activities. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors for the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE) and Co-Chair of the Lockheed-Martin Hispanic Organization for Leadership and Awareness (HOLA) Leadership Council. She has been recognized as one of the Hispanic IT Executive Council (HITEC) 100 in 2016, 2017 and 2018. Monica was also named by the Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA) in its list of the 50 Most Powerful Latinas in 2017 and 2018.

FORUM SPEAKERS

ZIPPORAH MONDY

KJIW-FM 94.5 in Helena, Arkansas and KCAT 1340 AM in Pine Bluff, Arkansas

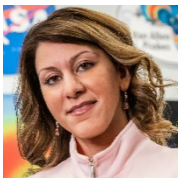
Zipporah Mondy, a Chicago native, is the Executive Gofer at her family's radio broadcasting company. Whatever is needed, she will "go-fer it". The family radio stations, KJIW-FM 94.5 in Helena, Arkansas and KCAT 1340 AM in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, are owned and managed by her parents, Elijah and Belinda Mondy. Zipporah received radio training from her dad, a former program traffic coordinator and engineer of 29 years at NBC WMAQ-TV (Chicago). She has over 20 years of radio broadcast experience in a variety of areas including on-air talent, production, sales, marketing, traffic, programming, promotions, digital media, computer IT, and some broadcast engineering. She has over 15 years of experience in youth outreach, summer youth camps, and youth leadership training. She obtained her associate degree at Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Creative Media Production and a minor in marketing from Arkansas State University. She is a member of the National Leadership Society and was a National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Radio Student Scholar for four consecutive years. In 2018, Zipporah focused more on engineering through her acceptance and completion of the Technology Apprenticeship Program from the NAB Leadership Foundation. She is a founding member of the newly formed Society of Broadcast Engineers' Arkansas Chapter (2019). She is the second oldest of nine. Her faith and family are most important to her. Outside of radio she enjoys volleyball, studying Spanish, drawing, playing piano or guitar, cooking, traveling, and dancing when no one is looking. She aspires to grow the family radio business, obtain a helicopter pilot's license, launch an after-school media and technology program for underserved youth, embark on overseas missions, and start her own production company.

KENDRA MOORE

President at Boston Fusion Corp.

Kendra is the President of Boston Fusion Corp., a small business that develops advanced technology for the Department of Defense. Boston Fusion's technologies include machine learning, artificial intelligence, optimization, and sensor and data fusion; applications include planning, command and control, intelligence analysis, cyber, and decision support. Prior to founding Boston Fusion in 2010, Kendra served as a Program Manager at DARPA, where she ran several programs, including PANDA, the first system to automatically perform motion-based pattern learning and change detection. Prior to DARPA, she had a small consulting business called Advestan; before that, she was Director of Information Fusion at ALPHATECH. Kendra received her B.A. from Stephens College, where she double majored in Philosophy and Religion and Women's Studies (with a minor in Math), and M.A. in Philosophy of Religion from Columbia University in New York. After talking her way into an engineering job, she pursued and received M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Operations Research from Northeastern University. She is the author or co-author of 25 journal and conference papers. She has served on the Program Committee for the Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence since 2015. Her awards include the Office of Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service (2010), Director of DARPA Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in a Systems Technology Area (2008), and Department of Defense STEM Role Model (2006). In her spare time, she enjoys endurance bicycling, gardening, and cooking.

FORUM SPEAKERS



NELLI MOSAVI

Senior Professional Staff and the Van Allen Probe Project Manager at the Space Exploration Sector at Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory

Dr. Nelli Mosavi is Senior Professional Staff and the Van Allen Probe Project Manager at the Space Exploration Sector at Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory. She is the founder of Institute of Trusted Space Systems, a joint institute between APL and UMBC. Dr. Mosavi is an Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the Whiting School of Engineering at Johns Hopkins University and Adjunct Professor at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Oakland University Michigan, an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from The Johns Hopkins University and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

LADAN NAJAFIZADEH

Software engineer at Temboo

Ladan is a software engineer at Temboo, who spends her time doing web development, machine learning, and research.

NICOLE NEWMEYER

Technical Director, Internet of Things at National Security Agency

Nicole Newmeyer is the Technical Director for NSA Internet of Things (IoT) Integration. She is responsible for guiding short term and strategic direction, providing technical leadership to capability development teams, and providing technical recommendations to leadership focusing on integrating IoT across all of the NSA's missions. She is a graduate of the Agency's Senior Technical Development Program, focused on understanding the impact of Internet of Things technologies. Ms. Newmeyer has held technical leadership positions in both the signals intelligence and cybersecurity missions at NSA. She holds a B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and is working toward a M.S. in Technology Intelligence at the National Intelligence University. She is a co-chair for NSA's Women in Technology group, a component of the Women's Employee Resource Group, and is an active advocate, leader, and mentor; she has been recognized for her focus on mentoring and working to grow the next generation of technologists at NSA.

ARACELI ORTIZ

Executive Director and Research Associate Professor at Texas State University

Araceli Martinez Ortiz, PhD, is Executive Director and Research Associate Professor of the LBJ Institute for STEM Education and Research at Texas State University. She holds a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan, master's degrees in Engineering Management (Kettering University) and Education (Michigan State) and a PhD in Engineering Education from Tufts University. At Texas State University, she teaches quality assurance and engineering research methods courses in the Department of Engineering Technology and instructional methodology courses in science and mathematics education in the College of Education. Araceli has been active in IEEE and with other organizations that support Hispanic Engineers and Women in Engineering. As a professor and researcher in engineering education/ leadership in engineering, Dr. Martinez Ortiz leads national intervention and research efforts that explore factors related to how science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education is designed and delivered and how the STEM workplace impacts women and other historically underrepresented populations in engineering at all levels. In 2018, she was invited to serve as a visiting scholar in Sydney, Australia at the University of New South Wales to share her insights in the field through seminars and special workshops. She collaborated with other international educational research colleagues to collect data regarding identity development of professional women to conduct international comparative studies and seeks approaches to support more successful women in the field of engineering.

FORUM SPEAKERS

KERRI PHILLIPS

Cyber Systems Engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory

Dr. Kerri Phillips is a member of the Senior Professional Staff II at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL). Kerri has a technical background in guidance and control, aerodynamics, and flight mechanics. She serves as the Hypersonic Weapons Program Manager in the Force Projection Sector at APL, where she focuses on establishing APL as a national leader in hypersonics. Dr. Phillips is also a visiting professor at the Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering in the Mechanical Engineering and Technical Management Departments. Dr. Phillips earned Bachelor's degrees in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering ('07) and a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering ('11), all from West Virginia University. She also holds a Master's degree in Systems Engineering ('15) from Johns Hopkins University. Kerri is passionate about outreach and encouraging women to pursue STEM careers and has given a TEDx Talk on the topic entitled, "Don't Let the Brushback Pitch Take You Out of the Game." She was also featured on the Society of Women Engineers' Diverse Podcast where she shared her personal story to encourage girls to follow their STEM passions, even in the face of obstacles.

MARYAM RAHMANI

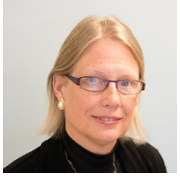
Consultant and Strategist

Maryam Rahmani is a consultant and a strategist committed to using technology and the power of collaboration to solve challenges facing enterprises. Maryam serves on the advisory board of several start-ups. She is a board member of the Society of High-Performance Computing Professional (SHPCP). Most recently, she served as the Global Partnership Officer at Global Cyber Alliance, an international nonprofit organization. Maryam holds a Master of Science in cybersecurity policy from the University of Maryland University College and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida. She is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP). Maryam is deeply committed to outreach and awareness activities in support of encouraging more women to pursue careers in science and technology especially information security. She has been serving as the Technical Program Co-Chair and Forum Co-Chair for the IEEE Regions 1 & 2 Women in Engineering (WIE) Forum East since 2016. She is active in IEEE-Computer Society, and ISSA Women in Security (WIS) Security Interest Group (SIG).

THOMAS RONDEAU

DARPA Microsystems Technology Office (MTO)

Tom Rondeau is a program manager in DARPA's Microsystems Technology Office with a focus on adaptive and reconfigurable radios, improving the development cycle for new signal-processing techniques, and exploring new approaches and applications with the electromagnetic spectrum. Prior to joining DARPA, Tom was the maintainer and lead developer of the GNU Radio project, a visiting researcher with the University of Pennsylvania, and an Adjunct with the IDA Center for Communications Research in Princeton, NJ.



CARRIE ROOT

CEO and Founder of Alpha UMi Inc

Carrie Root, Ph.D. (Engineering), CEO and Founder of Alpha UMi Inc, held engineering positions at Bolt, Beranek and Newman, IBM, the MITRE Corporation and other companies before becoming an independent engineering consultant for DoD and DoC for 25 years. Four years ago, she recognized that our workforce needed better tools for career success and sustainability and started her leadership, interpersonal, coaching and soft skills training curriculum development, Alpha UMi. This observation has been confirmed in the workforce skills gap studies conducted across the country, recognizing that the #1 skills gap is "soft skills." Today her company's innovative approach to addressing those skills gaps has resulted in transformative positive change for those individuals who have completed Alpha UMi's 5G Leadership and Power Skills programs. 5G in this context recognizes that there are now 5 Generations working in the workforce which presents is own unique sets of challenges.

FORUM SPEAKERS

CHARLES RUBENSTEIN

Professor at Pratt Institute

Charles chairs the IEEE-USA Conferences Committee, is the Region 1 Student Activities and Conferences Coordinator and Member-Emeritus of the Technology and Engineering Management Society AdCom. In addition to being our Forum Treasurer, he is also Chair or Treasurer of several IEEE conferences, a member of the IEEE Conferences Committee, and the coordinator of the IEEE Booth at the World Maker Faire New York. He was 2010-2011 IEEE Director and Region 1 Chair (NE USA) and has also served as a member of the IEEE's Educational Activities Board, Member and Geographic Activities Board, Publications Products and Services Board, Technical Activities Board, and United States Activities Board. Dr. Rubenstein is professor of engineering and information science at Pratt Institute where he teaches electronics and Arduino computer design courses for non-engineering students in the architecture, art and design schools.

MEGAN SAMFORD

Global Director of Product Security at Rockwell Automation

Megan is a security executive with a career spanning several positions both in government and the private sector with focus on industrial control systems security, critical infrastructure protection and risk analysis. In her role at Rockwell Automation, Megan is responsible for driving the product security strategy and program for Rockwell Automation. Rockwell Automation, with its Allen Bradley and Rockwell Software product lines, is the world's largest company dedicated to automation and Industrial Control Systems. Prior to joining Rockwell Automation, Megan was the Product Security Leader for GE Global Research and manager of the Product Security Incident Response Team (PSIRT). During her government service Megan served as Virginia's Critical Infrastructure Protection Coordinator within the Governor's Offices of Tim Kaine and Bob McDonnell. Throughout her career, Megan has served as a subject matter expert to the United States government for software supply chain integrity, critical infrastructure protection, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive response, (CBRNE) and associated risk analysis and mitigation initiatives. Megan holds a Masters of Public Administration and Bachelor of Arts in Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, both from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU).

SAYANI SARKAR

PhD candidate in Computer Engineering at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette

I am a PhD candidate in Computer Engineering at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette and my research work focuses on intelligent drone development and real-time drone assisted monitoring which involves work on image processing, machine learning and cloud computing. Image processing is a key part of my work because successful development of the intelligent drone and its decision making characteristics while monitoring is completely dependent on accurate analysis of initially captured images and the data obtained from thereon which are being used to develop the independent decision making behavior. In my work, I am developing a system with Matric 100 and an onboard raspberry pi processor. Images collected by the Matric 100 are processed by the onboard computer to generate a real-time decision (using Python and MATLAB) on parking lot occupancy and parked vehicle authorization. Before starting my PhD research, I have completed M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Louisiana State University where I have worked on multimedia (audio, image, data, and music) archiving on multiple quick response codes using MATLAB.

PAYAM SHARIFI

Group Vice President - Worldwide Service Provider Sales at Oracle Corporation

Payam Sharifi is Group Vice President - Worldwide Service Provider Sales of Oracle's Communications Global Unit, responsible for leading sales globally and identifying and managing Oracle's Go-to-Market and strategic initiatives. Payam leads 5G as well as a multitude of other customer solutions and enjoys connecting with customers and driving innovation. Mr. Sharifi has a strong and well-rounded portfolio in the communications industry for the past 30 years. Payam Sharifi also holds a Master of Business Administration, along with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.

FORUM SPEAKERS

FRANK SIENKIEWICZ

Design Engineering Manager at Sensata Technologies

Frank joined Sensata about five years ago as a Design Engineering Manager. His first roles were with the auto and Heavy Vehicle and Off Road (HVOR) capacitive sensing technology teams. He then lateraled over to manage the HVOR design engineering teams focused on piezo-resistive sensing technologies. Currently Frank is an Engineering Director for the Smart & Connected venture. Frank has been involved in the Diversity and Inclusion efforts at Sensata since shortly after he joined Sensata and has recently taken over as Lead for the Attleboro site. With more than 20 years of experience in engineering, prior to Sensata, Frank spent 12 years as a Division Head and Chief Scientist for the Naval Undersea Warfare Center's Code 70 in Newport, RI. Duties were focused on test and evaluation but also included research and development for advanced sensing technologies. Frank earned a BSME and PhD through the University of Rhode Island and enjoys sailing, skiing, woodworking, and spending time with his wife catching up with his now grown up son and daughter.

LAUREN THOMPSON

Director for the Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs Interagency Program Office

Dr. Lauren Thompson serves as the Director for the Department of Defense (DoD)/Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Interagency Program Office (IPO), collaborating with the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), Standards Development Organizations, and other public and private partners to support national interoperability efforts. In this role, she leads the DoD and VA's efforts to implement national health data standards for interoperability and guides the DoD/VA IPO as the single point of accountability for identifying, monitoring, and approving clinical and technical data standards and profiles. Further, Dr. Thompson leads the DoD/VA IPO to ensure the seamless integration of health data between the two Departments and private healthcare providers. Dr. Thompson previously served as the Associate Director for Initiatives and Coordination for ONC. In this position, she managed the development and execution of the national health standards strategy, including specifications for health data interoperability and exchange. She also served as the Director of Federal Health Architecture for ONC. Dr. Thompson received her Doctorate of Philosophy in Health Policy and Strategic Management, as well as her Master of Health Services Administration in Health Services Management and Policy and Information Management from George Washington University.

CHRISTOPHER TUROSKI

Director of Patent Law Programs at the University of Minnesota Law School

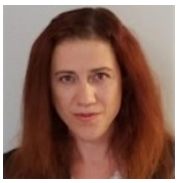
Professor Christopher M. Turoski is the Director of Patent Law Programs at the University of Minnesota Law School. Turoski brings two decades of progressive, real-world experience to lead the J.D., MS.C. and LL.M in Patent Law programs. In this role, he makes certain both the programs and the students are prepared to excel in the modern business environment. Previously, Turoski held a series of executive-level positions at Cargill, Inc. As a vice president at Cargill Animal Nutrition Technologies, he led all intellectual property aspects of a multibillion- euro acquisition of the company's primary competitor. As secretary and counsel for Format Solutions, a Cargill subsidiary, he led a worldwide multimillion-dollar intellectual property and software licensing program. He also served as managing senior counsel at Cargill, leading a global team of lawyers and professionals. Turoski served on the adjunct faculty at the University of St. Thomas School of Law. He began his legal career counseling on complex business issues at Foley & Lardner, an international law firm. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Minnesota Law School, where he served on the Minnesota Law Review. He earned his B.S. in chemistry magna cum laude from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. His volunteer experience includes serving as secretary and general counsel for the Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota and Board Director for the Minnesota Distance Running Association and Minnesota Distance Running Association Foundation.

FORUM SPEAKERS

CHITRA VENKATRAMAN

Recently retired, previously Technical Manager at Nokia

Chitra Venkatraman recently retired after a four-decade long career as a Technical Manager at Nokia in Murray Hill, NJ. She received a BSEE from the University of Madras, India, in 1977, and an MSEE from Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, in 1981. After graduation, she joined AT&T Bell Labs in 1981 as a Member of Technical Staff. From 1981 until 1988, she worked primarily on the design of central office power systems and processor controls. From 1988 until 1996, she worked on Wireless Base Station development and testing where she pioneered concepts of Wireless Base Station Integration testing. She became a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff in 1993. As the wireless industry was evolving rapidly, she developed test methodologies to integrate various parts of the Base station - Digital, Analog and RF interfaces including compliance to Air Interface standards. Chitra Venkataraman is a Senior Member of the IEEE. She is currently serving as the IEEE North Jersey Section's Employment and Career Services Committee Chair. She represents IEEE at various STEM events around NJ. Since her retirement in 2018, she has been volunteering in Humanitarian services and STEM fields. She is an American Red Cross Community Volunteer Leader, a mentor at the Students2Science organization, a corporate mentor to NJIT-Society of Women Engineers and a Volunteer STEM mentor at the Liberty Science Center.



VALENTINA VIDEVA

Senior Director Business Operations at Sensata Technologies

Valentina Videva Dufresne is a Sr. Director of Business Operations in the Office of the CTO at Sensata Technologies, responsible for pre-development, new product development and commercialization of the Sensata Smart & Connected Vehicle Area Network & Sensor Solutions. While staying with the same company for 22 yrs., Valentina has had multiple careers – starting as a Manufacturing Engineer; Process Design and Development for new products; an expatriate at the Sensata Facility in Mexico insuring the success of a newly established plant; an elected Member of the Technical Staff as a recognition for excellence in technical contributions. Once back in Attleboro, Valentina moved to Management roles for Process Engineering and later Product Management, as a Director in Process Development and Director in Product and Program Management. Throughout her career, Valentina remained tireless in Learning and Problem solving, and is a certified Six Sigma DMAIC Green Belt. She applies this passion in Diversity and Inclusion activities, as a founding member of the D&I committee under the Engineering council at Sensata Technology. She served as chair of the Attleboro D&I committee and currently chairs the Global D&I committee, with mission to embrace and support a diverse work culture. Valentina is also the executive sponsor of AWI – the Attleboro Women's Initiative affinity group. Valentina believes that education is a great equalizer and serves on the Bristol Community College Board of Trustees, an institution that supports the local community and shares the commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Valentina graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Norwich University and is MIT EMBA class of 2021 student. Her real highest honor is being a mother of 11yr and 14 yr. old girls and spending time with her family reading, drawing and finding connections between art, math and engineering.

DANA VOLL

Electrical Engineer at Northrop Grumman

Dana Voll is an electrical engineer at Northrop Grumman in Baltimore, MD working in electronic warfare systems integration and testing. She graduated from the University at Buffalo in 2016 with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical engineering. During her junior year, in 2015, she co-founded an all girls engineering summer camp for high school students at UB, called TINKER. She has worked on TINKER every summer since. TINKER is designed to introduce all disciplines of engineering to the campers, while breaking down some common misconceptions about women in engineering. Dana presented about TINKER and how to encourage young female students to study engineering in the 2015 and 2016 WIE Forum conferences, and volunteered for the WIE Forum conference in 2017 and 2018.

FORUM SPEAKERS

RENEE WEGRZYN

DARPA Biological Technologies Office (BTO)

Dr. Renee Wegrzyn is a Program Manager in the Biological Technologies Office (BTO) of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), where she is pioneering disruptive approaches to leverage the tools of synthetic biology and gene editing to enhance biosecurity, support the domestic bioeconomy, and outpace infectious disease. She actively manages a portfolio at DARPA that includes the Living Foundries:1000 Molecules program, which seeks to transform biology into an engineering practice by developing the tools, technologies, methodologies, and infrastructure to prototype and scale engineered microbes that can produce molecules that are of value for government and commercial use; Safe Genes, which aims to deliver novel biological capabilities to facilitate the safe and expedient pursuit of advanced genome editing applications, while mitigating the risk of unintentional consequences or intentional misuse of these technologies; and Preemptive Expression of Protective Alleles and Response Elements (PREPARE), which aims to develop a new class of generalizable medical countermeasures that safely and temporarily tunes the activity of innate protective genes. Prior to joining DARPA as a PM, Dr. Wegrzyn was a Senior Lead Biotechnologist at Booz Allen Hamilton, where she led a team that provided scientific and strategic support in the areas of biodefense, biosecurity, disruptive technologies, emerging infectious disease, neuromodulation, and synthetic biology to DARPA and other federal and private institutions. She is a former fellow and active mentor for the UPMC Center for Health Security Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Initiative. Dr. Wegrzyn also led research and development teams in the biotech industry focused on the development of multiplex immunoassays and peptide-based disease diagnostics. She earned her Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Biology with a minor in bioengineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and completed her postdoctoral training as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow in Heidelberg, Germany.

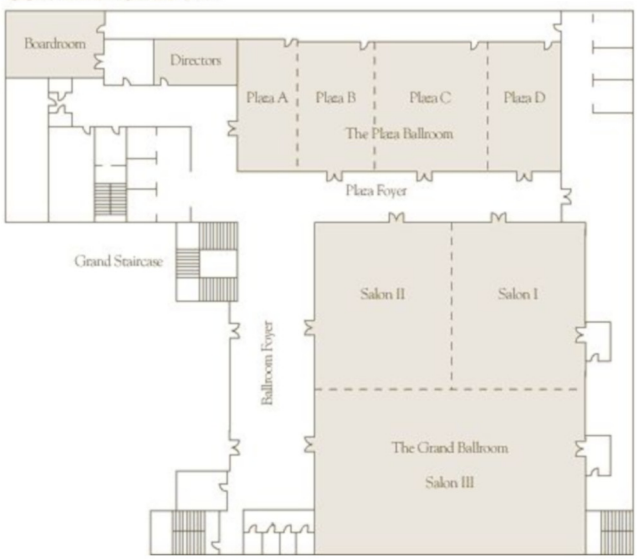
VERONICA WENDT

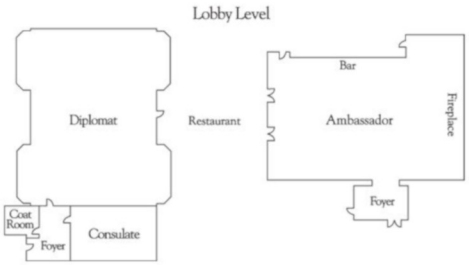
Decorated U.S. Army veteran and experienced professor of higher education

Vern is a decorated U.S. Army veteran and experienced professor of higher education. She has over two decades of experience in telecommunications systems and emerging technologies. In her role as a professor practice at the College of Information and Cyberspace, National Defense University, she leads multidisciplinary teams that develop and deliver the curriculum in technology, policy, and executive leadership to senior-level government officials in cyberspace operations, emerging technology, social media, and national security. Vern also teaches as an adjunct at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service in the Science, Technology & International Affairs department where she relates works of science fiction to emerging technology concepts such as robotics, artificial intelligence, and augmented/virtual reality. She is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and the University of Maryland, University College with an M.S. in Telecommunications Management. She lives in Washington, DC.

NOTES & HOTEL LAYOUT

CONFERENCE LEVEL





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