

# THE HBS & MIT SLOAN TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL SECURITY CONFERENCE INNOVATING FOR DEMOCRACY: WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO WIN?

#### **HOSTED BY:**



Aerospace & Defense Club A student club at Harvard Business School

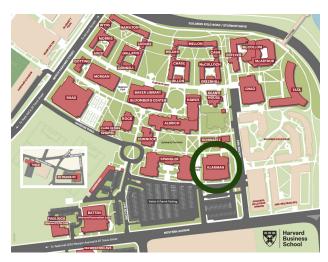




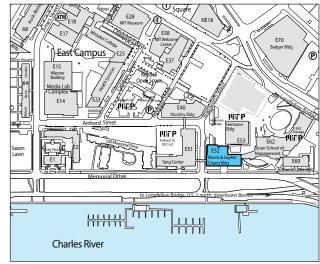
A STUDENT-LED EVENT AT MIT SLOAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

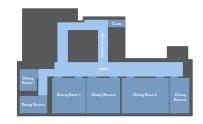
# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

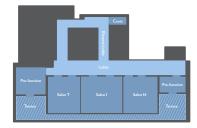
Friday, March 1 WiFi: HBSGUEST Password: none



Saturday, March 2 WiFi: MIT GUEST Password: none







CONFERENCE CENTER 6TH FLOOR

SAMBERG CONFERENCE CENTER

CONFERENCE CENTER 7TH FLOOR

# AGENDA

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 1:

5:00-6:00 PM	Fireside Chat with Brian Schimpf   HBS Klarman Hall
6:00-7:30 PM	Networking Happy Hour   HBS Klarman Hall

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 2:

8:00-9:00 AM	Women's Breakfast   MIT Samberg Center
9:00-9:20 AM	<b>Opening Remarks with Rep. Adam Smith</b>   <i>MIT Samberg Center</i>
9:25-10:05 AM	All Conference Business Panel   MIT Samberg Center
10:10-10:30 AM	Keynote Michèle Flournoy with Special Guest Michael Stewart   MIT Samberg Center
10:35–11:15 AM	Fireside Chat with Rep Rob Wittman and Rep Seth Moulton   MIT Samberg Center
11:30 AM-12:20 PM	Morning Breakout Panels   MIT Samberg Center
	Information Warfare   Salon
	Space   <i>E51-345</i>
	Energy and National Security   E51-325
12:20-1:20 PM	Lunch   MIT Samberg Center
1:35-2:25 PM	Breakout Panels and Innovation Showcase Pitches   MIT Samberg Center
	Lightning Round Pitches   Salon
	Talent   <i>E51-325</i>
	Industrial Competition   E51-345
2:40-5:10 PM	Innovation Showcase Workshops   MIT Samberg Center
2:40-3:30 PM	Afternoon Breakout Panels   MIT Samberg Center
	<b>Cyber</b>   <i>E51-345</i>
	Biotech   E51-325
	Autonomous Systems   Salon
3:55-4:35 PM	All Conference Alliance Panel   MIT Samberg Center
4:40-5:20 PM	All Conference Investing Panel   MIT Samberg Center
5:25-5:30 PM	Closing Remarks   MIT Samberg Center
5:30-7:00 PM	Innovation Showcase Displays   MIT Samberg Center
5:50-7:30 PM	Reception   MIT Samberg Center

# **TODAY'S PANELS**

### **Business Leaders in Defense**

Join us for an insightful discussion with renowned leaders to delve into the complexities of the rapid changes and keeping pace with technology and national security priorities. The discussion will challenge conventional strategies for securing contracts, provide fresh perspective on bridging the Washington-Silicon Valley divide, and critically assess the global network's success in fostering innovation. Deepen your understanding of the defense tech landscape, the dynamic interactions, and differing viewpoints that shape this industry, led by those who are at the forefront.

# **Information Warfare**

The Information Warfare panel will explore the multifaceted landscape of modern disinformation and military deception campaigns from the tactical to the strategic level through the lens of changing technology. Panelists will discuss the implications of new capabilities, to include ever-advancing generative artificial intelligence (AI), and weigh countermeasures to detect and mitigate malicious activity across evolving information channels.

## Autonomous Systems

The panel will delve into the strategic integration of autonomous systems within the Department of Defense, emphasizing their role as force multipliers while alleviating cognitive and physical burdens on human operators. Central to this discussion is the optimization of performance and the augmentation of human capabilities by fostering a symbiotic relationship between humans and machines. Exploring collaboration in logistics, ISR, tactical reconnaissance, and other critical areas, the panel aims to address the pivotal role autonomous systems play in current conflicts and their heightened significance in future engagements. The focal question revolves around the thoughtful integration of humans and machines, aiming to leverage the inherent strengths of each while mitigating existing weaknesses, thus amplifying the effectiveness of military operations.

# **Energy and National Security**

In an era marked by an interconnected global energy landscape, the efficient allocation of energy supplies is crucial for national security. Recent geopolitical events, such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, have highlighted the risks of overreliance on single energy suppliers, prompting nations to reassess their energy strategies. This panel explores the complex interplay between energy, geopolitics, and national security. The panel will also examine the geopolitical implications of the clean energy transition. How can nations balance environmental sustainability with the imperative to secure energy sources, and what role does this transition play in reshaping global power dynamics? Join us for an insightful exploration of these topics, gaining valuable perspectives on the evolving landscape of global energy security.

### Talent

Winning the technology race and preserving national security in the 21st century requires recruiting and retaining top talent. However, the defense industry and government face a growing talent crisis. With technology rapidly evolving, global threats expanding, and commercial salaries rising, there is an urgent need for policies and solutions that will enable the recruitment, development, and retention of the skilled workforce required to maintain America's innovative edge.

This panel will discuss challenges, priorities, and initiatives aimed at helping the defense ecosystem attract and equip talent for the future. Expert panelists spanning technology, policy, military, and intelligence will provide insights into culture change, incentives, training, hiring reforms, and vision needed to win the war for talent. By spotlighting the imperative of talent supremacy, we will uncover how developing the workforce of the future is essential to driving defense innovation and safeguarding democracy.

## **Industrial Competition**

From the difficulty of supplying Ukraine with adequate munitions to the recently issued National Defense Industrial Strategy, the health of the Arsenal of Democracy is a key concern for today's policymakers. This diverse panel brings together experts who will address emerging trends in manufacturing, from low-sophistication items like artillery shells to the all-important semiconductors in our phones and our most exquisite weapon systems. Our conversation will include both public and private sector investors, as well as representatives from the academic community and a dynamic defense startup. Join us for an in-depth discussion of industrial competition, starting from critical materials, touching on capital, technology, and talent, and ending with an evaluation of the return on investment for the many programs seeking to jump-start the defense industrial base.

### **Cyber Frontiers**

This panel will seek to delve into the critical intersection of cyber operations, diplomacy, and policy shaping national security in the digital age. This focused dialogue will explore the challenges of actions in digital domains, the balance between cybersecurity and civil liberties, and the role of public awareness in national defense strategies. Discussions will also address the dual nature of emerging technologies in the power struggles between attackers & defenders as well as the strategic implications of various forms of national responses to cyber threats. The panel aims to provide a nuanced understanding of how strategic investments and commercial interests intersect with the pursuit of cyber stability and peace. Uniting insights from cyber operators, government and policy leaders, private industry, and investors, this panel is set to offer a unique and comprehensive view of the evolving landscape of national security in the digital era in hopes of generating positive change in preparation for an uncertain future.

### **Biotechnology and Defense**

In the rapidly evolving landscape of global security, the intersection of military biotechnology and medical technology stands at the forefront of addressing contemporary challenges. As we witness unprecedented advancements, the "Biotechnology and Defense" panel promises to be a pivotal discussion on the vital role these innovations play in ensuring national security. Against the backdrop of current events, the panel will bring together diverse experts, from biotech innovators to governmental policy thought leaders, offering invaluable insights into the dynamic realm of biotech, biodefense, and national security.

## Space

The increasingly congested and contested space domain has proved vital to national security interests and operations. The past decade has seen a resurgence of private space activity and innovation often dubbed "NewSpace". This has come about in part due to the miniaturization of satellites, reduction in launch costs, and influx of private capital. However, enabling these technological advancements requires rethinking the utilization of space. This panel will discuss how new regulation and investment in the sector can protect both humans and assets, balancing civil, commercial, and national security interests in space.

## Allied

The Allied panel draws together US and allied leaders to discuss efforts for increased defense technology cooperation. Recent developments, including the creation of the NATO Innovation Fund, NATO Defense Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA), and AUKUS, demonstrate a growing recognition of the potential that cooperation in defense technology innovation has for ensuring continued allied peace and security. This panel will therefore focus on elucidating the current challenges and opportunities facing efforts to accelerate cooperative defense innovation. It will also seek to identify segments of the defense technology industry where cooperation shows the most potential towards unlocking innovation that ensures an allied competitive edge in a multipolar world.

## **Defense Investing**

Early-stage defense investing has exploded in the past few years, but later-stage venture and growth investors have not followed suit. Has the Valley of Death moved later in a company's lifecycle, or have defense companies simply not demonstrated enough traction to warrant checks from larger capital providers? Panelists will speak on these topics as well as share advice for founders and CEOs who are building and running defense companies right now.

# LIGHTNING ROUND FINALISTS





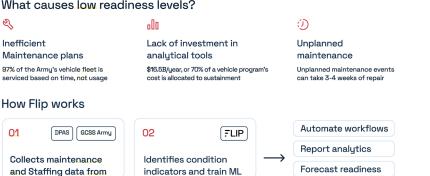
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# Predictive maintenance to achieve 100% mission readiness

FLIP tracks, plans, and schedules critical vehicle maintenance using Machine Learning

#### What causes low readiness levels?



Create risk score

#### Demonstrated benefits per base (Air Force Case study)

models

+92% Predicted Breakdowns (in next 60 days)

**DPAS and GCSS-Armu** 

**v**2,175

Days of vehicle downtime

+13,000 Maintenance Labor and Manual Analysis +\$1.3M

**Cost Savings** per USAF base

94RC9

+\$400M Cost savings across Army



🖂 info@goflip.ai www.goflip.ai in linkedin.com/company/flip-ai

J3D Labs

FA864923P0896



# **MESODYNE** LightCell power generator: lightweight, reliable, silent power anytime, anywhere, and from any fuel

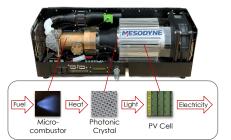
**TECH SUMMARY** The LightCell is a novel power generator that enables people, sensors, autonomous vehicles - virtually any system that requires portable power - to perform their mission beyond what is possible today and extend range, endurance, and lethality across a multitude of platforms.

- Lightweight & Long Endurance: 70%+ weight reduction for tactical and man-pack operation over batteries. 24h+ endurance for sUAS and other small autonomous platforms.
- Multi-Fuel: Operates on logistics fuels and scavenged fuels.
- **Reliable:** Solid state power conversion **no maintenance** required.
- Scalable & Modular: Single LightCells can be combined into higher power modules and disassembled quickly as needed.
- Low Acoustic & Heat Signature: Vibration and noise free. Low temperature exhaust for covert operation.

#### **USE CASES**

- Tactical LightCell: Reduces battery weight on expeditionary man-pack missions with the ability to scavenge fuel. Tactical, covert, and safe operation of equipment in the field: cUAS, edge networking/communications, and more.
- Integrated LightCell Range Extender: Enables 24h+ endurance for sUAS, USV and other small UXS, compared to a few hours from batteries. No moving parts means 10,000+ hours of operation and no interference with sensitive payloads or instrumentation.
- High-Power LightCell Module: Lightweight, modular, reliable power generation with no routine maintenance requirements for silent watch and expedient basing.

CONTACT: info@mesodyne.com (617)500-3138



In the LightCell, a patented thermophotovoltaic (TPV) generator converts gaseous and liquid fuels into electricity (natively JP-8 compatible) with no moving parts.

BLUF: Combining the energy density of a generator with the reliability of a battery delivering unprecedented runtimes in a highly portable form factor.

**TRACTION** Mesodyne has partnered with several large OEMs for platform integration and has been awarded \$6M in DoD and federal government contracts, including multiple Phase II contracts from AFWERX, DARPA, and NSF. The LightCell is **TRL 5-6 and ready for initial demonstration**.

TEAM Mesodyne is based in Somerville MA with 8 full time employees. Mesodyne was founded in 2018 by: Dr. Veronika Stelmakh, CEO

MITEECS (MS '13, PhD '17) Expert in nanophotonics. Doctoral thesis focused on developing practical photonic crystals, which are at the core of the LightCell. **Dr. Walker Chan, CTO** 



MIT EECS (BS '08, MEng '10, PhD '15) Expert in thermophotovoltaics and micro combustion. Authored 20+ publications and 3+ patents in the field of TPV.

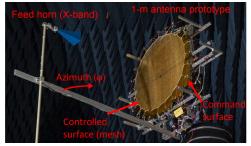


# MITHRIL TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Mithril Technologies, Inc.

www.mithril.space – Full pitch deck visible here. Contact: Scarlett Koller, CEO scarlett@mithril.space

Scarlett Koller (MIT AeroAstro SB '16, SM '23, MIT Sloan MBA '23) and Professor Zack Cordero (MIT Physics SB '10, Materials Science Ph.D. '15) co-founded Mithril Technologies, Inc. with a mission to advance deployable satellite antennas for the future of space. Next-generation satellite antennas are critical technology for assuring space superiority in a new frontier of defense tech. In particular, technology for geostationary orbit (GEO) has been neglected recently in favor of cheaper and more accessible low-earth orbit (LEO). However, it is imperative that the United States not fall behind on GEO-adapted tech as it is an essential hedge against the limitations and risks of operating in LEO, as discussed in not one but three panels at the 2023 MilSat Symposium. GEO spacecraft can provide continuous coverage of far larger areas of earth and surveil a greater range of orbits than spacecraft in LEO; Mithril is part of the vanguard advancing GEO satellite technologies from inflexible legacy exquisite models to agile, resilient ones.



Mithril Technologies is addressing the gap in advancement of GEO antenna technologies with a uniquely flexible deployable mesh reflector antenna design. Deployable mesh reflector antennas have been largely passive for decades, limiting their use cases. Now, Mithril has developed an electrostatic actuation technique to actively steer, shape and focus the beam in real-time. Invented in the Cordero Lab, Mithril reflector antennas will address a wide range of new use cases.

Figure 1: Prototype Mithril Reflector Design, as tested at MIT Lincoln Lab Our design has applications in space domain awareness, signal intelligence, GEO satellite communications and remote sensing of hurricanes – all critical defense capabilities. We use a command surface of electrodes parallel to a reflector mesh, to apply a bias voltage and form the mesh into prescribed shapes with closed-loop control; our 1m prototype with the two-layered controlled (mesh) and command (electrode) surfaces is shown in Lincoln Lab's RF Chamber in Figure 1. Our technology therefore breaks a size-precision tradeoff constraining our competitors' models by actively compensating for error in the mesh shape, permitting larger reflectors with increased gain. Other models with limited control of the mesh cannot achieve this performance at diameters >22m without compromising the shape; increasing the diameter & corresponding gain as we can allows far more precise sensing.

Because Mithril reflectors can be steered and focused within seconds, they can be used for agile scanning of other orbits, and focused in to "listen" to signals from other satellites (X-band to Ka-band.) This ability to reshape the surface of the mesh also allows a unique signal jamming capability, which Mithril is currently researching as part of a DARPA project to assess its applications for signal intelligence. The larger reflectors we enable also allow continuous monitoring of the internal structures of hurricanes across huge scan sectors of the earth, helping protect seaborne and coastal assets against storms strengthened by climate change.

No other technology currently exists with comparable capabilities; existing deployable reflectors have very limited actuation, while phased array antennas and feeds can provide some of the steering capabilities but only at the cost of far heavier and more complex designs. Right now, before other players can overtake us, it is imperative that we develop this technology for continued assurance of space superiority.

# VULCAN ELEMENTS

#### Vulcan Elements: Pioneering Sustainable Rare Earth Magnet Manufacturing

Company: Vulcan Elements Inc

Mission: Onshore rare earth magnet manufacturing and make the process sustainable

Funding to-date: \$5.2M seed round closed in December 2023

Founders: John Maslin (HBS '24) and Piotr Kulik, PhD

#### Company Overview & Context

- Virtually all U.S. Military systems (i.e., nuclear submarines, drones, F-35s, hypersonic missiles, satellites, etc.) and other advanced machines (i.e., electric vehicles, offshore wind turbines, robotics, medical imaging equipment, iPhones, etc.) rely on rare-earth magnets to operate.
- Today, >90% of rare-earth magnets are produced in China where one ton of magnets manufactured emits nearly 60 tons of carbon.
- Reliance on a potential adversary for critical supply chain components creates risk to U.S. National Security and our ability to build a high-tech, decarbonized economy.
- Vulcan Elements is uniquely positioned to transform the rare earth magnet industry, strengthening U.S. National Security supply chains, and setting a new market standard for sustainability.

#### Innovative Manufacturing Approach

- New Magnet Stoichiometry: Unique process that creates a thin coat around the magnet, reducing reliance on heavy rare earth elements, achieving significant raw materials cost savings.
- **Gas Recovery Technology**: Recycles carbon intensive gases in two critical steps that account for >50% of CO2 emissions in the manufacturing process.
- Strategic Partnerships with Domestic/Allied Suppliers: Secured offtake agreements with U.S. and allied suppliers using green metal technologies.

# MEET OUR SPEAKERS

# **KEYNOTES**



**CONGRESSMAN ADAM SMITH** (D-Wash.) is the Democratic leader of the House Armed Services Committee and a strong supporter of American military personnel and their families — the heart of our national defense. Ranking Member Smith is committed to providing the people who serve in our armed forces with the best equipment available and necessary support — including food security, housing, education, child care, and health care — to ensure

mission success. He is equally focused on ensuring the Pentagon spends taxpayer dollars in the most efficient and effective manner by carefully examining our defense policies and programs while also working to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse.

Ranking Member Smith has long supported the need for the United States to be able to quickly adapt in its national security and national defense posture and policies, particularly as it relates to investment and innovation in technology and our defense industrial base. By doing so, the United States will be better equipped to address the pacing challenge presented by China, acute threats posed by Russia, and persistent threats presented by North Korea, Iran, and other hostile actors. He is also an ardent advocate for the United States to continue working with partners and allies to deter aggression and defend democracy worldwide.

Understanding the need for a holistic approach to national security and national defense, Ranking Member Smith recognizes the critical importance of addressing the threat posed by climate change as well as pressing social and economic challenges like poverty reduction, access to education, sustainable global markets, diplomatic engagement, and good governance. As such, he has been a long-time advocate of strengthening American diplomacy and development by working with allies and partners to defend the rules-based, international order while also providing for a more resilient national defense.

Having served on the House Armed Services Committee since 1997, Ranking Member Smith served as the Chairman of full committee from 2019 to 2023. He formerly chaired the subcommittees on Air and Land Forces and Terrorism and Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, respectively. He has also previously served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.



**MICHÈLE FLOURNOY** is Co-Founder and Managing Partner of WestExec Advisors, and a Co-Founder, former Chief Executive Officer, and now Chair of the Center for a New American Security (CNAS).

Michèle served as the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy from February 2009 to February 2012. She was the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense in the formulation of national security and defense

policy, oversight of military plans and operations, and in National Security Council deliberations. She led the development of defense strategy and represented the Department in dozens of foreign engagements, in the media and before Congress.

Prior to confirmation, Michèle co-led President Obama's transition team at the Defense Department.

In January 2007, Michèle co-founded CNAS, a bipartisan think tank dedicated to developing strong, pragmatic, and principled national security policies. She served as CNAS' President until 2009 and returned as CEO in 2014. In 2017, she co-founded WestExec Advisors, a strategic advisory firm.

Previously, she was senior advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies for several years and, prior to that, a distinguished research professor at the Institute for National Strategic Studies at the National Defense University (NDU).

In the mid-1990s, she served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy and Threat Reduction and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy.

Michèle is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including: the NDIA Eisenhower Award (2021), the American Red Cross Exceptional Service Award (2016); the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service (1998, 2011, 2012); the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff's Joint Distinguished Civilian Service Award (2000, 2012); the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service (1996); and CARE's Global Peace, Development and Security Award (2019) She has edited several books and authored dozens of reports and articles on a broad range of defense and national security issues, and appears frequently in national and international media and is frequently quoted in top tier newspapers.

Michèle serves on the boards of CNAS, Booz Allen Hamilton, Rivada, Astra, Amida Technology Solutions, The War Horse, and CARE. She serves on the advisory boards of The Leadership Council for Women in National Security, Special Competitive Studies Project, PsiQuantum, and PIMCO. She is a Senior Fellow at Harvard's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, a Distinguished Professor of the Practice at Georgia Tech's Nunn School of International Affairs, a current member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Aspen Strategy Group, a current member of the Defense Policy Board, and a former member of the President's Intelligence Advisory Board the CIA Director's External Advisory Board.

Michèle earned a bachelor's degree in social studies from Harvard University and a master's degree in international relations from Balliol College, Oxford University, where she was a Newton-Tatum scholar.



**BRIAN SCHIMPF** is Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Anduril Industries where he drives the strategic direction and product roadmap of the defense technology company.

Prior to Anduril, Brian was an early hire at Palantir Technologies, where he built the Foundry product that is now deployed worldwide, and led the engineering and product organizations as Director

of Engineering. He served numerous domestic and international government organizations across the intelligence, defense, and law enforcement sectors.

Previously, Brian was the Founder and Lead of Cornell University's autonomous vehicle research program where his teams competed in the DARPA Grand Challenge and Urban Challenge. Based on this work, he published several technical papers on autonomous vehicles. Brian graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor of Science in Operations Research and Industrial Engineering. He also serves as a senior advisor and board member for several government technology companies providing solutions to governments, and has previously served on federal advisory councils.



**MICHAEL STEWART** currently serves as the Director of the Disruptive Capabilities Office (DCO). He is charged with rapidly solving emerging operational problems with a broad aperture that fully leverages existing authorities.

In his previous role, Mr. Stewart was the Executive Director for the Navy's Unmanned Task Force (UTF). There he served as the Department of the Navy

senior accountable official for identifying and accelerating near-term solutions to close key operational problems via emerging and disruptive unmanned capabilities.



**CONCRESSMAN ROB WITTMAN** is the vice chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, which he has served on since his election to Congress in 2007. He concurrently serves as chairman of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee and previously led the subcommittees on Seapower and Projection Forces, Readiness, and Oversight and Investigations.

As vice chairman of the full committee, Congressman Wittman helps the committee navigate America's national security enterprise, advocating for a strategy that addresses the defense of the homeland and U.S. interests abroad. In his leadership role, he balances the demands of America's immediate threats with modernization efforts for long-term great power competition—while always putting servicemembers first.

As chairman of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee, he oversees a vast portfolio of modernization programs that impact the future capabilities of the U.S. military's ground and air forces and munitions stockpiles. Through authorizing procurement and R&D programs, Congressman Wittman ensures that American servicemembers are well-equipped to carry out their missions.

In the 118th Congress, Wittman was appointed to the Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party. In this capacity, he collaborates with colleagues from both parties to counter the CCP's malicious agenda, military build-up, and its use of diplomatic and economic coercion globally.

Through his previous leadership role and current seat on the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, Congressman Wittman advocates for the growth of the Naval fleet and the recapitalization of Air Force assets to enhance the military's ability to deter adversaries, support allies, and respond to threats worldwide.

Committed to fiscal responsibility, Wittman believes in being good stewards of taxpayer dollars while maintaining military strength and readiness. Recognizing the critical role of a robust defense budget for national security and the economy, he underscores the importance of supporting the military and workforce, particularly in Virginia.



**SETH MOULTON** is a father, a Congressman Seth Moulton is a Democrat representing Massachusetts' 6th congressional district. A Marine Corps veteran who served four infantry combat tours in Iraq, Seth currently sits on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; the House Armed Services Committee, where he is Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces; and the newly formed House Select Committee on the Strategic

Competition Between the U.S. and the Chinese Communist Party.

He was named the Most Effective Freshman Democrat in his first term, and no House or Senate office has won more Democracy Awards from the Congressional Management Foundation than his team.

Congressman Moulton co-authored the bill to designate 9-8-8 as the national suicide and mental health lifeline with a veteran across the aisle. Since going live nationwide in July 2022, the hotline has saved a record number of lives. He is a national leader on mental health, national security, veterans, and high-speed rail.

Congressman Moulton earned degrees in physics, business, and public administration from Harvard, and he lives in Salem, Massachusetts, with his wife and two daughters.

# **BUSINESS LEADERS IN DEFENSE**



JAMES F. CARLINI is the Chief Technology Officer at Leidos. He is responsible for the development and implementation of corporate technology and engineering strategies that ensure technological differentiation for the enterprise. He does this via methods ranging from internal Research & Development (R&D) to all forms of external technology leveraging including commercial technology partnerships, contract R&D, university relationships,

venture firm engagement, and working with federally-funded research and development centers and laboratories. The specific portfolio of capabilities and technologies ranges from digital modernization to integrated systems, and from cyber to artificial intelligence/machine learning, advanced manufacturing, software, electronic warfare, and sensors.

Prior to joining Leidos, Carlini founded a consultancy where he provided consulting services to a wide range of industry and government national security organizations. His services included program capture, program formulation, strategic planning, systems analysis, concept development, and technology roadmapping. Carlini also served as the chair of the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) External Advisory Committee.

Prior to founding his consultancy, Carlini served at Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems, with his most recent position being Vice President of Advanced Development Programs. He was responsible for the strategic planning, capture, and execution of advanced development programs in the Electronic Systems Sector of the corporation. He had cognizance over advanced development programs in the areas of force protection, strike and combat, advanced surveillance systems, chemical and biological defense, land combat, and navigation systems.

Prior to Northrop Grumman, Carlini was the Director of the Special Projects Office (SPO) at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). He was responsible for the strategic planning and execution of science and technology investments totaling approximately \$250M per year. He formed the SPO to develop, focus, and apply advanced technologies and systems to emerging national security and military challenges. Specifically, SPO invested in high-risk technologies to address tactical sensing from space, space control, hard and deeply buried target characterization, GPS jamming mitigation, cruise missile defense, chemical and biological warfare defense systems, and mobile target engagement. Prior to DARPA, Carlini was a senior engineer at Science Applications International Corporation. Carlini is a member of the Defense Science Board and a former member of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and the Army Science Board. He has received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service and the OSD Medal for Exceptional Public Service. Carlini holds a Master of Science in electrical engineering from The Johns Hopkins University and a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from Drexel University.



**DOUG PHILIPPONE** co-founded Snowpoint Ventures, a venture capital firm dedicated to bringing the best technological talent to help our nation's defense and broader government function, in 2021. Doug has also served as the head of Global Defense at Palantir Technologies since 2008. Doug both started and successfully grew the defense business to where it now supports over 19 different allied countries. Doug has led every part of the Software Platform business.

He led design and innovation teams to invent and field new technology across a variety of sectors. Most impactful in the world of Big Data, was the invention of Nexus Peering, which provides a unified view of data for an organization, synchronized across geographic boundaries and multiple networks that are often disconnected, intermittent, or low bandwidth. Doug's leadership has been critical to not only innovating at the cutting edge of the hardest problems, but also leading the teams through successful fielding of the Palantir Platform in the world's harshest environments.

Prior to his civilian life, Doug served in the US Army for 18 years from 1991 to 2008 (Enlisted, West Point Cadet and Officer). During his time in the US Army, he deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan for a total of 6 deployments from 2003-2007. He commanded multiple Joint Special Operations Command outstations in support of the global war on terror. Doug ran the foreign fighter campaign on the Syrian border in 2005 to stop the flow of suicide bombers into Baghdad and helped to ensure a successful Iraqi election. Doug was awarded three bronze stars with two valor awards, the joint commendation medal with valor award, as well as many other commendations for his service to the nation.

Doug earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1997, where he also served as class president for two years, received his Master's Degree in Terrorism Operations and Finance from the Naval Post Graduate School in 2008 and studied Machine Learning at MIT. He is also a published author on terrorism finance. Doug was medically retired from active duty in 2008 and continued his life-time of service to the nation by serving for three years on the board of directors for the 3/75 Ranger Assistance Foundation, a charity dedicated to helping Rangers and their families when great Americans are injured in the line of duty. In his personal time, Doug is a State Champion competitive cyclist.



**DR. ANDREW PURYEAR** is Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for L3Harris Technologies. In this role, he develops and oversees the overall technology and engineering strategy, driving technology talent development throughout the company and ensuring world-class standards of engineering processes, methods, systems and tools. This includes leading research and development planning and investments, integrating corporate strategy,

product management, and technology planning to identify and pursue technology and market adjacencies for existing products and technologies under development.

Prior to joining L3Harris in 2023, Puryear served as Chief Technology Officer for Ultra Electronics, leading the development and implementation of the strategic technology roadmap, which connected Ultra's internal research and development (IRAD) investments to corporate strategy. He also integrated corporate strategy, product management, and technology planning while collaborating with global business development to align technology development with international pursuits.

Previously, Puryear served as the Division Leader for Pacific Northwest National Labs AI and Data Analytics Division, as the Director of Cyber Strategy and Execution for The MITRE Corporation, and as an R&D Senior Manager at Sandia National Labs. He spent eight years at the MIT Lincoln Laboratory, where he contributed to missions from seabed to space. Puryear has more than 24 years of engineering experience, including establishing strategic partnerships and identifying emerging technology capability areas.

Puryear has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and computer science from Texas A&M, a master's degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University, and a doctorate in electrical engineering and computer science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He is also a member of the U.S. Navy Reserve and served as the Emerging Technology Threat Advisory Chair for the U.S. Department of Commerce.

L3Harris Technologies is the Trusted Disruptor for the global aerospace and defense industry. With customers' mission-critical needs always in mind, our more than 50,000 employees deliver end-to-end technology solutions connecting the space, air, land, sea and cyber domains.



**DR. SCOTT PHILIPS** has 20 years of experience developing machine learning technologies for defense and intelligence applications. He is currently the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at Vannevar Labs where he leads a team of engineers in the collection, translation, and exploitation of publicly available information (PAI). Prior to Vannevar, Scott was a Vice President at Systems & Technology Research (STR) where he led the development and deployment of

machine learning capabilities for a variety of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) applications. Dr. Philips received a PhD in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington where he studied signal processing and machine learning for anti-submarine warfare.

# **INFORMATION WARFARE**



JOHN W. KELLY, PHD is the founder and Executive Chairman of Graphika, a social media analysis firm founded on technology he invented that blends social network analysis, content analysis, and statistics to make complex online networks understandable. John is also a recognized expert on advanced computational techniques for measuring online behavior. Most recently, he was invited to provide his expert testimony on foreign interference in the U.S.

presidential election before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He is also an affiliate at the Berkman-Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University, where he works with leading academics to design and implement empirical studies of the Internet's role in business, culture, and politics around the world. A quantitative social scientist by training, John earned his Ph.D. in Communications from Columbia University, and has also studied at Stanford and at Oxford's Internet Institute. Today, he leads a team of business professionals and data scientists to bring new analytic technologies to market via the Graphika platform.



**PETER MATTIS** is President of The Jamestown Foundation, a position he began in Fall 2023. Most recently, Mr. Mattis was Senior Fellow with the U.S. House Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party on Ioan from the Special Competitive Studies Project where he served as Director for Intelligence. From 2019 to 2021, he served as the Senate-appointed staff director of the Congressio-

nal-Executive Commission on China (CECC) where he was a part of the legislative team that passed the *Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act, Tibetan Policy and Support Act,* and the *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.* He began his government career as a counterintelligence analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency, where he earned exceptional performance awards for analytic leadership and community support.



**DR. SCOTT PHILIPS** has 20 years of experience developing machine learning technologies for defense and intelligence applications. He is currently the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at Vannevar Labs where he leads a team of engineers in the collection, translation, and exploitation of publicly available information (PAI). Prior to Vannevar, Scott was a Vice President at Systems & Technology Research (STR) where he led the development and deployment of

machine learning capabilities for a variety of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) applications. Dr. Philips received a PhD in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington where he studied signal processing and machine learning for anti-submarine warfare.



**DR. CHRISTOPHER A.D. ROESER** is an assistant head of the Homeland Protection and Air Traffic Control Division at MIT Lincoln Laboratory. He oversees a broad portfolio of homeland protection technology development and transition activities that includes homeland air defense, customs and border surveillance, information operations, critical infrastructure, and energy. He previously held various leadership positions within the Advanced Technolo-

gy Division, the Air Vehicle Survivability Evaluation Program for the U.S. Air Force (USAF) Red Team, the Systems and Analysis Group, and the Tactical Defense Systems Group. He was responsible for providing technical assessments to senior USAF leadership on a broad range of issues, including modern air defenses; electronic attack and electronic protection; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance systems; cyber vulnerabilities of tactical systems; and issues surrounding space control. Roeser holds an AB degree in physics from the University of Chicago and a PhD degree in physics from Harvard University.

# **AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS**



**COLIN CARROLL** leads the Tactical Autonomous Systems at Anduril Industries. Prior to Anduril, Colin was the President of Applied Intuition Government, the government-focused subsidiary of a VC-backed start-up focused on the commercial and defense autonomous vehicle industry. Colin graduated from the United States Naval Academy with a degree in Aerospace Engineering, and was commissioned into the United States Marine Corps as a Ground Intelli-

gence Officer. He spent six years on active duty leading a Reconnaissance Platoon and Company, and served as the staff intelligence officer for a Marine Corps Infantry Battalion. After leaving active duty, Colin graduated from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and joined the Department of Defense as a federal civilian, where he spent five years working on hard intelligence and information problems in the Pacific theater. In 2017 he became a plank member of Project Maven, the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security's premier Artificial Intelligence capability development project, where he acted as the the Chief Engineer. He transitioned to Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab and was the technical project manager for a major program at the JAIC called Smart Sensor, a high endurance autonomous Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance platform. In 2020 he went back to federal service as a senior executive and served as the JAIC's inaugural Chief Operations Officer.



**DAVID MICHELSON** is the director of DIU's autonomy portfolio and has more than 15 years of experience working across the government and private sectors in military, special operations, and program management roles. He works on small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) issues such as Blue UAS to rapidly provide cutting edge sUAS technology to warfighters. David also led DIU's expansion into ground vehicle autonomy projects.

Prior to becoming a Portfolio Director, David was a Project Manager at DIU. Before that, David was an infantry officer in the U.S. Army where he served in special operations and conventional units. He held leadership and command roles from the platoon to battalion levels, serving in the 75th Ranger Regiment twice. David was also a General Wayne Downing Scholar with the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point while he attained his graduate degree. David holds a Master's in Public Policy (MPP) from Harvard University, where he focused on autonomous systems' adoption, ethics, and policy, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics from the United States Military Academy at West Point.



**LEE RITHOLTZ** is CEO and Co-Founder of Primordial Labs, an autonomy software company focused on delivering next generation human-machine interfaces. Prior to founding Primordial Labs, Lee was a technical executive at Lockheed Martin, where he most recently served as Engineering Director and Chief Al Architect for the Applied Al organization at the Lockheed Martin Al Center. Before that, he spent the better part of a decade developing special

mission uncrewed aircraft and associated payloads at the Skunk Works. Lee has bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from the State University of New York at Binghamton.



**COL. LUKE VAN ANTWERP** served in 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), followed by 11 years in U.S. Army Special Operations Command where he deployed to multiple locations in support of the war on terror. In 2019-2020, he attended the Army War College, then returned to First Special Forces Command as the G3 Operations Officer for the command before commanding 10th Special Forces Group (ABN) where the Group focused on the defense of Ukraine

and built partnerships with 24 nations as the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force (CJSOTF). He is currently the USASOC Force Modernization Center Director.

# **ENERGY AND NATIONAL SECURITY**



**THE HONORABLE MEREDITH BERGER** assumed the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations & Environment on July 28, 2021. She is responsible for providing oversight and policy for Navy and Marine Corps energy and climate resilience; infrastructure sustainment, restoration and modernization; military construction; acquisition, utilization and disposal of real property and facilities; environmental protection, planning, restoration and

natural resources conservation; and safety and occupational health.

Ms. Berger has served in a variety of policy and senior leadership positions in both federal and state government and the private sector. Before her nomination, Ms. Berger was a senior manager for the Defending Democracy Project at Microsoft Corporation. She was a Fellow with the Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

Ms. Berger was Deputy Chief of Staff to Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, advising the Secretary on the formulation and execution of Department-wide strategy, policies, plans, and standards.

Ms. Berger also served as a Department of Defense Fellow. Prior to her tenure with the Department of the Navy, Ms. Berger held policy positions with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Office of the State of Florida Chief Financial Officer.

Ms. Berger holds a master's degree in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School, a Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern University, and a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies and Spanish from Vanderbilt University. She has earned the Secretary of the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Medal, Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service, and the EPA Gold Medal for Exceptional Service.



**KIMBERLY HENDERSON** is a partner in McKinsey's Washington DC office, which she joined after spending several years in our Chicago, London, and São Paulo offices. She serves investors, non-profits, energy and industrial players, and policy makers with her expertise in sustainability and climaterelated challenges. She focuses on supporting organizations as they navigate the transition to a zero-carbon economy.



**MEGHAN L. O'SULLIVAN** is the Jeane Kirkpatrick Professor of the Practice of International Affairs at Harvard University's Kennedy School and the Director of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. Dr. O'Sullivan's scholarship is at the nexus of traditional disciplines, with particular expertise on how the energy transition and geopolitics intersect. O'Sullivan has served in multiple senior policymaking roles and has advised national security officials in

both Republican and Democratic administrations. Dr. O'Sullivan is a member of U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken's Foreign Policy Advisory Board. Between 2004 and 2007, she was special assistant to President George W. Bush and was Deputy National Security Advisor for Iraq and Afghanistan during the last two years of her tenure. O'Sullivan has been on public company and non-profit boards. She is a Senior Director at the strategic consulting firm Macro Advisory Partners and is the Chair of the North American Group of the Trilateral Commission.



**KYLE TEAMEY** joins RA Capital as a Managing Partner, Planetary Health. Kyle's primary responsibility at RA is to lead investments in private companies that are developing innovative solutions to address climate change and environmental sustainability. Prior to joining RA, Kyle was a Partner at Breakthrough Energy Ventures (BEV), where he led investments and served on company boards that span the utilities, energy storage, chemicals, agricul-

ture, automotive, recycling, and consumer products sectors. Prior to BEV, Kyle was a Principal at In-Q-Tel, the strategic investment arm of the CIA and US Intelligence Community, where he invested in early stage manufacturing, materials, energy, computing, and defense companies. Kyle was also the CEO and co-founder of Liquid Light, developer of a proprietary process to make major chemicals from CO2, which was sold to Avantium in 2016. Kyle also recently retired as a Colonel in the US Army Reserve after 24 years of service. He holds a BA in Environmental Engineering from Dartmouth College (1998), an MA in International Finance and Energy Policy from John Hopkins University (2008), an MS in Materials Science from Columbia University (2012), and a Masters of Strategic Studies from the Army War College (2020).

# TALENT



MG DEBORAH L. KOTULICH serves as the Deputy Chief of Army Reserve, Fort Belvoir, Viginia, where she is the senior advisor to the Chief, Army Reserve on policies, plans, and programs for the Army Reserve including force structure, Congressional budget and appropriations, development of manpower and personnel policies, and key administration and Department of Defense/Joint Chiefs of Staff initiatives for the Army Reserve.



**BRYNT PARMETER** was appointed as the inaugural Chief Talent Management Officer (CTMO) for the Department of Defense on April 10, 2023. In this role, which resides in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, he works across the Military Departments, Joint Staff, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and with interagency partners to lead the development and implementation of the DoD Total Force talent acquisition,

workforce development, and talent management strategy.

Prior to joining the Department of Defense, Mr. Parmeter was the Head of Non-Traditional Talent and Military & Veterans Affairs for Walmart, the Fortune I company and the world's largest retailer. Prior to that, he was the Senior Director for STEM Programs as well as the Senior Director for Military Programs for Walmart.

He is an Army combat veteran with nearly 25 years of service before leaving as a colonel. While in the Army, he served as an infantry officer in light, airborne, air assault, and mechanized units in the US, Korea, Germany, and Iraq, to include 39 months of combat service in Tikrit, Samarra, Baghdad, and Tal Afar. Other assignments included the Old Guard, the Joint Readiness Training Center, and the Human Resources Command.

After the Army, Brynt co-founded and grew several different companies in Palo Alto and San Jose, California, in the technology and manufacturing sectors, including NextFlex, an Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Institute focused on the development of flexible-hybrid electronics where he served as the Director of Workforce, Education, and Training. He was a Principal, and then Partner, in BMNT, Inc., a Palo Alto, California based consulting company, and, also served as a Science and Technology Policy Fellow for the US Department of Energy. He and his wife also co-founded Call Sign Coffee Company, an eCommerce coffee roasting business that supports members of the military community. In 2017 he was selected to serve as the first Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) for California Silicon Valley and continued as a CASA for Arkansas upon his relocation to the state in 2019.

He has served as a member of several national and state boards, including a National Science Foundation industry advisory board on Preparing Technicians for the Future of Work, a board member for work2future, the Santa Clara County Workforce Innovation Board in Silicon Valley, and as Board Vice President for Camp Alliance, Inc., focused on supporting members of the military community.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the United States Military Academy, Master's Degrees from Louisiana State University and the Army War College, and a graduate certificate in Entrepreneurship and Innovation from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business. His wife, Lisa, is the Executive Director of a national veterans service organization. Their daughter, Ashby, is a former US Army Sergeant, and their son, Will, is a soonto-be US Army Second Lieutenant.



**STEPHEN PAUL RODRIGUEZ** is the Managing Partner of One Defense, a strategic advisory firm that leverages machine learning to identify advanced software and hardware commercial capabilities and accelerate their transition into the defense industrial base. He is also an investor at Refinery Ventures, an early-scale fund investing in dual-use technologies across the country.

Mr. Rodriguez began his career at Booz Allen Hamilton shortly before 9/11 supporting their National Security practice. In his capacity as an expert on game theoretic applications, he supported the United States Intelligence Community, Department of Defense, and Department of Homeland Security as a lead architect for the Thor's Hammer, Schriever II/III and Cyber Storm wargames. He subsequently was a Vice President at a artificial intelligence company (Sentia Group) and served as Chief Marketing Officer for an international defense corporation (NCL Holdings). Mr. Rodriguez serves as a Board Director or Board Advisor of ten venture-backed companies (Applied Intuition, Duco, Edgybees, Firestorm, Odys Aviation, Portal26, Ursa Major Technologies, Vantage Robotics, ZeroMark, and Zignal Labs). He is a Special Advisor at America's Frontier Fund, a Commission Director at the Atlantic Council and a Life Member at the Council on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Rodriguez received his B.B.A degree from Texas A&M University and an M.A. degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He is published in Foreign Policy, WarOnTheRocks, National Review, and Real-ClearDefense.



**MIKE SLAGH** is founder and CEO of Shift, a VCbacked technology company on a mission to supercharge the defense-industrial partnership that underpins America's national security and economic vitality. Through an immersive Fellowship and a uniquely organized ecosystem aimed at driving defense technology adoption, Shift's Defense Ventures connects DoD customers with leading tech companies and venture capitalists. Prior to Shift,

Mike was a Navy EOD Officer. He's an alum of the US Naval Academy and Harvard Kennedy School.

# **INDUSTRIAL COMPETITION**



**DR. BRIAN ANTHONY** is the Director of MIT's Master of Engineering in Manufacturing Program, Co-Director of the Medical Electronic Device Realization Center, and Associate Director of MIT.nano. With over 20 years experience in product realization – Dr. Anthony won an Emmy (from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences) in broadcast technical innovation – Dr. Anthony designs instruments and techniques to monitor and control physical systems.

His work involves systems analysis and design and calling upon mechanical, electrical, and optical engineering, along with computer science and optimization, to create solutions.

The focus of Dr. Anthony's research is in computational instrumentation: the design of instruments and techniques to measure and control complex physical systems. His research includes the development of such solutions for manufacturing systems, medical diagnostics, and imaging systems. In addition to his academic work, he has extensive experience in market-driven technology innovation, product realization, and entrepreneurship.



**KIM MARVIN** is a General Partner at American Industrial Partners (AIP), which he joined in 1997. AIP is an operationally-oriented middle market private equity firm that is distinctively focused on buying and improving industrial businesses with operations in the U.S., Canada, and other developed markets. Mr. Marvin graduated Tau Beta Pi from Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science in Ocean Engineering, and from the Harvard

Graduate School of Business Administration with High Distinction, where he earned his Master of Business Administration and was named a Baker Scholar. Mr. Marvin was a member of the United States National Rowing Team competing in the 1983 Rowing World Championships.



**SARA O'ROURKE** is the chief of staff and head of operations for the CHIPS Investment Office. Before joining, she spent a decade at McKinsey & Company, where she was a partner in its Washington, D.C., office. O'Rourke's work at McKinsey focused on driving major financial and operational transformations, especially for governments. She was co-founder of McKinsey's Reinvesting in America initiative, which helps governments and businesses drive

transformative change by leveraging major federal investments in infrastructure, clean energy and technology. She also led McKinsey's work improving women's leadership in the public and social sectors. O'Rourke holds a bachelor's degree in social studies from Harvard College and a master's degree in international affairs and finance from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She lives with her husband and two children in Chevy Chase, DC.



**ETHAN THORNTON** is the Founder and CEO of Mach Industries. He attended MIT where he majored in Aerospace Engineering before dropping out to pursue Mach full-time last January. Since then, Mach has gone on to raise \$85 million and is working to deploy their first product, a Supersonic VTOL UAS Bomber. Mach is headquartered in Austin and is standing up their first large-scale manufacturing facility in California this year, where they will be able

to build those airframes by the thousands. Ultimately, Ethan and Mach look to become an integral part of the US defense and aerospace manufacturing base, deploying several major platforms, most of them hydrogen-powered, in the near future.

# CYBERSECURITY



**MICHAEL DANIEL** serves as the President & CEO of the Cyber Threat Alliance (CTA), a non-profit organization that improves the cybersecurity of the global digital ecosystem by enabling high-quality cyber threat information sharing among cybersecurity providers. CTA's mission is to better protect end-users, enable the disruption of cyber adversaries, and elevate overall cybersecurity. CTA's members include more than 36 cybersecurity firms headquar-

tered in twelve countries around the world.

Prior to CTA, Michael served as Special Assistant to the President and Cybersecurity Coordinator on the National Security Council Staff. In this role, he led the development and implementation of national cybersecurity strategy and policy, focusing on improving cyber defenses in the public and private sectors; deterring and disrupting malicious cyber activity aimed at the U.S. or its allies; and, improving the US's ability to respond to and recover from cyber incidents. Michael also helped craft the government's response to significant cyber incidents, such the attack on Sony Pictures Entertainment, the intrusion into the Office of Personnel Management, and the Russian efforts to meddle in our electoral process.

Before joining the National Security Council Staff, Michael served for 17 years in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), including 11 years as the Chief of the Intelligence Branch in the National Security Division, overseeing the Intelligence Community and other classified Department of Defense programs.

Originally from Atlanta, Michael holds a Bachelor's in Public Policy from Princeton University, a Master's in Public Policy from Harvard, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University's Industrial College of the Armed Forces. In his free time, he enjoys running and martial arts.



**GUY FILIPPELLI** founded Squadra Ventures in 2019 with the goal of building the world-class venture fund and partner that he wished had existed when he was raising capital. He leads Squadra's investment and portfolio operations efforts and serves as board member for Squadra's portfolio companies.

He was the founder and CEO of Red Owl Analytics, a Baltimore cybersecurity analytics startup focused on

mitigating insider threat risk, which was acquired by ForcePoint, a Raytheon subsidiary in 2017. He was also founder and CEO of Berico Technologies, a Virginia consulting firm that delivered innovative, technology-enabled cloud engineering, data analytics, and IT modernization solutions to customers in the Intelligence Community. Berico was acquired by Novetta in 2018.

He began his career as a US Army intelligence officer, serving in Korea, Italy, Germany, and Afghanistan, and at the NSA. Guy holds a B.S. in Economics from the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point, and received his B.A. and M.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Oxford University, where he studied as a Marshall Scholar.

He is Chairman of the Commit Foundation, a non-profit focused on veteran transition, and serves on the board of the National Cryptologic Foundation.



JUDE R. SUNDERBRUCH, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Executive Director of the Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center (DC3), Linthicum Heights, Maryland. He leads DC3 in executing an array of missions, including digital and multimedia forensics, cyber analysis, training and technical solutions, as well as integrated teaming with law enforcement, counterintelligence and cybersecurity partners globally. DC3 is a Field

Operating Agency aligned with the Department of the Air Force Inspector General.

He entered the Air Force in 1994 as a distinguished graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps. He served as an active-duty Air Force Office of Special Investigations special agent from 1994 until 2001, when he became a civil servant and a reservist. He has extensive interagency and international leadership experience in cybersecurity and national security. He served in deployed leadership roles in Bosnia-Herzegovina as an officer, and in Iraq as a civilian. He is also a colonel in the Air Force Reserve, a Joint Qualified Officer, a Foreign Area Officer and a Certified Information Systems Security Professional. Prior to his current position, Mr. Sunderbruch served as Executive Director, Headquarters AFOSI, Quantico, Virginia.



**SANDRA JOYCE** is a cybersecurity leader and has been head of Mandiant Intelligence since 2017. She oversees threat research activities and operations of the Mandiant Intelligence organization. Sandra joined Google in 2022, following Google's acquisition of Mandiant.

Sandra is an officer in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, serving as a faculty member at the National Intelli-

gence University. She is also a member of the Aspen Institute Cybersecurity Working Group, sits on the strategic council of the Silverado Policy Accelerator, and the Board of Visitors at National Intelligence University. She is also a member of the Institute for Security and Technology's Ransomware Task Force Steering Committee.

She is regularly featured in international print and broadcast media to include CNN, NBC, Bloomberg, BBC World, Today Show, NPR, Wall Street Journal, Deutsche Welle, and others.

Sandra is pursuing her PhD at Johns Hopkins University as an Alperovitch Institute Fellow. She has an MBA from MIT and holds four additional master's degrees in cyber-policy, international affairs, science and technology intelligence, and military operational art and science. Sandra speaks English, Spanish, and German and resides in Virginia with her family.



NICK BILOGORSKIY was an Engineering Director working on Security at Google. He created and led Google Security Intelligence team working on anti-malware and anti-abuse, and overseeing Android, Chrome, Fitbit, Safe Browsing, Account Security. He managed a team of 800+ security analysts and security engineers.

Nick has 20+ years of experience in security research. As a Founding Member at Cyphort, which was acquired by Juniper Networks, Bilogorskiy created and led the Cyphort Labs Threat Research team and played a critical role designing Cyphort's ML-based malware detection logic and product user experience. Prior to Cyphort, Bilogorskiy was Chief Malware Researcher at META/Facebook, he worked to detect, defend and takedown all malware, and botnets targeting the social network, protecting over 1 billion people. Nick was the designated malware expert and the malware spokesperson for the company.

Prior to that, he held security research leadership positions at firewall vendors Fortinet and SonicWall. Bilogorskiy is fluent in malware reverse engineering, analysis, pattern writing, and malware tracking. In 2014, to combat Russian aggression, Nick co-founded Nova Ukraine (https://novaukraine.org/), which now is the largest Ukrainian charity in California, dedicated to strengthening civil society in Ukraine by providing humanitarian aid. It raised over \$95 million and helped over 4.5 million people in Ukraine. Nick was recognized by Ukrainian President Zelenskyy, who awarded an Order of Merit Third Degree to Nick Bilogorskiy in 2022, for his significant contribution to the popularization of the Ukrainian state in the world.

Nick holds a Bachelor of Science degree in computer science and philosophy from Simon Fraser University, a GIAC Reverse Engineering Malware (GREM) certification and multiple patents in computer security. He presented or published papers at major security conferences including Virus Bulletin, AVAR, RSA, Infosecurity Europe, ISACA and SecureWorld. Nick has given over 200 international media interviews, was covered by CNN, NBC, NYT, BBC, Helsingin Sanomat.

# BIOTECHNOLOGY



**DR. JAMES F. DILLMAN** III is currently the Chief Science Officer at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. He serves as the Senior Civilian Scientist and oversees a program focused on the research and development of medical countermeasures against chemical and biochemical threats as well as training and education in the management of chemical casualties. He serves as the Command advisor for scientific and

research matters related to medical chemical defense.

He served previously as the Director of Research, the Chief of the Science Program Analysis and Integration Office and was a principal investigator in the Cell and Molecular Biology Branch at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. As a principal investigator, Dr. Dillman oversaw a research group focused on the development of medical countermeasures to chemical warfare agents. His research group utilized transcriptomics, proteomics and molecular approaches to define the molecular and cellular consequences of chemical warfare agent exposure with the goal of identifying therapeutic targets for development of toxicant medical countermeasures.

Dr. Dillman received a B.S. with honors in biology from Lebanon Valley College of Pennsylvania, and his Ph.D. from the Department of Cell Biology at the University of Virginia. He was awarded post-doctoral fellowships from the National Stroke Association and the National Institutes of Health during his time as a research fellow in the Departments of Neurology and Neuroscience at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He joined the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense as a National Research Council Research Associate and subsequently came on staff as a principal investigator in the Applied Pharmacology Branch at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense.



**DR. STEPH GUERRA** is a molecular biologist that currently serves as the Assistant Director for Health Security and Biodefense at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy where she has spent the last three years working with interagency partners to develop and implement national-level plans including the National Biodefense Strategy, the American Pandemic Preparedness Plan, and the Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trust-

worthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence, among other biosecurity and biosafety policies. She's previously worked on policy development and program implementation for key priorities including opioids safety; precision oncology; diversity, equity, and inclusion; biodefense; and pandemic preparedness at the Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Academies of Science, and the Council on Strategic Risks. She received her Ph.D. in Biological and Biomedical Sciences from Harvard University.



**CHRISTOPHER HLUBB** is the Founder and CEO of Agrilogics Group, Inc., which develops innate immune layered defense solution for pathogen agnostic threats using its patent pending next-gen active molecule isolation technology. He is also a Board Member and Chair of the Development Committee for the Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC), a DoD public-private partnership that promotes the development of emerging medical technologies.

Chris started his career at Johns Hopkins Hospital leading teams in the field of biochemical neurogenetics, where he contributed to novel patient-direct treatments for childhood metabolic diseases and neurophysiologic medical devices.

For the last 25 years, Chris has worked as an executive in a myriad of private industries driving the development of more than 80 products, scaling global manufacturing, overseeing R&D, and managing federal advocacy and compliance across new product categories. This work has frequently been in collaboration with academia and federal agencies including the FDA, USDA, USFW and numerous partnerships across the U.S. Military paradigm. To date, Chris has supported over \$200mm in private and federal investment in new technologies through his public advocacy, advisory and mentorship roles with early-stage companies. His methods and R&D techniques have led to ultra-rapid product development and commercialization successes for his own companies, and those he mentors.

#### SPACE



**COL. MATTHEW E. HOLSTON** is the Director of National Security Space Policy, National Space Council, the White House, Washington D.C. Colonel Holston was commissioned through the ROTC program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1998. Prior to his current assignment, he served as the Senior Executive Officer to the Chief of Space Operations. Additionally, Col Holston served as the Commander of Space Delta 8,

where he led a government team of 1,200+ guardians and airmen responsible for the command and control of the nation's Global Positioning System (GPS) and Military Satellite Communications (MILSATCOM) constellations.



MAJ. AUSTIN BAKER is the Deputy Director for the DIU Space Portfolio and also serves as a joint program manager for projects supporting tactical geospatial intelligence, space-enabled ground systems, assured PNT, and tactical launch. He is a career Army Space Operations Officer specializing in directed energy, space situational awareness, and space support to deployed Warfighters. Previous assignments include the Unified Space Vault and

Joint Space Operations Center at JFCC SPACE, White Sands Missile Range, and the 25th Infantry Division. He holds a B.S.E. in Computer Science from the University of Michigan and will be returning to graduate school in Fall 2024.



IAN EISHEN is the Director of Global Public Sector for Aalyria Technologies and a Presidential Leadership Fellow. He spent 23 years working in the Department of Defense and the Intelligence and Special Operations communities. He has spent time developing emerging technology, talent management, and innovation strategy for the militaries of the United States, United Kingdom and France, worked with multiple venture capital firms to

identify and scale defense-related startups in order to benefit the United States Government and local community, and was an advisor to the Joint Artificial Intelligence Center and Defense Innovation Board.



**BROOKE STOKES** is a Partner in McKinsey's Aerospace & Defense practice and leads McKinsey's global Space practice. She supports a range of clients – established companies, disruptors, and investors – on space and defense engagements, with a focus on growth strategy and transactions related work. In addition to her client engagements, Brooke has co-led McKinsey's space knowledge partnerships, including collaborations with the

Aerospace Industries Association and the World Economic Forum. She has also spoken at numerous industry events and in the media on space industry dynamics, in addition to serving as a mentor to early-stage space companies via the Creative Destruction Lab incubator program.

#### ALL CONFERENCE ALLIANCE PANEL



BERNICE GLENN KISSINGER specializes in rapid defense contracting, tech scouting, and engaging innovators from Allied Nations. She has developed unique networking and teaming models leading her to support the first Allied Nations OTA Consortium, the Defense Industrial Base Accelerator (DIBX) and Allied Nations Network. Kissinger also co-leads a Hawai'i program funded by the U.S. National Security Innovation Network (NSIN) to manage a Mission

Acceleration Center. Kissinger has been a Board member of Hawaii Technology Development Corporation, and Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii. She is a National Science Foundation (NSF) reviewer, member of the East-West Center's Women Leadership program, a lifetime member of NDIA Women In Defense, and co-founder of the Defense Entrepreneur Forum Indo Pacific (DEF Indo Pacific) and Women Allied in Security.



**FIONA MURRAY** is the Associate Dean of Innovation and Inclusion at the MIT School of Management, the William Porter (1967) Professor of Entrepreneurship and the Faculty Director of MIT Mission Innovation Experimental (MIx). She is also Faculty Director of the MIT Office of Innovation HQ, and MIT Legatum Center. Fiona is an associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. She received her BA '89 and MA '90 from the University of Oxford in chemistry.

She subsequently moved to the United States and earned an AM '92 and PhD '96 from Harvard University in applied sciences. Professor Murray also serves on the NATO Innovation Fund Board of Directors.



**KRISTJAN PRIKK** is the Estonian Ambassador to the United States since May 2021. Before assuming his current duties, Prikk served as the Permanent Secretary of the Estonian Ministry of Defense. Prior to becoming the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Prikk worked as Undersecretary for Defense Policy in the Ministry of Defense from July 2017 to August 2018. From 2015 to 2017 Mr. Prikk was the Director of National Security and the Defense Coordination Unit

of the Estonian Government Office. He also served as Deputy Director of the same office for two years prior to becoming the Director in 2015. His previous Ministry of Defense assignments include serving as Defense Counsellor at the Estonian Embassy in Washington, D.C. (2010-2013) and as Director of International Cooperation Department in Tallinn (2007-2010). Mr. Prikk holds a Master's degree from the United States Army War College and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Tartu, Estonia. Mr. Prikk is married to Liis, with whom he has two daughters and a son.



**PATRICK SCHNEIDER-SIKORSKY** leads capacity and ecosystem building at the NIF and is responsible for our Central and Eastern Europe coverage. Based between London and Warsaw, he works closely with startups, other VC funds, NATO'S DIANA, as well as industry and government partners, to ensure that the NIF delivers on its mission to boost deep tech entrepreneurship and foster innovation in regions where there is too much talent and too little venture

capital. Previously, Patrick was a founder and partner at Beast Ventures, where he focused on seed stage deep tech in Europe and invested in startups in food security, health, Al, data, autonomous systems and biotech. Prior to that, Patrick worked in foreign policy and spent several years in the corporate intelligence and security industry where he supported international companies operating in Central and Eastern Europe.

**BLAISE** currently serves as a Director General Technology & Innovation within the UK National Security infrastructure. She is responsible for turning disruptive technologies from threats into opportunities and building capabilities that keep the UK safe. Blaise has 25 years National Security experience, ranging from the geopolitical frontlines to cross-government technology leadership roles. Blaise has extensive diplomatic/geopolitical experience, including from multiple overseas postings, leading across thematic missions ranging from terrorism to nuclear proliferation. She was previously Director State Threats & Cyber. Always learning: Arabic, Russian, digital. Blaise is a largely self-taught technologist, with a degree in Anthropology, diplomas in Psychology and, most recently, Artificial Intelligence. She loves to bridge and build unusual coalitions across the domestic, international, economic, policy and tech worlds, to tackle world-scale problems.

#### ALL CONFERENCE INVESTING PANEL



**DANIEL GWAK** is the Managing Partner of Point72 Private Investments, the institutional private investing business of Point72 Asset Management. He oversees Point72 Ventures' Defense Tech and Growth investment teams.

Before joining Point72, Dan was a Partner on the Investment Team at In-Q-Tel, the strategic investment firm of the CIA and U.S. Intelligence Community. At

In-Q-Tel, Dan focused on enterprise analytics and infrastructure companies whose technologies aided the mission of the U.S. intelligence community.

Previously, Dan was an investment banking analyst in the M&A group at Credit Suisse, a private equity associate at The Carlyle Group, and a fireteam leader in the United States Marine Corps, where he was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon and Purple Heart for actions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.



**DR. LAURENCE VIGEANT-LANGLOIS** is Managing Director at AE Industrial with a primary focus on new business development and portfolio management across AE Industrial's funds in private equity, venture capital, and aircraft leasing. She currently serves on the Boards of Directors of AE Industrial portfolio companies Alpine Air, Applied Composites, Columbia Helicopters, Edge Autonomy and G.S. Precision, as well as on the investment committee of

AEI HorizonX's venture fund, on AEI's Origination Guidance and Sustainability Committees, and as Director or Observer of AEI HorizonX venture investments in FLYR and Near Earth Autonomy.

Prior to joining AE Industrial, Dr. Vigeant-Langlois worked for GE Aviation as Chief Executive Officer of the GE Passport joint venture with Safran and IHI, and as program management executive responsible for the Passport, CF34-3 and CF34-8C engines on Bombardier and Mitsubishi's aircraft. Previously at GE, Dr. Vigeant-Langlois played a key role on the founding team that launched and grew GE Additive as a leading force in industrial 3D printing, and led the strategy and global field marketing teams supporting the sale of GE Aviation's engines, systems and services across commercial, business and military aviation. Before GE, Dr. Vigeant-Langlois led commercial, product and engineering teams in aerospace and high-tech industries. At Sikorsky Aircraft (now part of Lockheed Martin), she launched new engineering innovation and offset programs and led the Operations Analysis team and contract R&D with the US DoD. At aircraft lessor CIT (now Avolon), she gained increasing responsibilities in the acquisition of over \$9B of aircraft and engines. At The Weather Company (part of IBM), she led the democratization of cockpit weather information and the launch of SiriusXM Aviation Weather. She also previously transported air freight flying Learjets across North America.

She received a BEng in Mechanical Engineering from McGill University, SM and PhD in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and is a graduate of the International Space University space studies program as well as UTC's Darden executive and several GE Crotonville programs. She is certified as an FAA commercial pilot with Learjet privileges and is a flight instructor in gliders. Shealso serves as Board Advisor to digital/AI health company Triangulate Labs.



**RICHARD WELLS** is a Managing Director at Insight Partners. He has over 20 years of experience in investing and advising managers of high-growth technology companies. Since joining Insight in 2005, Richard has sponsored over 40 investments across application software, infrastructure management, DevOps, cybersecurity and defense technology, and has realized 16 acquisitions and 2 IPOs.



**BEN FITZGERALD** is the Chief Executive Officer at Rebellion Defense. His work with Rebellion began in 2019 as an early investor and board participant. Most recently, he served as the company's Executive Chair from May to December 2023.

A seasoned executive with a diverse background in technology, national security, and investment, Ben held the position of Executive Director – Strategy,

Data, and Design in the Pentagon's Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment. During this period, he orchestrated the most significant reorganization of defense acquisition systems since the Goldwater Nichols Act of 1986. He also served on the Senate Armed Services Committee, contributing to legislation that created new defense acquisition pathways and governance models. Ben previously directed the Technology and National Security Program at the Center for a New American Security (CNAS), where he led the organization's thought leadership on national security challenges associated with emerging technologies. His insights on these issues have been featured in Defense News, Foreign Policy, NPR, Reuters, Vice, and C-SPAN. Congress has sought his expert testimony on defense acquisition reform for building a more resilient and modern defense infrastructure.

An Australian native, Ben established the North American operations of the Noetic Group, an Australian-owned consulting firm. His exemplary work at the company earned recognition with the Australian Capital Territory Export Awards in 2007, 2008, and 2011. Earlier in his career, Ben worked in various technology corporations, including IBM and Unisys.

In addition to his role at Rebellion, Ben serves as a partner at Lupa Systems, leading the firm's technology investments with security implications.

## MEET OUR PLANNING TEAM



**LIZ LIPPIE RIMMER** is a student at Harvard Business School. She has eight years of naval operations experience as a U.S. Navy Surface Warfare Officer and she previously interned at Vannevar Labs.



**EVAN LONG** is a dual master's of mechanical engineering and MBA student at MIT. He will commission as an acquisitions officer in the Air Force Reserve with the rank of Captain after graduating this spring, but he plans to work in defense tech in DC for his full-time civilian job. Prior to MIT, Evan was a consultant at Bain & Company and worked on the strategy team at Supernal, an eVTOL startup. He traveled to Kyiv last summer to support a factory building vehicles and drones for the Ukrainian military.



**BEN BUCHHEIM-JURISSON** is a JD/MBA candidate at Harvard University. Prior to Harvard, Ben served as an Intelligence Officer for five years in the United States Air Force and worked at Meta.



**BOHDAN VOLYANYUK** is a second-year MBA student at MIT Sloan. Prior to attending Sloan, Bohdan served in the US Army as an infantry officer in the 82nd Airborne Division.



**ASAD AKRAM** is a mid-career MPA candidate at Harvard Kennedy School. Prior to HKS, he spent 4 years doing strategy/M&A consulting with KPMG serving industrials and energy clients. Asad is also a Reservist with the Army Futures Command focused on venture scouting and non-dilutive financing. He is a chemical engineer by training, and completed his MBA at Rice University in 2019.



**JASEN BAKER** is a current MBA student at Harvard Business School. Prior to school, Jasen spent 8 years in the U.S. Army as a Special Forces Medic in 1st Special Forces Group.



**MARK BETZEL** is a current HBS MBA student and a former test director and pilot for the USMC. He spent the past summer as a behaviors engineer at Shield AI.



**CHELSEA CONARD** is a student in the MIT Technology and Policy Program (TPP), concentrating in cybersecurity policy. She is researching cyber risk quantification at MIT's Internet Policy Research Initiative (IPRI) and working as a threat analyst with the Cyber Threat Alliance (CTA).



**AUSTIN GRAY** is a defense entrepreneur advancing unmanned vessel technology for the US Navy. Gray previously worked in a drone factory in Ukraine and served as an intelligence officer. He is pursuing an MPA at Harvard.



**DANSIL GREEN** is a second year Master's student in the Technology and Policy Program at MIT. Before MIT, Dansil worked as a civilian for the US Space Force and received her Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering from California Polytechnic State University. She supports the Small Satellite Collaborative within the MIT AeroAstro Department. Her research in space technology and policy focuses on In-space Servicing, Assembly, and Manufacturing (ISAM).



**NICHOLAS HANSON** is an MBA/MPP candidate at Harvard University. He previously served as a ground intelligence officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, worked at Vannevar Labs, and served as a fellow on the House Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the U.S. and the Chinese Communist Party.



**IRENA KING** is a PhD Candidate in Medical Engineering at MIT and Harvard Medical School and is pursuing a Healthcare Certificate at MIT Sloan. She holds a BS in Neuroscience from American University and is a NSF Graduate Research Fellow. Her research spans HIV-1 biomarkers and Alzheimer's disease vaccine development. Irena is also CEO of Surgicure Technol-

ogies, Inc., a startup innovating airway management in civilian and military settings, and serves as a Data Science & Project Manager at Leading Business Ventures. She was recognized in the 2022 BostInno 25 Under 25.



**SAM LANEY** is a second-year SM candidate studying in the ALFA group of the MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL) as a Draper Scholar. Sam is a 2022 Graduate of the United States Naval Academy and an Active Duty Cryptologic Warfare Officer.



**CLIF LUBER** was a Supply and Logistics Officer in the Navy for 9 years. After the Navy, he worked at Anduril Industries on the Proposal and Capture team. He is currently a student at Harvard Business School.



**CHANDLER MARCUS** is an MBA candidate at Harvard Business School. He previously served as a ground intelligence officer in the U.S. Marine Corps and has worked at Palantir Technologies and Reveal Technology.



**LOUIS MCCULLAGH** is an MBA candidate at Harvard Business School. He previously served as a Cyber Operations Officer with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and as an Acquisitions Program Manager with Air Force Materiel Command.



**MOISES NAVAS** is a first-year MBA student at MIT Sloan. Prior to graduate school, Moises served for 10 years as an Infantry Officer in the US Marine Corps.



**TONY ROA** is a Fellows student at MIT Sloan School of Management. He served as a Submarine Officer on Virginia Class Subs then in defense technology at Raytheon, General Dynamics, and Draper Labs.



**ARTEM SOROKIN** is an MBA candidate on a Leave of Absence at MIT, Founder of Silicon Valley-based Cybersecurity and AI startup - CrackenAGI. Originating from Ukraine, Artem brings 12+ years of engineering experience in cybersecurity, software, and data science.



**THEO SQUIRES** is a second-year MBA student at MIT Sloan. Prior to attending Sloan, Theo served as an intelligence officer in the Royal Australian Navy. While at MIT, Theo interned as a consultant at BCG and has worked as a research assistant for MIT Mission Innovation X.



**ANGELIQUE TALMOR** is a final-year MPP/MBA candidate at the Harvard Kennedy School and MIT Sloan. She has been a visiting research fellow at the Hudson Institute and a Krauthammer Fellow at the Tikvah Fund. Her writings on foreign policy and politics have been published in the Wall Street Journal, Newsweek, and City Journal. Before graduate school, Angelique worked at Capgemini and in the French government. She graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in Political Science and French from the University of Florida.



**ZACH ZIMMERMAN** is an MBA candidate at Harvard Business School. He previously served in the U.S. Army as a Cyber Warfare Officer at U.S. Cyber Command and the National Security Agency.



**LAURA AHMETAJ** is a first year MBA student at Harvard Business Schoool, and she studied Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering at NYU and worked in Northrop Grumman's Space Sector for 5 years where she spearheaded multimillion-dollar proposals and advocated for innovation in the space sector. Most Recently, she worked as an VC Investor at

Marlinspike and executed market sizing analyses across various investment sectors, including cybersecurity, aerospace, space, autonomy & robotics, and AI/ML & data analytics.



**DARYNA OSTAFIICHUK** is a first year MBA student at MIT Sloan School of Management. Before Sloan, Daryna spent 5 years with McKinsey & Company, working on digital transformations and operational improvement projects. Daryna grew up and worked in Ukraine and gained her Bachelor's in Lithuania.



MARTA DERN is a second-year MBA student at MIT Sloan. Marta spent her MBA internship at Forgepoint, an early-stage venture capital firm focused on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Software in the Bay Area. Prior to Sloan, Marta worked for six years in cybersecurity, focusing on identity and access management in the pharmaceutical and

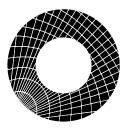
chemical industries. Marta grew up in Barcelona, Spain, earning her Bachelor's degree in Computer Systems Engineering and her Master's degree in User Experience from Universitat Ramon Llull. THOUGHT PARTNER

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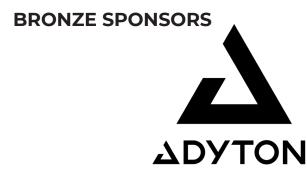
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