

PRESS RELEASE

National Quantum Literacy Network Builds Awareness for a Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive Workforce for the Second Quantum Revolution

Social Enterprises' goal is to increase historically underrepresented groups' and participation in the quantum industry to 1 million by 2030.

WASHINGTON, DC – SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 – Commemorating the National Quantum Initiative Act of 2018, the National Quantum Literacy Network (NQLN) announces the launching of its volunteer driven, nonprofit social enterprise to help build skills, opportunity, leadership, and wealth for historically underserved groups in the rapidly evolving quantum market.

“For far too long well intended efforts from industry and academia, to increase participation of black, brown and other disadvantaged communities in STEM education and their related professions have fallen short or failed completely.”, stated Drs. Tim Akers and Kevin Peters, Co-Founders of NQLN and faculty members at Morgan State University. Akers and Peters have stated that *“We have developed innovative quantum literacy education and training solutions for workforce development across the full spectrum of teaching and learning styles that are proven more effective for complex subject matter and specific to communities of color”*.

To assist in bridging this knowledge and occupation gap, the NQLN is led by STEM educators, originating from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) with the collaboration of industry stakeholders, community leaders, national quantum experts and business executives. They are working together to overcome the misconceptions of the past, through tailored solutions that address the unique and emerging needs of the quantum industry.

The Second Quantum Revolution is rapidly expanding and has the promise to soon impact society in many unforeseen ways. *“We are at a precipice of a new phase in our history where quantum technology will greatly impact our world, to build new industries, create new opportunities, and nurture new knowledge and discovery for our country. However, this new and emerging knowledge and opportunity must be shared beyond traditional participants,”* says John Joaquin NQLN Co-Founder, technology industry leader and social entrepreneur.

On October 5 and 6, 2022, on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Academy's Naval Institute Jack C. Taylor Conference Center, the NQLN team will be bringing together industry leaders, world class academics, government officials, minority business enterprises, and military personnel and veterans, to converge on the topic “Quantum Literacy” and how this new and emerging technology will impact historically underrepresented groups.

To work alongside groups in need of quantum literacy, NQLN is launching a series of programs aimed at creating awareness, building skills and developing resources to help effect needed change.

These programs include:

- **Awareness and Connection** – The first *National Quantum Literacy Conference 1.0* on October 5 & 6, 2022, at the U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Naval Institute, Jack C. Taylor Conference Center. This first in the world event will focus on promoting the advancement of historically underserved groups and communities in the new emerging quantum industry.
- **Learning and Skills Building** – State-of-the-art micro-credential certification program for quantum workforce development that integrates artificial intelligence to enhance the teaching and learning effectiveness for historically underrepresented groups.

- **Resources and Investment** – Champion significant increase in financial investments from all sectors of society, critical to advance national workforce development opportunities for new and emerging learners from a diversity of occupations and groups.
- **Measurement and Accountability** – *The State of Quantum Literacy in America: Diversity in the Workforce* will be the first Quantum Literacy Report Card that uses critical metrics to set the benchmark for the state of diversity, equity and inclusion efforts in the quantum marketplace.

Building on the National Quantum Initiative Act goals, Dr. Akers shares the sentiment that *“quantum literacy is vital to our national security, to our present and future workforce development needs and we cannot miss the opportunity for closing the gap in underrepresented communities across the country. Industry leaders are vital in helping to grow the brilliance and opportunity of our emerging scientists, engineers, policymakers and business leaders.”*

To find out more about how your organization can be part of the National Quantum Literacy Network and its goal to help build a more diverse, equitable and inclusive workforce for the Second Quantum Revolution, please visit our website at www.quantumliteracy.org and www.quantumliteracy.com.

The event is provided at no cost to attendees by our sponsors. To register and attend the first National Quantum Literacy Conference 1.0, go to: <http://quantumliteracyconference.org>

National Quantum Literacy Network

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