



“Shoot for the Stars”

2021 Virtual Women in Science and Engineering Symposium

Hosted by the Air Force Technical Applications Center

6-7 October 2021

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Wednesday, 6 October 2021

TIME (EST)	EVENT	SPEAKER(S)
0955	Event Start	
0955 – 1005	Welcome and Opening Remarks (10)	Col Katharine Branson
1005-1010	Introductory Remarks (5)	Dr. William Junek
1010 – 1110	Keynote Address: Chief Scientist of the Air Force (60)	Dr. Victoria Coleman
1110 – 1210	Panel: Blazing the Trail 4 panelists and Q/A	Dr. Victoria Coleman Dr. Virginia Davis Dr. Theresa Watson CAPT (ret) Pat Sudol, USN
1210 – 1300	Lunch and Breakouts (50)	Col Sarah Cleveland Dr. Reggie Crane
1300-1310	Transition to Main Room (10)	N/A
1310-1315	Introductory Remarks (5)	CMSgt Amy Long
1315 – 1415	Keynote Address: Retired U.S. Marine Corps Major General and CEO of Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas (60)	MajGen (ret) Angela Salinas, USMC
1415 – 1445	Tech Talk – U.S. Air Force Academy (30)	Ms. Stacey Lazzelle
1445 – 1500	Break	
1500 – 1530	Opportunity Knocks! – Code Ninjas (30)	Ms. Laurie Whittaker
1530 – 1600	Tech Talk – Air Force Research Laboratory (30)	Ms. Sarah Metott
1600-1610	Closing Remarks (10)	Dr. Astrid Suarez-Mullins
End of Day		

Event Description: The Symposium is focused on inclusivity of women and minorities in STEM in a wide variety of STEM professions, promotion of young professionals, and empowerment of future leaders. We aim to meet these objectives by hosting a wide range of topics for discussion and providing a vibrant virtual atmosphere, enabling attendees and speakers alike to network and share their experiences while celebrating diversity and success.

There are three facets to this event that we aim to address through our keynotes and panelists:

1. Highlight technical expertise, leadership strategies, and experiences of speakers and panelists
2. Share opportunities and technical talks of interest to young STEM professionals
3. Provide opportunities and advise to young professionals working to set and achieve their career goals

Panel Theme: “Blazing the Trail”:

To “Shoot for the Stars” you must set bold and ambitious your goals for the future. Often, there is no clear path for how individuals may set and achieve their goals or establish steps to take when venturing

into uncharted territory. This panel is focused on the past, present, and future female in STEM that have blazed or are blazing new trails in STEM to reach their career goals.

Breakout Sessions:

During lunch on October 6th, we encourage our audience to participate in one of two breakout sessions:

- *Effective Communication Webinar with Dr. Reggie Crane:* Dr. Crane is a retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant, Founder of Next Level Coaching and Consulting, and current Air Force Technical Application Center's Workforce Development Program Manager. He's an experienced organizational development consultant, executive coach, trainer, and public speaker. His topic for this session centers around the necessary parts to developing an effective communication environment in both personal and professional settings.
- *Interactive Mentorship Discussion with Col Sarah Cleveland:* Col Cleveland made joint history as the first director of special operations cultural support teams in Afghanistan. She led 34 women serving as special operations enablers in more than 700 combat patrols throughout all sectors of Afghanistan. She was also the director of command, control, communications and computers and cyber for the joint task force national capital region – United States military district of Washington, Washington D.C., where she was responsible for providing communications to the joint task force in the conduct of homeland defense and civil support operations in the national capital region. Col Cleveland's session will be a live, interactive discussion revolving around her background, her growth as an officer throughout her career, and mentorship advice for our attendees.

Thursday, 7 October 2021

TIME (EST)	EVENT	SPEAKER(S)
1000	Event Start	
1000 – 1010	Welcome and Opening Remarks (10)	Dr. Theresa Watson
1010 – 1110	Keynote Address: Retired Air Force Brigadier General and Harvard Kennedy School Professor	Dr. Dana Born Brig Gen (ret), USAF, PhD
1110 – 1210	Panel: Empowering Change 4 panelists and Q/A	Col Sarah Cleveland, USAF Lt Col Sarah Summers, USAF Dr. Tammy Muhs Dr. Mihan McKenna Taylor
1210 – 1300	Lunch and Mr. Simon Sinek Prerecorded Fireside Chat	Mr. Simon Sinek
1300-1310	Transition to Main Room	N/A
1310-1315	Introductory Remarks	Ms. Julia Ignacek
1315 – 1415	Speaker: Geophysicist with Lawrence Livermore National Lab Ground Nuclear Detonation Detection team (60)	Dr. Rengin Gok
1415 – 1445	Tech Talk – Clemson University (30)	Dr. Phillip Brown
1445 – 1500	Break	
1500 – 1530	Opportunity Knocks! – NASA OSTEM Internship (30)	Ms. Priscilla Moore
1530 – 1600	Tech Talk – Air Force Institute of Technology	Dr. Abby Bickley
1600-1610	Closing Remarks (10)	CMSgt Amy Long
End of Day		

Panel Theme: Empowering Change: Discuss how lasting change can be created so the next generation of professionals have clear pathways and opportunities to succeed. The panel will focus on empowerment and strategies for authentic leadership to enable change and career development.