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Welcome to the 2018 National Aerospace & Defense Workforce Summit!
When we think about the future of our industry, and how we can ensure our competitiveness around the world, recruiting and retaining a strong and innovative workforce is imperative.

Every two years, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) are pleased to bring together key stakeholders from industry, academia, government, and non-governmental organizations to discuss strategies for developing a highly-skilled and robust 21st-century workforce. During this Summit, participants will review progress on goals set during the 2016 National Summit and consider new policy objectives for enhancing STEM education and workforce development in the United States.

Despite what often feels like a divided political discourse, both parties can agree that a robust technical workforce is essential to our nation’s economic competitiveness and national security.

While the A&D sector currently enjoys a prominent position in terms of global competitiveness and technical superiority, we must be concerned as our sector faces a wave of impending retirements, a shortage of highly trained technical graduates, an underrepresentation of women and people of color, and increasingly serious competition from both allies and adversaries. Today’s proceedings will review these challenges and examine how best to bring more diversity into the workforce, provide K-12 students greater access and exposure to STEM disciplines, and motivate college students and graduates to pursue aerospace careers. Finally, we hope to touch upon the role of apprenticeships, internships, and other forms of work-based learning that enhance professional development.

Our community forms the backbone of much of the nation’s economic prosperity and national security, so we hope that you will fully participate in the day’s discussions, engage with your fellow attendees, thoughtfully consider the suggestions that our speakers and panelists make, and come away committed to work together to strengthen our workforce.

On behalf of the AIA and AIAA, thank you for your participation.

Dan Dumbacher
Executive Director
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Eric K. Fanning
President and CEO
Aerospace Industries Association
8:30 a.m.  |  Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m.  |  Welcome and Opening Statements
Eric Fanning, President and Chief Executive Officer, Aerospace Industries Association
John Langford, President, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

9:15 a.m.  |  Congressional Perspective

9:35 a.m.  |  Issues and Trends: Results of the 2018 A&D Workforce Survey
Carole Hedden, Executive Editorial Director, Aviation Week Executive Intelligence

10:00 a.m. |  State of the A&D Workforce
John Langford, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Aurora Flight Sciences Corporation (an independent subsidiary of Boeing)

10:15 a.m. |  Panel: Creating a Globally Competitive Pipeline through Inclusion and Diversity in the A&D Workforce
MODERATOR: Rainia Washington, Vice President Global Diversity & Inclusion, Lockheed Martin Corporation
SPEAKERS:
Robin Coger, Dean of Engineering, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Ken Lesley, Director of Engineering Academy, McKinley Technology High School
Debra Facktor, Vice President and General Manager of Strategic Operations, Ball Aerospace
Elaine Petro, Women in Aeronautics and Astronautics, University of Maryland – College Park

11:05 a.m. |  Break
11:15 a.m.  Panel: Defining a Skilled Workforce for A&D Manufacturing Jobs
MODERATOR: Lisa Teague, Head of Research & Technology, Rolls-Royce Corporation

SPEAKERS:
William Powers, President and Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing
Jeff Weld, Senior Policy Advisor in STEM Education, White House Office of Science Technology Policy
Denise Peppard, Corporate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, Northrop Grumman Corporation

12:05 p.m.  Lunch Buffet

12:30 p.m.  Lunch Keynote
Lesa Roe, Chancellor, University of the North Texas System

1:15 p.m.  Legislative Outlook
Dave Young, Director of Federal Legislative Affairs and Workforce Policy, The Boeing Company

1:30 p.m.  Roundup Discussion

2:00 p.m.  Summit Concludes
Lesa B. Roe

In October 2017, Lesa B. Roe was named Chancellor of the University of North Texas System following a national search. Chancellor Roe is the chief executive officer and the first woman to lead the UNT System. She is responsible for all aspects of the System's operations including general oversight of 10,000+ employees and the three UNT System universities – UNT in Denton, UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth and UNT Dallas. Strategic growth, research, inclusiveness, operational efficiency, and employee engagement are her key priorities.

Prior to her arrival in North Texas, Chancellor Roe spent 33 years with NASA. As acting Deputy Administrator, she was responsible for general oversight of 17,000 NASA employees and 10 field centers across the nation. She also directed program and project teams on product/mission delivery, acquisition strategy, partnership and international strategy, and risk management.

During her tenure at NASA, Chancellor Roe served as the first woman Director of NASA Langley Research Center, Manager of the International Space Station (ISS) Research Program at the Johnson Space Center, and worked on 36 Space Shuttle and ISS missions in various leadership roles. Her leadership at NASA led to numerous breakthrough innovations and missions that advanced our nation’s leadership and international knowledge of aeronautics and space.

Chancellor Roe has served on numerous boards and advisory committees including the Virginia Governor’s Aerospace Advisory Council, American Astronautical Society, Virginia FIRST Robotics, and the Virginia Research and Technology Advisory Commission. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors for the Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Dallas, Inc. As well as being an AIAA Fellow, a few of her many honors include the Women in Aerospace Leadership Award (2010) and the NASA Exceptional Service Medal.

A first-generation college graduate, Chancellor Roe holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida and a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Central Florida.
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