Theme:
The future of the Unmanned Systems (UMS) industry within Virginia depends on a highly trained and educated workforce. We will share and examine our collective capabilities, programs, and future plans in this workforce development space and take a look at the industry’s needs. We will listen to views on the demand side and in opportunities arising from the transition of highly trained veterans into the civil workforce. We will search for opportunities to work together to advance the industry and awareness of our educational system.

Monday, March 14th

1:00 pm – 1:10 pm  Welcome and Remarks by Provost Thanassis Rikakis

1:10 pm – 1:20 pm  Logistics and Overview

1:20 pm – 3:15 pm  Session 1: University Programs in Virginia

Universities in this space will discuss their programs, future plans, ideas for enhancing the UMS industry, and insights into demand.

Chair: Tom Dingus, Director, Virginia Tech Transportation Institute

1. Virginia Tech – Craig Woolsey
2. University of Virginia – Barry Horowitz
3. Virginia Commonwealth University – Bob Klenke
4. George Mason University – Peggy Brouse
5. James Madison University – Chris Bachman
6. Liberty University – Jonathan Washburn
7. Old Dominion University – Yiannis Papelis

3:15 pm -3:30 pm  Break

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm  Session 2: Community College Programs in Virginia

Community Colleges in this space will discuss their programs, future plans, ideas for enhancing the UMS industry, and insights into demand.

Chair: Victoria Cox, Victoria Cox Solutions and Chair of the UMS Commission Policy and Regulatory Work Group

1. Germanna Community College – Ben Sherman
2. Piedmont Virginia Community College – Valerie Palamountain & Darren Goodbar
3. Mountain Empire Community College, Victoria Ratliff, Vice President, Academic & Student Services
4. Thomas Nelson Community College – Stuart Harris

5:15 pm – 6:00 pm  Networking Reception and Cash Bar

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  Dinner hosted by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute

Speaker: Tom Dingus “A concept for a Multi-University/College Automated Systems Program in Virginia”
Tuesday, March 15th

7:55 – 8:00 am  Welcome

8:00 am - 9:00 am  Session 3: Contributors to the UMS Workforce  
Other contributors to the workforce pipeline and its connectivity with industry will provide their perspectives.  
Chair: Scott Strimple, Virginia UAS and member of the UMS Commission  
1. Virginia Values Veterans – Richard Ferry, Dept. of Veterans Services  
3. Virginia Space Grant Consortium – Chris Carter  
4. Falcon Foundation UAS / Shenandoah Drones, Robert Thompson, Senior Consultant Government Affairs

9:00 am – 9:15 am  Break

9:15 am – 10:30 am  Session 4: Industry - Views on Workforce Development  
Chair: David Hinton, Executive Director, Virginia UMS Commission  
1. Stilwell Technology and Robotics, Wayne Stilwell, CEO  
2. Hampton Roads AUVSI – Jay Willmott, Chapter President  
3. Measure, Dave Bowen, Director  
4. Asymmetric Unmanned Aerial Systems, Russ Metzler, Director  
5. Textron Systems, Jim Glowacki Director, Business Product Support

10:30 am – 12:00 pm  Session 5: Facilitated Feedback/Working Sessions  
Breakout sessions will provide an opportunity to address ideas for fostering the unmanned systems industry and feedback and ideas regarding the dinner presentation “A concept for a Multi-University/College Automated Systems Program in Virginia”.

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm  Travel to VTTI

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm  Box Lunches Provided at VTTI  
1. Overview of Automation Myra Blanco, VTTI  
2. Research at VTTI and MAAP Shane McLaughlin & Mark Blanks

1:30 pm – 2:45 pm  Automated Ground Vehicle and UAV Demonstrations on the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute Smart Road

2:45 pm  Travel back to the Inn/Adjourn