# AGENDA

8:00 – 8:30 Check-in, welcome and introduction by Global Forum

8:30 – 9:00 **Keynote address by** *Dr. Charles Clancy*, VT Hume Center

9:00– 10:00 **Panel 1**: **Decentralization – Generating Trust without Authority**

Moderator: Dr. Dan Simundza

Bill McBeath, ChainLink Research

Bernadette Kogler, RiskSpan

Manu Sporny, DigitalBazaar

Dr. Charles Clancy, Hume Center Virginia Tech

Dr. Christopher Barrett, Biocomplexity Institute of Virginia Tech

Dr. Nic Tideman, Department of Economics Virginia Tech

10:00 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11.30 **Panel 2: Disruption – Impacts on Industries and Institutions**

Moderator: Dr. Giselle Datz

Peter Menegay, SynaptiCAD

Melanie Swan, Purdue University

Yoram Keinan, Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP

Dr. John Schindler, Federal Reserve Board of Governors

Dr. Daniel Breslau, Department of Science and Technology in Society

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch & Networking

12:30 – 1:00 **Keynote address by** *Dr. John Schindler*, Federal Reserve Board Governors

1:00 – 1:15 **Panel 3: Blacksburg: The genius loci**

Moderator: Dr. David Bieri

Manu Sporny and Peter Menegay

1:15 – 2.15 **Panel 4: Blockchain: Promise and Peril**

Moderator: Dr. David Bieri

Everyone

2:15 – 2:30 **Concluding Remarks**

BBS Content

# Panel 1: Decentralization – Generating Trust without Authority

Bill McBeath, Bernadette Kogler, Manu Sporny, Charles Clancy, Nic Tideman, Dan Simundza

Main Themes:

# The relationship between authority and trust

* Blockchain, being decentralized, allows one to trust in a system without a central authority
  + Is trust still necessary? If so, who do we need to trust? The code? The miners? [McBeath, Clancy, Tideman]
  + Are we moving to a trustless society? [McBeath, Kogler, Sporny]

# Governance, opacity, and transparency

* Governance *on* the blockchain – they can be adaptable (e.g. the DAO, Bitcoin forks)
  + How are blockchains governed? Is it transparent? [McBeath, Clancy, Sporny]
* Decentralization increases transparency
  + Is transparency good for governance? [Sporny, Kogler, Tideman]
  + How does the blockchain allow governance without authorities? [All]
  + Does decentralization increase accountability of public sector/central authorities? [Kogler]
  + Social Choice Mechanisms on the blockchain. [Tideman, Sporny]

# Decentralized information systems

* Industries and applications – retail, supply chain mgmt. [McBeath]; finance [Kogler], Security [Clancy], Identity [Sporny]
* Where don’t we see them? [McBeath, Clancy]
* What are the impediments to greater deployment of the blockchain? [All]

# Panel 2: Disruption – Impacts on Industries and Institutions

John Schindler, Melanie Swan, Yoram Keinan, Peter Menegay, Giselle Datz, STS faculty

Main Themes:

# New forms of money and assets

* Disrupting money – Bitcoin & other cryptocurrencies are an entirely new form of asset
  + Where is this field going? Will it become more “money-like”? [Schindler, Swan, Menegay]
  + Central Bank cryptocurrencies? [Schindler, Keinan]

# Regulation

* What role for regulation? Which entity should regulate? [Schindler, Swan]
* Legal implications and smart contracts [Keinan]
* ICOs – What the hell is going on? [Schindler, Keinan, Menegay]
* Securitization – are we seeing an increase in securitization [Swan, Schindler, Keinan]

# Ethics

* Inclusion – will blockchain help the un(der)banked? [Swan]
* Stratification – will blockchain further accentuate the divide between the haves and the have-nots? [Swan, Menegay]
* Illicit activities – silk road, drug money, crime induced by smart contracts [Menegay]