Emerging Trends & Policy Symposium

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Foster Innovation

September 19, 2024

Hosted by GSA's Office of Technology Policy

GSA

Agenda

9:00 AM | Opening Remarks
Dan Pomeroy, GSA OTP

9:10 AM | Acquisition Approaches to Emerging Technologies
Mike Berkholtz, GSA FAS

9:35 AM | Past, Present, and Future Possibilities of Government Adoption of AI
Isabel Metzger, GSA OCFO and Brianna Gomez McGowan, GSA OTP

BREAK

10:10 AM | A Generative AI Flexible Architecture Approach and Roadmap
Patrick Amato, JHU APL

10:35 AM | Fireside Chat
Shawn Watson, GSA OTP (Moderator), Bridget Carper, DOE, Dr. Chad Knights, NVCC, and Dr. Zach Whitman, GSA

11:05 AM | Multimedia Forensics for Cybersecurity
Dr. William Corvey, DARPA

BREAK

11:50 AM | Implementing AI at the Department of State
Dr. Matthew Graviss, DOS

12:15 PM | Fireside Chat
Dr. Paula Ford, NVCC (Moderator), Emily McReynolds, Adobe, Manish Goyal, IBM, and Paul Lekas, SIIA

12:45 PM | Closing Remarks
Laura Gerhardt, OMB

Patrick Amato
Chief IT Strategist for Generative AI
Johns Hopkins University

Patrick Amato serves in all aspects of customer centric information technology service creation, delivery, governance, and operations.

Before joining the Johns Hopkins University Mr. Amato held project, technical leadership and advisory positions with The University of Maryland, The MITRE Corporation, Boeing Information Systems, The U.S. Agency for International Development, and the White House. These roles include advising on enterprise-wide technology strategy, program management leadership for enterprise cyber security, and the initiation, deploy and operation of cloud computing solutions.

Uniquely skilled in explaining complex technology to diverse audiences and decision makers using metaphor, narrative, use cases and expected outcome benefit frameworks. Mr. Amato has advised startups and delivered results to 10,000 plus strong organizations. His software products have been used by over 200 million people, processed over $1 Billion in transactions and improved lives across the globe. Mr. Amato is passionate about deploying and operating solutions and inspiring that joy in others.

Mr. Amato earned a Bachelor of Science degree in computer science from the University of Maryland, a Master of Science degree in technical management from Johns Hopkins University and is a certified Project Management Professional and Discipline Agile Scrum Master.

Michael Berkholtz
Senior Manager, Technology Lifecycle Services
General Services Administration
Federal Acquisition Service

Mr. Berkholtz is the in the Office of Enterprise Technology Solutions, Information Technology Category (ITC), Federal Acquisition Service (FAS). The Federal Acquisition Service provides buying platforms and acquisition services to Federal, DoD, State and Local governments for a broad range of items from office supplies to motor vehicles to information technology and telecommunications products and services. In his current role, Mike coordinates ITC's emerging technology

research and analysis projects, directing and guiding efforts to educate the ITC employees and leadership as well as agency customers on new and emerging technologies.

Mr. Berkholtz has more than 20 years of experience in strategic planning, financial and program management. In addition to his service at GSA, Mr. Berkholtz supported major technology development programs at the Missile Defense Agency and served in several budget and strategic planning roles at MDA, GSA and the US Small Business Administration. He led design and implementation for agency, department and government wide human resources, financial and contract systems. In addition, he has led large organizational changes and managed a large matrixed workforce across multiple locations and programs. Mr. Berkholtz also served in roles at the Office of Management and Budget, the US Senate Budget Committee and in private industry.

Mr. Berkholtz is a certified Project Management Professional and earned a Certificate of Project Management from The George Washington University. He is a graduate of OPM's Federal Executive Institute. Mr. Berkholtz holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Alabama and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of the South in Sewanee, TN.

Bridget Carper

Deputy Chief Information Officer for Architecture, Engineering, Technology, and Innovation
Responsible Artificial Intelligence Official
Department of Energy
Office of the Chief Information Officer

Bridget Carper serves as the Department of Energy's (DOE) Deputy Chief Information Officer for Architecture, Engineering, Technology, and Innovation within the Office of the Chief Information Officer and the Department's Responsible Artificial Intelligence Official.

Ms. Carper's office sets strategic technology vision and delivers innovative solutions in compliance with Federal security, privacy, and data standards. Ms. Carper most recent accomplish is the creation of the Department's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Hub, driving the mission of the DOE through safe and secure AI solutions.

As a proven leader, she has led multiple initiatives within the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Federal Government. Ms. Carper continues to incorporate private industry's best practices in improving DOE's people, processes, and systems.

Dr. William Corvey

Program Manager
Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
Information Innovation Office

Dr. Will Corvey joined DARPA as a program manager in the Information Innovation Office (I2O) in June 2020 to develop, execute, and transition programs in human language technology, artificial intelligence, and related areas. Prior to joining DARPA, Corvey served as a computational linguist with the United States Department of Defense. In this role they performed human language technology R&D, including multilingual natural language processing, information retrieval, and machine learning, with experience in knowledge-based, statistical, and neural techniques for automated linguistic analysis.

Dr. Paula Ford

Academic Dean of Information and Engineering Technologies and Computer Science
Northern Virginia Community College

Dr. Paula Ford, the Academic Dean of Information and Engineering Technologies and Computer Science at Northern Virginia Community College, is a committed professional in the field of education with a passion for creating inclusive and innovative pathways for academic success. Paula has played a pivotal role in shaping educational initiatives and ensuring academic excellence.

With an Ed.D. degree in Educational Leadership and Organizational Innovation, as well as degrees in both Computer Science and Information Technology, Paula exemplifies a strong commitment to both her academic and technical expertise. Through her strategic vision and dedication to advancing inclusive educational practices, she continues to inspire those around her. She demonstrates a steadfast commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within academic settings, driving positive change. She was instrumental in the design and development of Northern

Virginia Community College's Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics Career Studies Certificate.

Paula Ford's legacy is one of innovation, leadership, and unwavering dedication to shaping the future of education in technology and beyond.

Laura Gerhardt

Director of Technology Modernization & Data
White House Office of Management and Budget's Federal Chief Information Office

As the Director of Technology Modernization & Data in the White House Office of Management and Budget's the Federal Chief Information Office, Laura oversees a broad portfolio of initiatives focused on driving better mission enablement through accelerated delivery, driving greater return on investment, and use of data.

Previously, she managed teams of engineers and privacy experts modernizing citizen experiences at GSA. She was detailed to support critical Health and Human Services COVID-19 response efforts and helped lead vital public health education campaigns during the pandemic. While at GSA she also served as the Deputy Director of the government-wide login.gov digital identity program where she worked to securely streamline public access to benefits and services online. Laura holds a Master of Public Policy from UC Berkeley and Bachelor's from Tufts University.

Brianna Gomez McGowan

IT Specialist
General Services Administration
Office of Government-wide Policy
Office of Technology Policy

Brianna is a part of the IT Governance and Data Transparency (MET team) division of GSA's Office of Technology Policy. As an IT Specialist, she developed machine learning and artificial intelligence for the Solicitation Review Tool (SRT) and developed the Accessibilities Requirements Tool (ART) and its corresponding Application Programming Interface (API).

Her portfolio also includes the Open ACR Editor and Repository. Some of her previous roles have been in the

private sector as data scientist, a NASA contractor developing websites and APIs, and a Python developer for DC startups developing bots. As a data scientist, her mission is to develop AI and automation tools that are accessible, secure, and grounded in equity.

Manish Goyal
Vice President and Senior Partner
IBM Consulting

Manish Goyal is a Vice President and Senior Partner at IBM Consulting, leading the AI, Generative AI, and IoT business across industries globally. He is a trusted advisor to C-suites and a recognized global leader in selling and delivering cross-industry solutions using the transformative power of AI, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning. Manish is a member of IBM's AI Ethics team and is passionate about applying AI responsibly. He has a proven track record of partnering with Fortune 100 clients across industries and geographies to realize value by linking strategic thinking, AI & Analytics, digital and cloud to deliberate, practical, and sustainable enterprise transformation.

In his previous role, Manish held various senior product management and development roles at IBM, Lucent Technologies, and Siemens, where he successfully launched several AI products to market. Manish brings a unique mix of product and consulting skills to help clients adopt and scale AI responsibly. He is also a frequent speaker and writer on AI, Generative AI, and responsible AI.
Manish holds an MBA from the NYU Stern School of Business and a B.S. in Computer Science from Pune University, India. He is a passionate advocate for diversity and inclusion in the tech industry.

Dr. Matthew Graviss
Chief Data and Artificial Intelligence Officer
Department of State
Office of Management Strategy and Solutions

In December 2020, Dr. Matthew Graviss became the Chief Data and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department of State. In this role, Dr. Graviss is responsible for making data accessible, interoperable, and actionable across the Department of State. He also serves as the Managing Director for the Office of Management Strategy and Solutions Center

for Analytics (CfA), which aims to imbue the Department with a data focused culture and corresponding talent, advance data governance, expand analytics capability, and modernize data technology solutions.

Prior to joining the State Department, Dr. Graviss spent 13 years in leadership positions at the Department of Homeland Security, as well as time in the private sector. Most recently, Dr. Graviss spent two and a half years as the first Chief Data Officer at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services within DHS, where he led data management and analytics services for USCIS' 20,000 person workforce.

Graviss holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Auburn University, a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M University, and a doctorate in systems engineering from George Washington University. He is a Level 3 certified acquisition professional in program management, systems engineering, and test and evaluation. He is also a graduate of American University's Key Executive Leadership program.

Dr. Chad Knights

Vice President, Information and Engineering Technologies and College Computing
Northern Virginia Community College

Dr. Knights provides leadership and oversight for NOVA's Information and Engineering Technologies (IET) academic division as well as College Computing, NOVA's college-wide IT infrastructure and instructional technologies division.

In his academic role with IET, Dr. Knights leads one of the largest technology programs in the nation. His primary task is to align industry, partner, and community needs to the creation of cutting-edge academic programs, which includes Data Center Operations, Mechatronics, AI/Data Intelligence, Cloud Computing Technology, and Cybersecurity.

In his role with College Computing, Dr. Knights oversees and leads NOVA's IT infrastructure and EdTech integration, security, data management, application development, and enterprise operations.

He also provides leadership and guidance for the college's STEM and CTE development program, NOVA SySTEMic. This

team has secured more than $14M in awards over the last 3 years and is helping to create a regional framework to facilitate partnerships between educators and industry in support of sustainable STEM and CTE workforce pathways.

Dr. Knights is an active participant on local, state, and national boards. As a newly appointed member of the AACC Commission on Economic and Workforce Development, Dr. Knights contributes as a thought leader, addressing the challenges and opportunities presented by AI and cybersecurity in the workforce. Within the Virginia Community College System and at NOVA, Dr. Knights leads and supports initiatives aimed at understanding, developing, and integrating technology, including AI, across all aspects of the higher education ecosystem.

Chad originally hails from Western NY where he obtained his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University at Buffalo. He completed post-docs at Oregon Health & Science University, George Washington University and Georgetown before joining NOVA in 2007 as a full-time biology faculty member.

Paul Lekas
Senior Vice President
Head of Global Public Policy & Government Affairs
Software & Information Industry Association

Paul Lekas is an experienced advocate and thought leader in technology policy, national security, and other areas with over two decades of experience advising leaders and organizations in government and the private sector. Currently, Paul heads public policy and government affairs efforts of the Software & Information Industry Association. He responsible for overall strategy, policy development, and government engagement in the United States and internationally on a range of technology policy issues including artificial intelligence (AI), cybersecurity, data protection and privacy, competition and innovation, intellectual property, cross-border data flows, and education technology.

Previously, Paul served in senior legal and policy positions in the U.S. government, including as Deputy General Counsel at the Department of Defense and with the National Security Commission on AI and the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service. He also served on the Biden-Harris Transition Team and spent a decade as a lawyer in

private practice.

Paul currently serves on advisory panels and task forces with the OECD, the SAFE AI Alliance, TeachAI, the CivXNow Coalition, Future of Privacy Forum, R Street Institute, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the G7. He presents regularly at major conferences and other events and has been featured in the New York Times, Politico, Axios, FedScoop, USA Today, and other publications. Paul received his A.B. and J.D. degrees from Harvard University.

Emily McReynolds
Head of Global AI Strategy
Adobe

Emily McReynolds is the Head of Global AI Strategy for Adobe. She has over 15 years of experience in data governance, machine learning, & AI from across the tech industry and policy organizations. With a passion for translating complex technical concepts into understandable sound bites, she has spearheaded a number of AI explanation projects such as AI System Cards, a resource for understanding how AI works in different contexts. She was the founding program director for the University of Washington's Tech Policy Lab, an interdisciplinary collaboration across the Computer Science, Information, and Law schools.

Isabel Metzger
Data Scientist
General Services Administration
Office of the Chief Financial Officer
Analytics and Decision Support Division

Isabel (Izzy) Metzger is a Data Scientist in the Analytics and Decision Support Division at the General Services Administration Office of the Chief Financial Officer, who works on matters pertaining to the application of statistical analysis, machine learning, and natural language processing.

She previously worked in the health sector holding positions in industry and academia, where she has built and deployed several end-to-end machine learning systems utilizing structured and unstructured data. She built the core AI models behind the proprietary technology platform DrugOME™ and productionalized her master's thesis research, deploying deep-

learning models at several NYC hospitals that predict mortality from clinical notes.
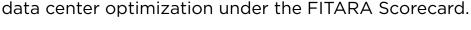
Dan Pomeroy

Deputy Associate Administrator
General Services Administration
Office of Government-wide Policy
Office of Technology Policy

Since 2018, Dan Pomeroy has been serving as the Deputy Associate Administrator over the Office of Technology Policy (OTP) within the Office of Government-wide Policy at the General Services Administration (GSA). In 2020, Dan established a dedicated emerging technology policy office in GSA.

Dan's work is focused on enabling Federal CIOs to deliver world-class information technology services across government. Under Dan's direction OTP works to improve the end-user experience and the accessibility of federal IT investments and public-facing websites. OTP provides a data-driven view of federal website compliance with IT policies and mandates for federal website design as outlined in the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act. His team also provides technical training and assistance to agencies on Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and as of 2023. Also in 2023, Dan oversaw the establishment of the federal government's Open Government Secretariat to assist with managing the Executive Branch's commitments to Open Government efforts.

Dan's OTP plays a key role in leading federal identity management through certifying commercial services and products used in Personal Identity Verification (PIV) credentialing systems and Physical Access Control Systems (PACS). OTP also works to improve transparency of federal IT data through IT Portfolio Management to enable OMB and the larger agency CXO community to make better, data-informed decisions.

Dan Pomeroy also served as the first Director of the Infrastructure Optimization Center of Excellence under the White House Office of American Innovation, and as the Director of GSA's Data Center and Cloud Optimization Initiative (DCCOI). This effort led to the House Oversight and Reform Committee to award all agencies with an "A" grade for

data center optimization under the FITARA Scorecard.

Dan is a native of Las Vegas, Nevada and completed his undergraduate work at UNLV in 2000. He was awarded a fellowship from and completed a Masters in Public Service and Administration from the George H. W. Bush School of Government at Texas A&M University in 2002. Dan also completed a Master of Science in Government Information Leadership from the National Defense University in 2014.

Shawn Watson

Program Management Officer
General Services Administration
Office of Government-wide Policy
Office of Technology Policy

Shawn currently serves as Program Management Officer and Deputy Director for the Office of Technology Policy within GSA's Office of Government-wide Policy. Shawn's work focuses on improving governmentwide IT policy to better support Federal CIOs in their ability to deliver world-class information technology services across government. Current focuses include accelerating adoption and collaboration of Gen AI capabilities at GSA and strengthening Digital Identity

Shawn has extensive leadership in Federal financial management as a Certified Government Financial Manager, but also has led in key roles supporting the the first White House Office of American Innovation Centers of Excellence (CoE) supporting the Infrastructure Optimization and Cloud Adoption (CoEs).

Shawn grew up in Port Angeles, Washington. He has a Bachelors in Accounting and Business Administration from Central Washington University, and has a Masters degree in Government Information Leadership from National Defense University.

Dr. Zach Whitman

Chief Data Scientist and Chief AI Officer
General Services Administration

Dr. Zach Whitman is the Chief Data Scientist and Chief AI Officer at the General Services Administration (GSA), where he spearheads the agency's efforts in using data science and AI to improve federal services. At GSA, Dr. Whitman is responsible

for designing and implementing data-driven strategies that enhance operational efficiency and service delivery while ensuring that the GSA workforce has the tools and resources to safely and transparently use emerging technologies.

Before his current role, Dr. Whitman served as the Chief Data Officer for the U.S. Census Bureau, where he focused on advancing the utility of public data assets in the emerging AI-driven landscape and the practical application of AI in government operations.

Dr. Whitman is also an advocate for ethical AI use, ensuring that the GSA's initiatives set a benchmark for transparency, fairness, and accountability in governmental use of artificial intelligence.