*Scaling the Wall: Case Studies in Overcoming Obstacles to Success* - Breakout Session 1

Is the grass always greener? A panel of experts will examine and discuss what it takes to learn from failure, overcome obstacles, and achieve success. Learn about best practices and how to avoid costly, and often time-consuming, mistakes.

Panelists:
Dr. Cerasela Zoica Dinu, Assistant Professor, Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, West Virginia University

Dr. Kerri Phillips, Senior Professional Staff, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
Kerri Phillips, a native of Weirton, WV, graduated from West Virginia University in May 2011 with her Ph.D. in aerospace engineering after working with the Flight Controls Research Lab. She also holds two bachelor’s degrees from WVU in mechanical and aerospace engineering. While at WVU she held internships with NASA and Boeing, served as the instructor for a sophomore level engineering course, co-founded the Student Partnership for the Advancement of Cosmic Exploration (SPACE), and was active in the Society of Women Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. During this time she was also named a Barry M. Goldwater Scholar, a member of the USA Today All-College Academic Third Team, and a Zonta International Amelia Earhart Doctoral Fellow.

Dr. Phillips is currently a member of the Senior Professional Staff at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland, serving in the Guidance, Navigation and Control Group within the Air and Missile Defense Sector. She was recently named the supervisor of the Integrated Systems Section within her group and is a visiting professor teaching Mechanics of Flight to undergraduate students at the Whiting School of Engineering at The Johns Hopkins University. She is currently the co-Principal Investigator on two internal research projects focused on supporting the United States Navy.

Dr. Phillips also serves on two councils to support diversity and inclusion at APL: the Air and Missile Defense Sector Diversity Resource Group and the APL Women and Minority Advisory Council. Dr. Phillips is continuing her education and completing a master’s degree in Systems Engineering with a focus in Project Management through The Johns Hopkins University.

Susie Mullens, Program Director, Technology Assisted Care, First Choice Services/ATARI