## DRAFT AGENDA

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Registration, Continental Breakfast &amp; Exhibits</strong></td>
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| 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. | **Welcome**  
Anne Barth: Executive Director, TechConnect WV  
Greetings from Statewide Leaders |
| 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. | **Opening Keynote Address:**  
Dr. Carroll Thomas, Director of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce |
| 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | **How to EMPOWER Women Mentors & Proteges**  
*Women in scientific disciplines face challenges that range from institutionalized bias to differences in communication styles and a lack of female role models. This panel will examine frameworks for mentor-protégé relationships that lead to degree completion, more rapid career advancement and higher career satisfaction. This panel includes:*  
• Afrin Naz, WVU Beckley Campus  
• Hannah Payne, WV State University  
• Sue Ann Heatherly, Green Bank Observatory |
| 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | **Networking Break & Exhibits**                                      |
| 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | **The Rise of Women in Manufacturing**  
*Do you know that women make up nearly one-third of the manufacturing industry workforce in the U.S.? As this sector addresses talent acquisition in the 21st century, women will find good-paying—but non-traditional—opportunities.*  
• Heather Cyphert, Precision Tool|Progressive Industries  
• Angie Cowger, Custard Stand Chili  
• Mary Anne Ketelsen, Mister Bee |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. | **Luncheon & Spirit of Innovation Awards**  
TechConnect will present the 2018 Spirit of Innovation Awards for:  
• Outstanding Woman in Technology  
• Innovative Manufacturer of the Year  
• The Phoenix Award |
| 1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. | **Founders & Funders – Addressing the Gender Gap in StartUp Investing**  
*Women seeking angel funding have an uphill climb, but new funds are sprouting around the country to fill the gap. Hear from the founder of a fund designed to support women owned/led businesses. This panel includes:*  
• Yvonne Campos, Next Act Fund  
• Marion Lewis, BoardBookIt  
• Teresa Whalen- Next Act Fund Investor/Angel |
| 2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | **Networking Break & Exhibits**                                      |
| 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | **Promoting Gender Diversity in the Technology Workplace**  
*Fostering gender diversity in the technology workplace benefits everyone, and engaging male advocates and allies is key to this effort. Learn strategies for identifying and recruiting male advocates from a seasoned HR professional.*  
Zachary T. Abraham, Principal, AlignHR, LLC |
| 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | **Afternoon Keynote Address:**  
Meshea Poore, Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion  
West Virginia University |
| 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | **Lightning Pitch Contest**  
Up to ten contestants will vie for prizes for the audience’s favorite pitch. Registrants can apply to deliver a two-minute pitch about an exciting program that’s creating positive change in WV. |
| 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | **Reception**                                                          |