



TECH TALK THEATER SCHEDULE



Event: RoboSub 2026



Location: Team Lounge, Team Village

Sunday, July 12

1:00pm

Data Sharing | Cameron Tucker, The Ohio State University

Cameron provides an overview of data sharing, including its importance, how to effectively use available resources, and ways to contribute to the broader community. Attendees will gain practical insights into accessing, sharing, and collaborating with data more effectively.

Monday, July 13

9:00am

Systems Engineering | Alex Szeto & Carina Dumitrascu, Advancing Science Technology & Art

Alex Szeto presents an introduction to systems engineering and its role in successful product and system development using the V-Model framework. Covering topics from requirements and design to integration and validation, the session provides a practical overview of the systems engineering lifecycle. Carina Dumitrascu will share their perspective and experience as a RoboNation participant.

10:30am

Collaborative Underwater Robotics | Leverett Bezanson, SeeByte, Inc.

Leverett shares insights from his work in autonomous underwater systems, providing an overview of collaborative autonomy for autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) and its application to U.S. Navy missions. He also highlights his experience leading a marine technology internship program and working in wave energy, offering attendees a look at emerging technologies and career opportunities in the maritime industry.

2:00pm

An Introduction to APL | Amy Gao, The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory

Amy provides an overview of the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) and its mission to solve complex engineering challenges through applied research and innovation. She highlights APL's diverse technical work, career opportunities, and the impact of multidisciplinary engineering on real-world problems.

3:00pm

Systems Design Philosophies | Murph, NIWC Pacific

The Tale of Two Design Philosophies explores how engineering decisions are driven by system requirements through the real-world example of the U.S. Navy's ROV selection process. Murph compares two contrasting design approaches, illustrating how understanding mission needs and engineering trade-offs leads to effective solutions.

Tuesday, July 14

9:00am

Bending the Spoon: Learning to Navigate a Matrix Organization | Dr. Damion Dunlap, NSWC Panama City

Learn how organizations utilize "matrix" structures to drive multi-disciplinary innovation. Attendees will walk away with actionable strategies for finding professional leverage, driving cross-functional collaboration, and fast-tracking a dynamic career.

10:30am

From Punk to Ph.D | Michelle Skoorka, NUWC NEWPORT

What does it take to go from punk rock to a Ph.D.? Michelle shares her unconventional journey-from Star Trek inspiration to the United States Navy-and the pivotal moments that shaped her engineering career. Discover how curiosity, resilience, and embracing the unexpected can lead to extraordinary opportunities.

2:00pm

CAD, Careers, and Certifications | Ryan Koehler, DS SOLIDWORKS

Ryan shares practical strategies to help students prepare for successful careers in technology. Drawing on topics such as certifications, building a strong LinkedIn profile, gaining internship experience, and developing a competitive résumé, he provides actionable advice for standing out in today's job market and building a strong foundation for future opportunities.



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9:00am

Making Waves with Mecatron: Biomimetic Design, Sustainable Engineering Practices, and Community Outreach | Mecatron (Jennifer, Isaac), Nanyang Technological University

In this session, NTU Mecatron will share their journey, from their founding principles to their latest technical achievements. They will delve into their core design philosophies, highlighting how biomimicry and sustainable engineering practices drive the development of their underwater vehicles. Finally, they will discuss their commitment to community engagement through EduBoat—a custom-developed platform used in their annual hands-on workshops to introduce secondary and JC students to marine engineering.

10:30am

Overcoming Challenges in AUV Development: Lessons from Design, Testing, and Iteration | Jose Martinez, University of Southern Mississippi

Jose and the University of Southern Mississippi team share their experience developing autonomous underwater vehicles, highlighting the challenges and solutions encountered throughout the design process. The session covers lessons learned from two prototype builds, including addressing water leakage, improving AUV stability, and implementing design improvements identified for their RoboSub 2027 vehicle.

2:00pm

Working at NUWC (Naval Undersea Warfare Center) Keyport | Nikole Bussom + Dion Moses, NUWC Keyport

Nikole and Dion provide an overview of their work at NUWC (Naval Undersea Warfare Center) Keyport, highlighting the organization's mission, technical focus areas, and contributions to naval engineering and undersea systems. They will discuss the types of projects and opportunities available at NUWC Keyport, offering insight into career paths and the impact of engineering work supporting the U.S. Navy.

Stay tuned for more..