

# HBCU CHIPS Network Conference

Advancing Semiconductor Leadership  
Through HBCU Innovation

# AGENDA

April 3-4, 2025

Howard University

Washington, DC



IN COLLABORATION WITH  
RESEARCH MONTH @  
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



Office of  
Research

# Annual HBCU CHIPS Network Conference

## “Advancing Semiconductor Leadership Through HBCU Innovation”

Howard University  
Armour J. Blackburn University Center  
April 3-4, 2025



**DATE: APRIL 3, 2025**



**TIME: 8:30AM - 5:00PM**

TIME	EVENT
7:30 AM - 8:25 AM	<b>Event Registration/Breakfast</b>
8:30 AM - 8:45 AM	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Ben Vinson III, President, Howard University</li><li>• Pamela Clarke, Sr. Director of Research Development, Howard University</li><li>• Bruce Jones, PhD, Sr. VP for Research, Howard University</li></ul>
8:50 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Introduction of Keynote Speaker</b> George White, PhD, Director Strategic Partnerships, Georgia Institute of Technology
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	<b>Keynote Address</b> Thomas Caulfield, PhD, President and CEO, GlobalFoundries
9:50 AM -10:00 AM	<b>Apple Silicon Initiative</b>
10:00 AM-10:30 AM	Coffee Break + Tabling+ Networking
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<b>Panel: Academic-Industry Partnerships in Semiconductor Research &amp; Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Moderator: Donnell Walton, PhD, Deputy Director, RITA UARC</li></ul> Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Danielle Ferguson-Macklin, Global DEI Program Manager, Teradyne</li><li>• Michelle Williams, Executive Director, SEMI Foundation</li><li>• Denise Evans, Manager Systems Engineer, Northrop-Grumman Mission Systems Division</li><li>• Jeremy Muldavin, PhD Director Sales Development A&amp;D, Cadence</li></ul>
11:30 AM -12:30 PM	<b>Panel: Role of AI in Semiconductor Development: How AI is Revolutionizing Chip Design and Verification</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Moderator: Sonya Smith, PhD, Professor &amp; Executive Director, RITA UARC</li></ul> Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ron Duncan, Head of Innovation Programs, Chief Innovation Office, Synopsys</li><li>• Hassan Salmani, Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering &amp; Computer Science, Howard University</li><li>• Dinadayalane Tandabany, Professor of Chemistry, Clark Atlanta University</li><li>• William Chapman, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Sandia National Laboratories</li></ul>

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12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	<p><b>Lunch Break</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Achievement in Microelectronics Award Ceremony, Frances Williams, PhD, Clark Atlanta University</li> <li>• Micron Educator Hub Presentation: Ariela Gruszka, TPG University Project Manager, Micron</li> </ul>
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	<p><b>Tabling+ Networking</b></p>
<p>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</p> <p>Workforce Development is a theme throughout each breakout room.</p> <p><u>Breakout Room Locations</u></p> <p><b>Technology &amp; Design:</b> The Reading Lounge</p> <p><b>Materials &amp; Fabrication:</b> The Gallery Lounge</p> <p><b>Quantum &amp; Photonics:</b> The Digital Auditorium</p> <p><b>Applications &amp; Sustainability:</b> The Forum</p> <p><b>Breakout Room Five:</b> Micron DRAM: Truth &amp; Service</p>	<p><b>Breakout Room 1: Technology &amp; Design</b> Session Chairs: Dina Tandabany (Clark Atlanta University) &amp; Kevin Kornegay (Morgan State University) <b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Theodore Johnson, Intel Kevin Kornegay, Morgan State University Wenjie Che, Howard University Malcolm Bogroff, Howard University Eniola Ajegbemika, North Carolina A&amp;T State University Mahdi Hasanzadeh, North Carolina A&amp;T State University</p> <p><b>Breakout Room 2: Materials &amp; Fabrication</b> Session Chairs: Vanessa Smet (Georgia Institute of Technology) &amp; Eric Seabron (Howard University) <b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Michael Spencer, Morgan State University Zhiping Luo, Fayetteville State University Sugata Chowdhury, Howard University Indika Senevirathna, Clark Atlanta University Joshua Burrow, Morgan State University Ningxin Li, Clark Atlanta University Baraka Chimba, Alabama A&amp;M University Monté Hendrix, Morgan State University</p> <p><b>Breakout Room 3: Quantum &amp; Photonics</b> Session Chairs: Shyam Aravamudhan (North Carolina A&amp;T State University) &amp; Demetris Geddis (Hampton University) <b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Jose Azucena, North Carolina A&amp;T State University Vineet Kumar Sharma, Howard University Daniel Vrinceanu, Texas Southern University Cameron Lewis, Howard University Sheikh Mahtab, Morgan State University</p>

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3:00 PM - 4:40 PM  Workforce Development is a theme throughout each breakout room.	<b>Breakout Room 4: Applications &amp; Sustainability (Industry Tutorials)</b> Session Chairs: Hassan Salmani (Howard University) <b>Industry Presenters</b> Ron Duncan, Head of Innovation Programs, Chief Innovation Office, Synopsys <b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Michelle Williams, SEMI Foundation David Lockett, Meharry Medical College Thong Le, Norfolk State University
	<b>Breakout Room 5: Micron DRAM Memory Array Virtual Reality Experience</b> <b>*Invitation Only*</b>
4:40 PM - 4:50 PM	<b>Announcements</b> HBCU CHIPS Network Initiating Committee
4:50 PM - 5:10 PM	<b>University Partners Program (UPP) Discussion</b> <b>*Invitation Only*</b>
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<b>Reception</b>  <b>Ballroom</b> <b>Armour J. Blackburn University Center</b>

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TIME	EVENT
7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	<b>Event Registration/ Breakfast</b>
8:00 AM - 8:15 AM	<b>Welcome and Introduction of CEO Fireside Chat Speaker &amp; Moderator</b> George White, PhD, Director Strategic Partnerships, Georgia Institute of Technology
8:15 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>CEO Fireside Chat</b> Moderator: Erin Lynch, PhD, President, Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network  Speaker: Todd Younkin, PhD, CEO and President, Semiconductor Research Corporation
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>Panel: Workforce Development for the Semiconductor Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Moderator: Talitha Washington, PhD, Executive Director, Center for Applied Data Science &amp; Analytics, Howard University</li></ul> Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Carl McCants, PhD, Special Assistant to the DARPA Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency</li><li>Brian Best, IT Director, Micron</li><li>Aurelia Williams, PhD, Special Advisor to the President, and Norfolk State University</li></ul>
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Coffee Break + Tabling+ Networking</b>
10:30 AM -11:30 AM	<b>Panel: The Future of Semiconductor Design and Manufacturing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Moderator: Kevin Kornegay, PhD, Eugene Deloatch Endowed Professor, Morgan State University</li></ul> Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Robert Sarkissian, Director Aerospace and Defense Sector, Cadence Design Systems</li><li>Ron Duncan, Head of Innovation Programs, Chief Innovation Office, Synopsys</li><li>Antonio de la Serna, Principal Director, Strategic Technologies, Siemens EDA</li><li>Greg Pickrell, PhD, Domain Chief Engineer- Microfabrication, Sandia National Laboratories</li></ul>

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TIME	EVENT
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	<p><b>Lunch Break</b></p> <p><b>CollabNext Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lew Lefton, PhD, Georgia Institute of Technology</li> <li>• Firdous Kausar, Fisk University</li> <li>• Beverly Robinson, Fisk University</li> <li>• Hina Raja, Fisk University</li> </ul>
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	<p><b>Tabling+ Networking</b></p>
<p>2:00 PM - 3:45 PM</p> <p>Workforce Development is a theme throughout each breakout room.</p> <p><u>Breakout Room Locations</u></p> <p><b>Technology &amp; Design:</b> The Reading Lounge</p> <p><b>Materials &amp; Fabrication:</b> The Gallery Lounge</p> <p><b>Quantum &amp; Photonics:</b> The Digital Auditorium</p> <p><b>Applications &amp; Sustainability:</b> The Forum</p> <p><b>Breakout Room Five:</b> Micron DRAM: Truth &amp; Service</p>	<p><b>Breakout Room 1: Technology &amp; Design</b> Session Chairs: Daniel Vrinceanu (Texas Southern University) &amp; Shyam Aravamudhan (North Carolina A&amp;T State University)</p> <p><b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Shyam Aravamudhan, North Carolina A&amp;T State University Xuemin Chen, Texas Southern University Mahsa Tahghigh, Howard University Anu Upadhyaya, Howard University Kishak Cinfwat, Morgan State University Mehdi Elahi, North Carolina A&amp;T State University</p> <p><b>Breakout Room 2: Materials &amp; Fabrication</b> Session Chairs: Patricia Mead (Norfolk State University) &amp; Frances Williams (Clark Atlanta University)</p> <p><b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Anirban Goswami, Howard University Kristen Harris, Alabama A&amp;M University Daniel Harrison, Morgan State University Miles Phifer, North Carolina A&amp;T State University Daemar Casey, Delaware State University Malachi Moody, Delaware State University Ashwaq Bahkali, Texas Southern University Abhitej Divi, Prairie View A&amp;M University</p> <p><b>Breakout Room 3: Quantum &amp; Photonics</b> Session Chairs: Darwish Abdalla (Dillard University) &amp; Mohammadreza Hadizadeh (Central State University)</p> <p><b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Darwish Abdalla, Dillard University Mohammadreza Hadizadeh, Central State University Joao Prioli, North Carolina A&amp;T State University Eric Seabron, Howard University Mubbashar Khan, Central State University Ashutosh, Howard University Robert Coleman, Howard University</p>

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2:00 PM - 3:45 PM  Workforce Development is a theme throughout each breakout room.	<b>Breakout Room 4: Applications &amp; Sustainability (Industry Tutorials)</b> Session Chairs: Michael Curry (North Carolina A&T State University) Niya King (North Carolina A&T State University) <b>Industry Presenters</b> Joanna Pritchard, PhD, Global Academic Strategy & Engagement, Siemens <b>Abstract Presenters:</b> Suxia Cui, Prairie View A&M University Kinnis Gosha, Morehouse College & Laura Sams Haynes, Georgia Institute of Technology Sandra Eddie, Norfolk State University Niya King, North Carolina A&T State University
	<b>Breakout Room 5: Micron DRAM Memory Array Virtual Reality Experience</b>  <b>*Invitation Only*</b>
3:45 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>Closeout Session</b> HBCU CHIPS Network Initiating Committee

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