

WEDNESDAY APRIL 16TH						
Time	Location	ID	Title	Description	Presenter(s)	
<b>10:00 AM</b>						
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	340 B	1	<b>Championship WFA Winner Panel</b>	This is a panel discussion of WFA winners with a host and interviewer. The panel will focus on the role of mentors in FIRST and their involvement in the different FIRST programs. Most likely, the discussion will focus on FRC, but FTC and FLL will also be discussed.	Andy Baker, Christine Sapio (2022) John Larock (2011) Rob Mainieri (2006) Mark Lawrence (2015) Lucien Junkin (2020) Fredi Lajvardi (2013) Andy Baker (2003) Norman Morgan (2024), Allen Gregory (2021) Liz Calef (1997) Kyle Hughes (2000) Dan Green (2006) and hopefully others.	
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	360ABC	2	<b>Get Ready for Launch: An Aerospace Design Challenge</b>	Join BAE Systems, Inc. for a collaborative design challenge that will tap into your creative problem-solving skills. In less than an hour, you'll learn about an aerospace challenge, propose a design, and pitch your solution. This is a great opportunity to apply your robotics knowledge and build your aerospace industry background. Will you be a member of the winning team?	Maya Rudd, Rachel Bernstein	
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	350DEF	3	<b>Onshape Best Practices for FIRST Robot Design</b>	Designing FRC robots is challenging - managing the conception, modeling, and integration of complex systems is a big task for any team! In this session, we'll share advanced CAD modeling techniques that will help you address these issues and go from a drawing on a whiteboard to a competitive robot with ease. Points of discussion will include ideation and space claim techniques, top-down design practices, and time-saving modeling tricks.	Drew Bennet	
<b>11:00 AM</b>						
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	340 B	4	<b>Multiple Robots, One Team - an FRC Sibling Team Panel Discussion</b>	Explore the unique dynamics of managing multi-team FRC programs in this engaging panel discussion. Mentors from featured programs, including 3847/8515 (Spectrum), 4522/4766 (SCREAM), 4795/4861 (Eastbots), 321/427 (Robolancers), and others, will share overviews of their structures, strategies, and lessons learned. Gain insights into fostering collaboration, maximizing resources, and addressing challenges unique to multi-team environments. Each panelist will highlight their experiences, setting the stage for an interactive audience Q&A facilitated by a guest moderator. Whether you're expanding your program or seeking fresh ideas, this session provides valuable perspectives and ample opportunity to connect with experts and peers.	Amalan Iyengar, Isriah Keila	
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	360 ABC	5	<b>STEM Advocacy in a Nutshell</b>	A delegation of CocoNuts traveled to the National Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC for the past three years and organized an advocacy day at the Arizona Capitol. Learn how to start advocating for STEM at the local, state, and national levels to make your voice heard and generate more support for your team and robotics.	CocoNuts FRC Team 2486, CocoNut students presenting: Elle, Elena, Chloe	
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	350DEF	6	<b>Tackling the Technical Interview: Your Guide to Scoring That First Job</b>	Practice your presentation and communication skills to boost your confidence and success rates in interviews. Join this session to learn more about the technical interview process and how you can utilize skills learned through FIRST - problem-solving, communication, and performance under pressure – to help you get jobs at top tech companies. Early exposure to technical interviews mitigates factors like interview anxiety and imposter syndrome. Get your jitters out and interact with engineers, gaining career exposure and technical insights.	Samantha Welch, Qualcomm Engineers	
<b>12:00 PM</b>						
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	350 DEF	7	<b>A LinkedIn Blueprint for FIRST Students</b>	LinkedIn is a powerful tool for internships, college admissions and job search, enabling students to start building their professional network now. Designed specifically for FIRST students, this session will empower students to craft a LinkedIn profile that serves as their personal brand, representing who they are professionally. The workshop will include step-by-step guidance on how to highlight their FIRST experience in a way that conveys the full depth and impact of their involvement. Students will also learn how to leverage LinkedIn to showcase their comprehensive skills and achievements, engage with their corporate sponsors and share team successes and stories.	Becca Berggren, Nina Kim with Qualcomm	
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	340 B	8	<b>Hopping into Robotics: Building a FIRST Pipeline in Your Community</b>	From FIRST LEGO League Discover to FIRST Robotics Challenge, learn how Frog Force has started and sustained over 50 teams since 2012 through the Novi Robotics Boosters program that provides coach support, registration, financial aid, and more!	Sai Manohar Gopisetty, Viraja Gopisetty, Deepshika Jois, Divya Desai, Kaushik Baskar, & Jiya Banga	
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	340 A	9	<b>Youth Advisory Council Best Practices</b>	Youth Advisory Councils have been starting throughout the US and Canada. Learn from representatives of these councils best practices for starting a STEM Day at the Capitol, best practices for implementing DEI activities at events, and how states are developing leadership skills in the off season.	Lori Birch, YAC members from Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, and South Carolina	
<b>1:00 PM</b>						
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	360 ABC	10	<b>Be The Table: Building Collaborative Networks to Create STEM Equity in Your Community</b>	Discover how the Society of Women Engineers is advancing STEM equity through strategic partnerships and programs like SWENext Clubs. Our panelists will share success stories and best practices to help you develop impactful pre-college engagement strategies and create sustainable change. When there's no seat at the table for you, learn how to "be the table" where collaboration happens.	Markita Riley, Leticia Lowe - SWE Houston Leader Tiffany Bailey - Diversity and Inclusion Specialist, Bechtel Corporation Astra Zeno-YWCPA SWENext Club Counselor, Educator, and Chemical Engineer Tiphany Burrell - Development Manager - Houston at Young Women's Preparatory Network	
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	340 A	11	<b>The Courage to Disruption: A Journey in Bringing Robotics Education to Scale through System-Change</b>	In this interactive session, attendees will hear a story of system-change in education that opened doors to robotics for nearly 100,000 children. Data will be shared to show the broader impact on academic outcomes, school attendance, and transference of STEM to core content area, such as math and reading. Packed with strategies and actionable take-aways, the session hopes to empower and inspire participants to expand access to robotics in their own communities.	Kathleen Schofield	
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	340 B	12	<b>What is Computational Thinking (CT) and Sustainable Practices, and what are its disciplines?</b>	Most high school students are interested in Computer Science (CS), and they want to pursue a CS major in college because it is all about coding; however, it is so much more! Then you have Sustainable Practices segway from CS.	Mark Lampert, Brandon Muse	
1:00 PM - 2:45 PM	350 DEF	13	<b>FIRST Impact Award Chat</b>	A panel discussion with members of the FIRST Hall of Fame (past Championship FIRST Impact Award winners), providing and answering audience questions about how to maximize your team's impact and how to best tackle the award submission.	FIRST Hall of Fame, Additional FIRST Hall of Fame reps and FIRST Impact Award judges	
<b>2:00 PM</b>						
2:00 PM - 2:15 PM	340 A	14	<b>How to Train Your Drive Team: Elevating the Role of Drive Coach On and Off the Field</b>	An effective drive coach can be your team's secret to success. This workshop will focus on how to maximize the effectiveness of your drive team through elevating the role of the drive coach beyond the competition field. Topics include: the value and qualities of a great drive coach; responsibilities on and off the field; strategies for effective communication; and exercises for development of drive team accuracy, communication, and trust.	Lisa Curley, Richard Curley, Connor Curley and members of FTC Team, Excaliper 16249	
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	360 ABC	15	<b>Building Self-Reliant Learners</b>	Do you ever feel like you are "herding cats" when working with your students, just when you get one started on a project, others seem to have veered off course and need redirection? Do you struggle with bored, disengaged students? This presentation focuses on how to build self-reliant learners. We want learners that will care for themselves, having resilience to keep trying when things go wrong, and autonomy to make beneficial choices on their own. Participants will walk away with an understanding of the key elements needed to build an environment where students will take initiative in their own learning.	Arrin Brummett	
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	340 B	16	<b>Maple-Sim: Integrating a Physics Engine into FRC Robot Simulations</b>	The ability to test robot code when the robot is unavailable is essential for modern FRC programming. Join us as we revolutionize the code development process with MapleSim – an open-source, community-contributed FRC physics simulation library. MapleSim introduces real-world physics to robot code simulation, precisely modeling drivetrain dynamics and interactions with opponent robots and game pieces, enabling teams to debug code and practice driving in a virtual world. In this workshop, we'll explore how teams can leverage this tool to their dev cycles, and discuss best practices for tuning and debugging code with simulations in general.	sam liu	
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	340 A	17	<b>Where you should go to college and strategies for big life decisions</b>	Approaching the end of high school, you face the largest decision of your life- what next? If you are struggling to decide where you should go to college, we will walk through strategies for big decision making, factors to consider for college applications, and how you can leverage your time in FIRST Robotics to ensure you make the best decision for your future.	Robert Stonik	

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<b>3:00 PM</b>						
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	340 A	18	<b>From FLL to FRC Sustainable Student-Led Growth Model</b>	Over five years, I have coached four FLL teams annually, culminating in the successful transition of a graduated FLL team into a rookie FRC team this year. Our FRC team, in turn, mentored the new senior FLL team to win the provincial championship and advance to the World Festival. Through this journey, we've truly embraced FIRST Core Values, which unite and drive our team forward. This sustainable, student-led model has proven to be the key to holistic education, fostering leadership, innovation, and long-term success within the FIRST ecosystem.	Dahai Zhang, Ryan Zhang	
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	350 DEF	19	<b>Networking for Introverts</b>	Picture yourself mingling effortlessly with new people. Imagine knowing how to start conversations with those around you and feeling like this comes naturally - because it CAN be natural for everyone... even introverts! FIRST wants to help you develop your networking skills so that you can make valuable professional connections while feeling comfortable and confident! You will walk out with new friends in the FIRST Community. Ilene Rein, Job Search Strategist and Executive Recruiter will provide strategies and methods to approach teams in the pits, students in the hallways, booths at the Innovation Faire, Scholarship Row, and even volunteers and judges. And you will have fun while doing it! So don't feel intimidated, join in and learn first-hand just how ridiculously easy it can be to conquer networking - even for an introvert!	Ilene Rein	
3:00 PM - 4:45 PM	360ABC	20	<b>Practical Inclusion</b>	"Inclusion". It's a great goal, but how do you make it happen? How do you "recognise" a group that needs to be included, let alone overcome barriers to meaningful participation? 5985 is an Australian community FRC team, twice named Impact Finalists at the FIRST Championships. Over 70% of 5985 have a disability or disorder, and team represents a staggering mix of culture, religion, sexuality, gender, and financial and academic backgrounds. This presentation details how 5985 implements Practical Inclusion - and how the team's outreach in overlooked areas turns around and shapes 5985. These lessons apply to FIRST teams of any level.	Andrew Clark, Andrew will be accompanied by members of FRC Team 5985. These presenters will change depending on Impact Judging slots.	
3:00 PM - 4:45 PM	340 B	21	<b>Responding to YPP Issues: Challenges, Insights and Developments</b>	This session will provide an in-depth look at how the Youth Protection Program (YPP) operates, focusing on case intake, investigation procedures, and decision-making based on the preponderance of evidence standard. We will clarify what qualifies as a youth protection concern—such as abuse, neglect, boundary violations, and unsafe environments—and what does not, including adult disagreements or team conflicts, which should be resolved locally. Participants will gain insight into trends from the past season, key challenges, and upcoming improvements to policies, resources, and reporting processes. Additionally, we will reinforce expectations around Gracious Professionalism and emphasize that retaliation for filing a legitimate youth protection report is strictly prohibited.	Perla Lopez Freed, Jillian Burns	
<b>4:00 PM</b>						
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	360ABC	22	<b>Building Futures for Underserved Youth: Robotics at Boys &amp; Girls Clubs</b>	What does it take to build a thriving robotics program from the ground up? At the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama, we started with curiosity, a Class Pack, and a vision. Five years later, with the support of BAE Systems, we've grown from robotics clubs into competitive teams that inspire young minds and build critical skills. In this session, we'll share lessons learned, strategies for success, and how robotics is shaping the future of our students and our organization.	Angela O'Neil	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	340 A	23	<b>STEMComm: The Importance of Communication in STEM</b>	STEMComm is a program created by team 5472 to help STEM students develop communication skills so they can become successful future leaders in engineering and other technical fields. In collaboration with our school's award-winning speech and debate program, we created an informative, creative, and energetic public speaking course curriculum, specifically for FIRST students. This presentation will explore why effective communication is important in STEM; how team members can improve their communication skills with some fun, simple activities; and how this curriculum can equip students with the tools they need to succeed as STEM leaders in FIRST and beyond.	Alec Schwartz	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	340 B	23	<b>Teaching Good Programming Practices and Software Engineering with LEGO Robotics</b>	This 45-minute session helps coaches, mentors, and educators teach key software engineering concepts and good coding practices to middle school students using LEGO Spike Prime and EV3 in both Scratch and Python. The course covers reusable code libraries, proper variable naming, and introduces software engineering principles like encapsulation. Participants will learn how to engage students through hands-on exercises that emphasize critical thinking, problem-solving, and code organization. By the end, attendees will have practical tools to foster student growth in robotics programming, ensuring a solid foundation for advanced coding and software development skills.	Robert D Walters II	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	350DEF	24	<b>The Power of Patents: IP Essentials for FIRST Robotics</b>	Learn about the power of patents and how you can incorporate patenting into your FIRST Robotics programs, from FLL to FIRST Tech Challenge. For Lego League Teams, pursuing a provisional patent can be a great addition to your Innovation Project. For all ages, learning about the patent process at a young age is a massive head start for those heading into STEM careers. Learn from an IP professional who's guided everyone, from inexperienced elementary teams to seasoned pros, through the empowering process of patenting!	Ashley Sloat	
<b>5:00 PM</b>						
5:00 PM - 5:45 PM	340 B	25	<b>From Concept to Reality: Navigating the Challenges of Bringing Innovations to Life</b>	Embark on an exhilarating journey at our FIRST Championship Conference, delving into the stages from the concept to the final product. Explore the endless realm where ideas form into reality, transcending barriers of discrimination and knowledge of starting during this thought-provoking and informative conference. Witness the alchemy of imagination, precise planning, and dedication as we unravel the secrets behind turning visions into impactful products. The climax awaits with a riveting challenge—select a topic from the hat and race against time to evolve it from a blank canvas to a fully realized product through the steps of innovation.	Dylan Karpf	
5:00 PM - 5:45 PM	340 A	26	<b>Making an Impact with FIRST at your Public Library</b>	Learn from an experienced librarian and FIRST alumni/mentor about best practices for pitching a meaningful and impactful robotics or STEM program at different types of libraries. Learn the in's and out's of working with a public library and library staff, plus the differences between small, rural, and city library systems. Explore examples of successful library-based robotics programs that use FIRST materials and FIRST Core Values. At the end of the session, attendees will be invited to research their local library system, brainstorm program ideas, and make a plan for reaching out.	Kinney Anderson	
5:00 PM - 5:45 PM	360 ABC	27	<b>Resumes 101: Master the Art of Showcasing Your FIRST Experience</b>	Picture yourself in the perfect career: a thrilling job that allows you to shine with your skills and passions, while also earning an impressive salary. But how do you make that dream a reality? Are you prepared to catch the eye of Recruiters in your job hunt? Discover the insider secrets from Ilene Rein an Executive Recruiter and Job Search Strategist. Ilene will share strategies to highlight your FIRST Robotics experience on resumes that will instantly captivate recruiters and convince them that you're the perfect addition to their team!	Ilene Rein	
5:00 PM - 6:45 PM	350 DEF	28	<b>Effective FIRST Strategies</b>	This presentation focuses on three major areas, Strategic Design, Match Planning/Execution, and Scouting. Rather than spending time on equations and detailed calculations, the Strategic Design gives a more high-level overview of how to design an FRC robot. This portion of the presentation includes sections on such often neglected strategic design areas such as Game Analysis, Chokehold Strategies, Cost-Benefit Analysis, Task Prioritization, and Tradeoffs using a case studies from past games. The Match Planning/Execution section of the presentation discusses effective habits and strategies that will help lead a team to victory. This is a must for those who enjoy the strategic aspects of FIRST. The Scouting section deals with effective techniques to collect information on your partners/opponents, and how to make the most of this data. Advanced statistical metrics analogous to "Sabermetrics" in baseball will also be discussed. The presentation is filled with entertaining and insightful historical FIRST anecdotes from the past 25 years. With the information in this presentation, you can turn your team from a mere competitor to a perennial powerhouse!	Karthik Kanagasabapathy	
<b>6:00 PM</b>						

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Time	Location	ID	Title	Description	Presenter(s)
5:00 PM - 6:45 PM	360 ABC	29	<b>Connecting Community with Robotics: Starting-Up Outreach, Success Stories and More Fun!</b>	Want to create meaningful outreach that truly impacts your community? This session explores how to build sustainable, community-centered initiatives that go beyond one-time events. Learn how to identify local needs, form lasting partnerships, and make STEM accessible to underserved students. We'll share insights from our Eaglets program, which has empowered socioeconomically disadvantaged students and Native American reservations through hands-on mini-robotics. Join us for an interactive discussion on turning ideas into action, fostering inclusion, and making a lasting difference. Whether you're starting from scratch or growing an existing program, you'll leave with fresh strategies and real-world inspiration!	Aleyna Talamantez, Trisha Gorusu, Simarleen Kaur
5:00 PM - 6:45 PM	340 A	30	<b>Systemic Impact - Add Value to Your FIRST Team by Making a Difference to All Students</b>	School Administrators and Superintendents LIKE the idea of having a FIRST team in their school district. However, they LOVE the idea of a FIRST team that makes a systemic impact. That is, a team that makes a difference to every student in their school or school district regardless if they participate in FIRST or not. FRC 1629, GaCo, students will share their highly engaging "STEM Waypoint" lessons they teach in grades two through five to "earn their keep" and make a "Systemic Impact." GaCo will also share how they are replicating their impact in other rural school districts and communities.	Chuck Trautwein

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Time	Location	ID	Title	Description	Presenter(s)	
<b>9:00 AM</b>						
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	360 ABC	31	<b>Driving Positive Change with STEM Advocacy, hosted by SASA</b>	Ready to make a huge impact on students across the United States? Ensuring that all students have the opportunity to engage in fun and enriching STEM education activities like FIRST robotics starts with you. Join SASA for a FIRST Champs seminar where we'll explore the world of STEM advocacy. From practical strategies for speaking to your local school board to planning a trip to meet with Members of Congress, we can't wait to share the ins-and-outs of advocacy and prepare you to drive positive change. Whether you're a programmer, drive coach, Impact presenter, or project manager, we need your voice!	Frank Ferrari, Steve Hyer	
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	340 B	32	<b>FIRST LEGO League Activities Playbook</b>	Ignite students' love of STEM and watch their curiosity and creativity soar! Dive into hands-on STEM activities, unlocking the exciting world of FIRST Programs and earning badges to celebrate the journey! Start at home or with your FIRST Team and discover the fun from the first activity to the last with a progression of challenges that build your STEM and FIRST LEGO League knowledge! Welcome to the FIRST LEGO League Activities Playbook, designed in collaboration with a global advisory group. The initiative is community supported and designed for current and future team members. The activities support local participation opportunities, helping individuals and teams connect with other FIRST LEGO League students, deepens program understanding and knowledge, and builds STEM and holistic skills year-round outside of the formal event structure. Join us to learn more about this exciting initiative, and how FIRST teams can participate and/or host activities locally.	Betsy Daniels	
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	340 A	33	<b>FTC SIM: Web Based Coding Simulator</b>	FTC SIM is a virtual coding tool for FTC Blocks and OnBot Java programming. It allows users to code and run a virtual FIRST Tech Challenge robot autonomously for free! Users can learn everything from basic movement to how to use sensors by completing a series of puzzles using Blocks or Java. It has embedded tutorials, monthly challenges, a multi player option, world builder capabilities, a teacher's portal and the last three FTC game fields! You can use it to teach programming in a classroom, train rookie FTC team members and introduce coding to your community via workshops/camps.	Lisa Maria Ramraj	
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	350 DEF	34	<b>INVESTING IN INNOVATION: Kickoff Capital Entrepreneur Fund for FIRST Alums - Argosy's early-stage financing for pioneering solutions to drive industry change</b>	Does your startup need capital? Do you have a disruptive innovation that builds on the spirit of the FIRST community? This session is for entrepreneurs looking for investors to grow and accelerate their businesses, and for educators, leaders, industry colleagues, FIRST coaches, mentors and friends who may serve as a pipeline to help identify those entrepreneurs. Argosy's Kickoff Capital targets FIRST alums and their business ideas for startup investments; it does NOT fund FIRST teams or their fundraising efforts. Covered: Who can apply; how to apply; what we fund. Hear from a company that has received Kickoff Capital investment.	Jacob Anderson, Shirley Hamilton, Argosy Foundation program officer and Kickoff Capital project lead; a representative (to be determined) - from a Kickoff Capital-funded company.	
<b>10:00 AM</b>						
10:00 AM- 10:45 AM	350DEF	35	<b>Becoming a CrunchLabs Toy Designer</b>	Dan Tompkins and Bam Singhasaneh share their journey to becoming toy designers working with Mark Rober at CrunchLabs. Find out what sparked their passion for engineering and design, and what led them to become creative makers and innovators in the toy industry.	Bam, Dan Tompkins	
10:00 AM- 10:15 AM	340 B	36	<b>FIRST Students Leading Change for a Sustainable Future</b>	Sustainability is critical to safeguarding our planet's ecosystems, including vital ocean habitats. The FIRST FLL ACS Cyhorse (68087) and FTC ACS Cyber Seahorse (26239) robotics teams are committed to advancing school sustainability through innovative, student-led initiatives. The FLL ACS Cyhorse team will showcase an AI-powered hydroponic garden designed to reduce energy consumption, conserve freshwater, and minimize nutrient runoff in educational settings. This system highlights how sustainable agriculture can directly support marine ecosystem health while reducing carbon footprints. Additionally, they will present strategies to empower other FIRST teams to implement sustainability initiatives in their schools. The FTC ACS Cyber Seahorse team conducted an energy audit at the Avery Coonley School, evaluating electricity, water, and gas usage. Their findings provide actionable strategies for energy efficiency and resource conservation, encouraging schools to adopt eco-friendly practices that reduce pollution and environmental impact. Together, these projects emphasize the interconnectedness of land-based sustainability efforts and ocean conservation. By equipping schools and students with tools to reduce environmental impacts, we aim to inspire our community to protect our ecosystems and create a culture of student-led environmental stewardship.	Kenny Bae, FIRST FLL ACS Cyhorse (68087) and FTC ACS Cyber Seahorse (26239)	
10:00 AM- 10:45 AM	340 A	37	<b>Optimizing 3D Printed Robot Parts for Performance and Durability</b>	3D printing has revolutionized how robotics teams bring their designs to life, but relying on default settings and basic techniques can limit the capability of your robot parts. Explore ways to take your 3D printed parts from good to exceptional by evaluating the forces on your parts, dive into CAD design choices, slicer settings, print orientations, and others that affect strength and durability. Discuss when 3D printing is the best option and when other manufacturing methods are better suited to your needs. By understanding the trade-offs and making informed decisions, you'll maximize the performance and reliability of your robot.	John Peterson	
10:00 AM- 10:45 AM	360 ABC	38	<b>Promoting Inclusion of Neurodivergent People in FIRST and STEM</b>	Neurodiversity (autism, ADHD, Down syndrome, etc.) is overrepresented in FIRST, compared to the general population. The staff team of Neurodivergent of FIRST is here to discuss how you can make your teams, events, and communities more inclusive for everyone!	Eva True, Remy (FRC Team 111) Presenters may be added or removed within the next few months.	
<b>11:00 AM</b>						
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	360 ABC	39	<b>Building Dreams: Funding the future of FIRST</b>	Team DRIFT, the first FRC team from the Dominican Republic, has a proven track record of overcoming educational challenges while expanding FIRST's impact in our country. We aim to share our strategies for securing sponsorships and funding to support low-income teams. Our efforts have led to partnerships with brands like Porsche and DeWalt, and we've used these resources to host competitions, start new teams, and develop STEM outreach initiatives. We will discuss how to leverage community engagement, corporate partnerships, and government support to sustain and grow teams in underserved areas.	Enmanuel Abreu	
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	350 DEF	40	<b>Job Interviews 101: How to Ace Your Interview Using Inside Secrets from An Executive Recruiter</b>	Let's build your confidence and ease your anxiety as you navigate this critical stage of the job search process. Executive Recruiter and Job Search Strategist Ilene Rein shares insider secrets based on what Recruiters are actually listening for in your responses. Instead of adding stress with mock interviews, she takes a more effective approach: reviewing potential questions and developing thoughtful, confident responses. You will walk into your interview prepared, self-assured, and ready to land that job!	Ilene Rein	
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	340 A	41	<b>Rookie Journey -FLL</b>	Team of Rookie Girls - are here to share their experience, learning and fun as Rookies , with their journey to states. Explore ideas and resources for Rookies and help Rookies to strive their best	Tanaya Patel, Teesha Patel	
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	340B	42	<b>Safety Is More Than You Imagined</b>	A safe robotics environment is not merely words on a mission statement, but a journey to keep members healthy, prevent accidents from shutting down teams and teaching students to become conscientious professionals in their future careers. Discuss why safety matters on a personal and collective level, and mitigate risks to prevent accidents. Learn to integrate a comprehensive safety program into the fabric of team culture - including mental health - transforming every student into a proactive "safety captain". Understand the selection and use of personal protective equipment, along with an overview of the safety equipment recommended by FIRST Robotics.	John Peterson	
<b>12:00 PM</b>						
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	360 ABC	43	<b>A Journey through STEM Careers with Johnson &amp; Johnson</b>	Join members of the Johnson & Johnson MedTech Supply Chain leadership team to talk about each of their journeys in STEM, and how they've used those experiences throughout their careers. Learn how Johnson & Johnson celebrates and champions our employees at all levels, including the many FIRST alumni and mentors that work in our facilities around the world.	Johnson & Johnson MedTech, Luis Roman - Vice President, MedTech Supply Chain, John Stango - Vice President, Strategic Capabilities, MedTech Supply Chain, Ginnelle Julien - Vice President, MedTech Supply Chain Digital, Gerardo Vargas - Vice President, MedTech Supply Chain Deliver, Jonathan Loane - Vice President, MedTech Supply Chain Finance	
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	340A	44	<b>Bridging the Gap: Effective Strategies for FIRST Program Implementation</b>	Expanding access to FIRST programs requires strategic planning, strong partnerships, and overcoming common barriers to adoption. This presentation explores key challenges schools and communities face when implementing FIRST robotics programs and provides practical, scalable solutions to ensure successful adoption. Attendees will gain insights into securing administrative buy in, fostering community engagement, identifying funding opportunities, and leveraging existing resources for sustainable growth. Through real-world examples and proven strategies, this session equips educators, mentors, and advocates with the tools needed to break down obstacles and create lasting STEM opportunities for students.	Faith Bongiorno	
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	350DEF	45	<b>How to win the Impact Award: Building an Outreach Mission</b>	Talking about your impact is great, but how do you actually "have" an impact? In this session, you'll learn about how the Barriers and Bridges protocol is used to build impactful outreach programs. This does not focus on a specific community or audience, but a way to discuss and evolve programs using a solutions-oriented mindset. Join us to learn more about large scale, high impact outreach, turning bad ideas into good ideas, and how "mega tent" might be right for you. This is a standalone talk, but part of our larger "How to Impact" series.	Isriah Keila	
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	340 B	46	<b>Leveraging FIRST Experience in the College Application and Beyond</b>	Join us for an enlightening panel discussion featuring accomplished alumni and admissions professionals from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), all connected to FIRST. Discover firsthand insights into the transformative power of FIRST's programs and how they shape collegiate and career pathways. From navigating college applications to securing coveted job opportunities, our panelists will share how to leverage FIRST experiences effectively. Gain invaluable advice on highlighting your robotics journey as a distinctive asset on college applications and learn how these skills translate into the professional realm. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the intersection of education, robotics, and career success.	Steffi Sontgerath	
<b>1:00 PM</b>						

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1:00 PM - 1:15 PM	340 B	47	<b>Unmanned Undersea Vehicles (UUV) in the U.S. Navy</b>	Presentation will be an overview of UUVs currently used in the U.S. Navy and future technology as it relates to UUVs and Robotics.	LT Jon Gregory, ITNC(SS) Matt Howard	
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	340 A	48	<b>Leveraging Local Municipality Grants for Robotics</b>	This session will focus on 29 years of experience in raising money for robotics teams through local municipalities. We will provide a plan for both garage and school teams to reach out to cities and counties to leverage funds unifying FIRST and community goals. Grant examples will be given so that your robotics team can put them into actions that work. Focusing on serving the entire community to increase STEM education through after-school enhancement grants will unify your school and community. Each year Team Spyder raises over \$150k and has shared their fundraising strategies to teams worldwide, and they work!	Rodger Dohm, Ethan Nguyen, Team Spyder 1622, Co-President	
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	350 DEF	49	<b>Volunteering for Global Impact with FIRST Global</b>	Join FIRST Global to learn about the organization, volunteer opportunities, and financial aid programs available to volunteers. FIRST Global holds an international competition each year in a different country, where one team from over 190 countries is invited to participate. Aside from 20 different in person event volunteer roles, the Global STEM Corps program is a remote 1:1 mentoring program that is perfect for FTC and FRC teams to participate in virtually from June through the end of October. Hear testimonials from experienced volunteers of both programs, and learn how to sign-up to be a FIRST Global volunteer!	Caitlin Creech	
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	360 ABC	50	<b>WPILib and XRP</b>	Join members from the WPILib and XRP development teams to learn what's new about the eXperiential Robotics Platform or XRP for FRC teams. XRP is an open-source robotics platform intended to spur new interest and participation in robotics programs. XRP is fully supported by the WPILib development environment, making it a perfect training and recruiting tool for new FRC team members.	Peter Johnson, Brad Miller	
<b>2:00 PM</b>						
2:00 PM - 2:15 PM	340 B	51	<b>Navigating Teamwork: Steering Your FIRST Robotics Crew with Monday.com Project Management</b>	Discover how Monday Work Management system has transformed our FIRST Robotics team's workflow by streamlining task management and fostering collaboration. This session will explore our team structure, featuring subteams responsible for specialized roles, and how we use Monday to assign tasks, set deadlines, share files, and track progress. Learn how our dedicated project manager coordinates weekly "Monday" meetings to keep everyone aligned, ensuring clear communication and active engagement across the team. By leveraging this setup, we've charted a course for smoother teamwork, navigating the waters of robotics challenges with efficiency and clarity. Join us to learn how to steer your team to success!	Alicen Adkins	
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	360ABC	52	<b>How Mentors can support Trans Youth and help them succeed</b>	The legal landscape for transgender youth is being debated around the globe and more youth are coming out as their authentic selves. Mentors play a key role in the success of all students, particularly those on the margins. FIRST is committed to the success of all students and understands mentors may need additional resources to support trans youth. Join the Rainbow STEM Alliance and the HRC for a discussion on the current realities transgender youth face, what individualized support can look like, and tools to support them. The session will include a robust Q&A, so come with your questions!	Rae Eversmann, Rebby Kern (they/them)	
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	340 A	53	<b>Scrappy, Not Crappy: 604's Unique Approaches to Solving Common Resource Constraints</b>	A case study of how 604 takes unique approaches to solve common resource constraints teams may face. Topics include: manufacturing with jigs and 3D printing to mitigate limited machine-tool access, model-based design to be efficient with time and money, designing for portability to work around facility limitations, and using simulation to make up for limited time with the robot.	James Best, Eugene Fang	
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	340B	54	<b>Redefining Robotics: How Marketing Sparks Passion and Diversity</b>	Our presentation will discuss how marketing is a vital yet often overlooked part of robotics. As a few members on the team, we've prioritized creativity, collaboration, and connection to redefine our marketing role in FIRST. From designing bold outreach events to inspiring younger generations and generating diversity in our rural community, we've shown how marketing bridges STEM with passion. Attendees will discover how we built a strong team identity, created innovative solutions on a tight budget, and made a lasting impact with a small but dedicated team, empowering others to embrace robotics and leave their own mark on the field.	Denise Jasmine Flores, Natalie Romero and Edgar Perales.	
<b>3:00 PM</b>						
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	350 F	55	<b>Creating a More Inclusive Environment for Disabled Members of the FIRST Community</b>	Historically, disabled people have faced a myriad of barriers to a STEM education and career. However, FIRST poses the perfect opportunity to make these things equitable for everyone. The staff team of Disabled People of FIRST is here to discuss how you can help!	Eva True, Ally (FRC 8738) Kai (FRC 2147)	
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	360 ABC	56	<b>Level Up Your Future: STEM Careers Trivia Challenge</b>	Get ready to test your knowledge, have fun, and discover exciting career possibilities! Join Ilene Rein, Executive Recruiter and Job Search Strategist at Pounding Pavement 101, for an action-packed Trivia Game focused on you and your future career. This is more than just trivia—it's your chance to explore the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) while competing with friends in a thrilling and interactive challenge. Whether you're passionate about coding, rockets, robots, medicine, or cutting-edge technology, this event will inspire you to think big and dream about your future. Don't miss out on this chance to learn, win prizes, and uncover the amazing opportunities waiting for you in STEM careers!	Ilene Rein	
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	340A	57	<b>Maximize Your Summer with STEM Pre-College Programs</b>	Discover how pre-college summer programs can ignite passion, build skills, and enhance college readiness. This session highlights opportunities like Worcester Polytechnic Institute's (WPI's) Frontiers program and Wentworth Institute of Technology's (WIT's) ImpactLab program, where students explore STEM through hands-on learning, tackle real-world challenges, and engage in interdisciplinary studies blending STEM with fields like business and the arts. Learn how these programs immerse students in collegiate life, foster personal growth, and prepare them for competitive college admissions. Featuring insights from program coordinators and alumni, this session offers practical advice on selecting, applying to, and maximizing the impact of STEM summer programs to chart a path toward academic and career success.	Steffi Sontgerath, Caitlin Hughes	
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	350DEF	58	<b>Scouting Robotics</b>	Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America) is a youth program that teaches leadership and character in the context of camping and outdoor activities. FIRST shares the same youth development goals, but does it in the context of engineering and robotics. From Eagle Scout to Deans List, the two programs are well-aligned with each other and present an opportunity for a hybrid approach that combines the best of the two programs. In this session, we'll explain how each program can enrich the other, and share preliminary results from our experimental testing of the program in Pennsylvania this season.	Gary Schroeder, Michael Johnson	
<b>4:00 PM</b>						
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	350DEF	59	<b>Demystifying Creativity</b>	Creativity is a superpower that sets apart leaders and innovators. Moreover, creativity is not a trait but a skill: it is like a muscle that you can strengthen through exercise. CrunchLabs toy designer Bam Singhasaneh shares what it means to be creative, the factors that affect your ability to think creatively, and ways in which you can foster your creativity.	Bam Singhasaneh	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	Hilton Ballroom	60	<b>FIRST Global Information Session with Dean Kamen Hilton Ballroom</b>	Hear from Dean Kamen and FIRST Global staff about FIRST Global's work since 2017 hosting in-person and online challenges. The presentation will also include an overview of the 2025 FIRST Global Challenge in a soon-to-be-announced location, explore team connections between FIRST and FIRST Global, and present volunteer opportunities.	Dean Kamen, Stephanie Slezucky	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	340A	61	<b>Ignite Your Potential: Discover ACT-SO</b>	Explore the NAACP's Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO)! ACT-SO connects high school students with STEM professionals—coaches, mentors, and volunteers—offering invaluable insights and guidance. Discover how ACT-SO empowers you to compete in 32 categories, from engineering and computer science to visual arts and humanities, for local and national prizes. Ignite your passion, build your network, and unleash your potential! Don't miss this chance to discover ACT-SO and take your STEM journey to the next level!	Larry Brown, Jr.	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	360ABC	62	<b>Navigating Inclusivity In Today's Environment</b>	From providing resources to supporting a vibrant community within FIRST, LGBTQ+ of FIRST strives to increase visibility of and to educate others on the LGBTQ+ community. Starting off with an introduction to who we are as an organization, we will move into a deep dive into current and historic challenges that the community has and is facing. From there we will discuss ways your team can create a safe space at both team meetings and competitions. Finally, we will finish up with initiatives your team can start to educate your local FIRST community and foster a welcoming atmosphere within it.	Lorin Koch	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	340B	63	<b>Navigating US Admissions: A Guide for International STEM Students</b>	Join a panel of representatives from leading STEM universities in the United States (WPI, MIT, and Yale) for an insightful discussion tailored to international students. Learn about the unique aspects of applying to STEM programs, including academic prerequisites, standardized testing expectations, and crafting a compelling application. The panelists will share tips on highlighting your high school experience, showcasing extracurricular achievements, and navigating financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Don't miss this chance to gain valuable insights and ask questions to help you stand out as an international applicant to top U.S. STEM universities.	Steffi Sontgerath, Hannah Mendowitz, Jeremy Weprich	

FRIDAY APRIL 18TH					
Time	Location	ID	Title	Description	Presenter(s)
<b>9:00 AM</b>					
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	340 B	64	<b>Professional 3D Printing - Turning your passion into a career</b>	In this presentation, learn how to turn your 3D printing passion into a thriving career. We'll explore the basics of additive manufacturing, popular software, and hardware, plus strategies for efficient workflow. Discover the key industry sectors, emerging trends, and essential skills for success. Find out how certifications and networking can open doors to job opportunities or help you start your own venture. Gain practical insights and motivation to transform your ideas into reality. Whether you seek employment or entrepreneurship, 3D printing offers endless possibilities for success in today's fast-evolving, creative, and high-impact fields.	Evan Hochstein, Jesse Roitenberg, Chris Weir
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	340 A	65	<b>Scaling Outreach - Making a Lasting Impact Beyond Your Team</b>	FIRST is about more than just robots—it's about building a lasting STEM community. This session explores how teams can scale outreach, mentor younger teams effectively, and create programs that continue beyond their time. We'll discuss identifying community needs, setting measurable goals, and forming partnerships. Strategies for year-round impact—like summer camps, curriculum development, and advocacy—will also be covered. With real examples and lessons learned, this session will provide actionable ways to expand outreach efforts and ensure they make a long-term difference. Whether starting fresh or looking to grow, you'll leave with ideas to create meaningful, lasting change.	Caroleen DeWolff
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	360 ABC	66	<b>Introduction to Fraternities and Sororities</b>	To answer questions about the collegiate social organizations known as fraternities and sororities.	Thomas Brustle, Josh Rys
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	350 DE	67	<b>SMART Scholar, Lifelong Innovator</b>	The session provides an overview of the Department of Defense (DoD) Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship-for-Service Program. We will review the SMART Program and how it builds the future STEM workforce for the DoD by providing educational and career opportunities, including research. The SMART Program is a combined educational and workforce development opportunity for STEM students. A minimum requirement to apply is a high school diploma (i.e. graduating high school seniors are encouraged to apply). Scholars build technical expertise through hands-on experience at DoD facilities while receiving full-tuition, mentorship, internships, annual stipends, and guaranteed employment upon graduation.	Dr. Marcus Smith, Corinne Beach
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	340 B	68	<b>Developing Sustainable Student Leaders</b>	With seven years of experience across FTC and FRC in community- and school-based teams, this talk explores how to structure teams to cultivate impactful student leaders. Learn to overcome obstacles to sustainability and knowledge transfer while fostering collaboration between mentors, experienced students, and newcomers. Discover actionable strategies for engaging student involvement in project management and mastering the art of delegation (for both students and mentors). By adopting student-first approaches, teams can boost confidence, increase engagement, and build leadership skills—all while ensuring long-term success. Join us to unlock the keys to a thriving, sustainable robotics program!	Arianna Lee
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	340 A	69	<b>Multilingual Festivals</b>	The Ottawa Bilingual FIRST LEGO League Explore Festival has welcomed English-speaking and French-speaking teams for the past four years. This past year, the Festival was multilingual – English, French, and American Sign Language. How can a festival be effectively multilingual? What resources and planning are required? How can a multilingual festival help grow the FIRST community in your area and make sure that it reflects the population? How can this strategy be leveraged to remove barriers and ensure greater access to FIRST programs so that all youth can participate? Join this session to find out.	Claire McLaughlin
<b>10:00 AM</b>					
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	360ABC	70	<b>Beyond Impedance: Advanced Strategies for Optimizing FRC Battery Performance</b>	Is power delivery holding your robot back from its full potential? This seminar dives into best practices for maximizing battery performance and optimizing power delivery. Learn how to minimize total loop impedance between the battery and power distribution point, replace battery impedance measurements with advanced methods to sort your batteries by performance, and implement strategic battery selection and rotation. We'll also share pit-tested strategies to minimize human error and ensure reliable power during matches. Whether you're struggling with brown-outs or seeking a competitive edge, this session will provide actionable insights to reduce these issues and ensure power is never your limiting factor.	Shane Trent
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	360 ABC	71	<b>FRC Data Logging and Visualization Why and How?</b>	State-of-the-art data logging and visualization is a game-changer for FRC teams. Coupled with sophisticated analysis techniques, log data and robot telemetry enable optimization, issue analysis, and drive-team feedback at a level of fidelity unimaginable just a few years ago. Learn the fundamentals of several data logging approaches, explore the tools available to teams to make the capturing and analysis of data easier, and experience actual case studies from 6328's use of data logging and telemetry. We'll also discuss some of the newest ways that teams can utilize data logging, like visualizing robots in augmented reality using AdvantageScope.	Jonah Bonner
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	350 DE	72	<b>Kickoff your FLL Season with a Bang: Planning and Implementing an Engaging Kickoff Event</b>	Launch your FLL season with energy! This session provides a blueprint for planning and executing a dynamic kickoff event. Join us as we walk through how we executed a launch event for 35 teams in Chicago Public Schools this season. We will share how we leveraged community partners, other FIRST teams, and industry experts to design an experience that not only engaged students in the season, but jump started their mission strategizing, research with industry experts, and innovation project brainstorming. Leave with ideas to leverage your own resources to craft a kickoff event in your district, area, or region.	Rebecca Kornack, Joan Mendelson
<b>11:00 AM</b>					
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	360 ABC	73	<b>Building Better Robots Faster with the Power of Simulation</b>	Simulation is the key to advancing robot designs to the next level, building stronger alliances, and winning awards and competitions. Altair software tools can help teams, from beginners to Hall-of-Famers. Learn how to unleash the true potential of your robot designs, cutting weight, dropping design lead time, and creating lightweight, sturdy, robust designs that will dominate the leader boards.	Erik W. Larson
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	350 DE	74	<b>FRC Log Replay and Simulation - Taking the Next Step</b>	Rapid iteration and efficient problem-solving are critical capabilities for robot code development in FRC. Join us as we explore the next frontier of FRC: data logging and analysis, log replay and robot simulation. We'll go beyond the capabilities of traditional data logging, diving deep into how match data can be leveraged to unlock new insights and debug complex issues. Learn how hardware abstraction and 6328's AdvantageKit framework enable real-time robot simulation and accelerated replay of entire matches for debugging and tuning. We'll also discuss how all-new code templates and logging features make AdvantageKit easier to use than ever before.	Jonah Bonner
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	360 ABC	75	<b>Fostering a Community Through FIRST Alumni Groups</b>	In this session, we will go over how FIRST Alumni Groups can provide a positive impact on the community, how FIRST Alumni can find them, and even how FIRST Alumni can start their own! We will discuss the different opportunities that can come with being part of a FIRST Alumni group, the benefits that come with the process, and most importantly, how it allows students to stay involved with FIRST post-high school! Attendees will also get a chance to share their ideas, tips, and expectations when it comes to being involved with a FIRST Alumni Group.	Garrett Smith
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	340 A	76	<b>Mechanical Masterpieces: Exploring Unique Design Solutions</b>	Robots are more than machines—they're where creativity meets engineering, where ideas become motion. Join us as we dive into some of the most exciting mechanisms in robotics, showcasing how creative ideas can spark groundbreaking solutions. From intricate gear systems to innovative mechanical principles, we'll highlight designs that push the boundaries of traditional thinking. These creations embody the power of imagination and inspire new approaches to engineering challenges. Learn about the characteristics and challenges of different designs within competition environments, and don't miss this opportunity to dive into unique, fun designs that encourage thinking outside the box.	Sid Gupta, Ian Suh & Aaditya Sah
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	340B	77	<b>Optimization of CAM for Manufacturing</b>	Automating workflows in Fusion 360 streamlines CAD-to-CAM processes, reducing manual effort and increasing manufacturing efficiency. By leveraging parametric modeling, scripting, and custom toolpaths, automation enables faster part fabrication, consistent precision, and optimized machining strategies. In Robotics, automating toolpath setup and operations minimizes human error and enhanced design to production integration.	Zachariah Sharma, James Lewey, FRC Faculty Coach
<b>12:00 PM</b>					
12:00 PM - 12:15 PM	340A	78	<b>Alone How to Prioritize Mental Health in a Robot</b>	Mental health within robotics is sometimes overlooked. Stresses with deadlines, late hours, balance of school work and sometimes loss of sleep creates an environment where mental health is an oversight. We wish to share our strategies on how we keep our team members well taken care of so all of us can do our best work.	Joanna Ho, Christine McCubbina
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	340B	79	<b>Advancing Robotics with Composite Materials</b>	Join us for an engaging session on the applications of composite materials and carbon fiber for FRC and FTC teams. Our workshop will cover composite properties, manufacturing techniques, career outlooks, and real-world applications in competition robotics. We'll showcase some of our composites lesson kits, newly developed in partnership with the SAMPE Foundation, designed to help FIRST teams integrate composites into their builds through hands-on learning. Attendees will gain access to free educational resources and strategies for using composites in robot design. This session will provide valuable knowledge to help students on your team learn about and innovate with cutting-edge materials.	Jenifer Lawrie, Ridge Long John Unser
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	350 F	80	<b>Applying Agile Principles to FRC Project Management</b>	The Agile project management framework is used in industry to allow engineering teams to efficiently deliver value to market ahead of the competition. The Agile methodology emphasizes individuals over processes and tools, working deliverables that add value over documentation, and responding to change over following a plan. In FIRST, we often have large teams which must collaborate to develop a working robot, often in the face of changing requirements over the course of a season. This presentation gives an overview of how we applied Agile values and framework to project management to improve our success during build and competition seasons.	Christopher Lessner
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	360ABC	81	<b>Powering Innovation: New Products, Swerve Gen Demos, and the CANivore Advantage</b>	New Product Showcase: Introduces new products with key features and benefits, utilizing onsite products and visuals for engagement. Swerve Gen Demonstration: Provides a live demonstration of the swerve gen system, explaining its principles, advantages, and how it addresses challenges. CANivore Benefits: Explains the importance of CAN communication and introduces the CANivore device, demonstrating its features and practical applications. Q&A Session: Allows for audience interaction and addresses any questions. Overall, the presentation aims to educate the audience on the latest advancements in robotics technology and demonstrate how CTRE Electronics can empower FIRST Robotics teams to innovate and succeed.	CTR Electronics, Cory Ness Dalton Smith
12:30 PM - 12:45 PM		82	<b>Using XRP to develop skills through Summer Camps and Learning Content</b>	Learn about how the XRP robot can be used as a summer camp with this years theme Orbit Odyssey. Learn from the XRP partners and FIRST to learn how it can be leveraged to develop programming and mechanical engineering skills on your team.	Lori Birch, Jacob Williams David Rodgers + Others (Sparkfun, DigiKey, Frank, etc)

FRIDAY APRIL 18TH					
Time	Location	ID	Title	Description	Presenter(s)
12:00 PM - 12:45 PM	340A	83	Enhancing FIRST outreach in underserved communities.	Underserved communities often lack historical involvement in STEM. FIRST outreach targeting these communities can thus lack engagement and impact. This presentation explores methods like gamification, community-driven projects, and customizable outreach curricula that boost involvement in outreach among underserved communities. Prioritizing cultural relevance and hands-on learning, these methods foster excitement in STEM and FIRST that drives future engagement. We also cover ways to implement these methods and strategies to market outreach to underserved communities. Implementing these strategies, teams can inspire underserved youth to pursue STEM and robotics in higher education and careers, transforming outreach events into pathways for empowerment and innovation.	Adrian Tejada, Diego Sanchez
<b>1:00 PM</b>					
1:00 PM - 1:15 PM	340A	84	Empowering Change: Strategies for Championing FIRST & STEM with Your Local Government	Learn actionable tactics to effectively advocate for FIRST & STEM education partnerships within your community's local government. Gain insights into navigating bureaucratic processes, crafting compelling proposals, and mobilizing grassroots support and increase awareness of FIRST in your community. Whether you're an educator, coach, mentor, or student involved in FIRST programs, this workshop equips you with the tools to drive impactful change and cultivate support for STEM education initiatives at the local level.	Tabitha Wong, Evelyn Ma (Lead Student Speaker), Srihari (Har) Shankara Narayanan, Megan See, Melanie Miner (Coach and Educator)
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	350DE	85	Increasing FRC robot awareness in autonomous	How do you make robots more cognizant of their conditions during autonomous? Join us as we delve into our work on improving auto routine adaptability and accuracy with 360° vision and path planner enhancements. We explore localization using 360° FoV cameras and dynamic robot limits in our path planner. Here, we improve the path planner itself by adjusting robot parameters on the fly to model real-world motor behavior. We'll also discuss some useful adjustments to make auto development even more streamlined with ease-of-use features such as integrated path transferral and improved autonomous routine accuracy by tracking robot activity with odometry.	Greg McKaskle, Leon Jiao, Sarika Hegde
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	350 F	86	Leveling the Playing Field: High-Quality Customizable Scouting for Everyone	As scouting becomes more important in FRC, many teams don't have the resources to develop their own scouting systems that provide levels of analytics comparable to those of larger teams. To help level the playing field, Team 102 The Gearheads developed Scoutradix™, a free, customizable, open-source, web-based "Scouting-as-a-Service" platform available for any team to use, featuring high quality data analytics, personalized assignments, scouting automation, and offline capabilities. We'll discuss how teams can leverage Scoutradix, and discuss lessons learned from its inception in 2018 through the 2025 season, last year utilized by hundreds of teams globally capturing over 65,000 scouting reports.	Mike O'Connell, Nick Giampino (Student Executive and former Scouting Lead)
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	340 B	87	Meaningful Mentorship	Looking to cultivate effective mentor relationships in your FLL challenge program? This session explores strategies for developing and engaging impactful mentors and mentorship structures in the FLL Challenge program that we have implemented in Chicago Public Schools. Learn how we recruit, train, and support mentors to foster meaningful, sustainable relationships with teams. We will also talk through frameworks that support mentorship among and between teams in a region or area. Discover ideas to create a mentorship program in your area. Support your team mentors, so they can help their team members learn and grow!	Joan Mendelson, Rebecca Kornack
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	360 ABC	88	Where's Waldo: Localizing Your Bot on the Field	Whether you're a beginner or a veteran, every single season, there is one question you will always have to ask yourself: How will the robot know where it is on the field? We'll start from ground zero, mecanum encoders and dead wheel odometry, before exploring how to read April Tags and refine April Tag data with the Pinhole Model. Finally, we'll learn to fuse all our sensors together using an Extended Kalman Filter. Join us for a deep dive into the world of robot localization and unlock the secrets to more accurate and robust positioning.	Jason Lee
<b>2:00 PM</b>					
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	350DE	89	#FIRSTLikeAGirl - How to Empower Young Women in STEAM	#FIRSTLikeAGirl has become a recognizable resource for empowering females through FIRST globally. We strive to encourage, equip, and inspire girls to realize their opportunities, thrive in FIRST, and follow their dreams in STEAM. Attendees will participate in discussions and activities led by the founders of #FIRSTLikeAGirl to develop strategies for recruiting and empowering girls. This interactive workshop aims to open discussions to explore new ideas for fostering curiosity in STEAM, overcoming barriers, and building confidence in young women. Together we can create inclusive environments of collaboration to impact our communities.	4-H Exploding Bacon Team 1902
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	340B	90	HypeSession: An advocacy and self-confidence workshop	When was the last time you wrote down your personal or team goals? When was the last time someone advocated for you? This interactive workshop is designed to create a community of people that understand the importance of identifying and communicating their own strengths, or hype words, and develop effective peer-to-peer sponsorship. Ultimately, this workshop will help participants to confidently define and share their personal brand, highlight the accomplishment of their peers, and leverage these strategies to host their own hype-circles at home.	Cassandra Rothrauff
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	360ABC	91	Level Up: A career in cybersecurity	So, you want to get a job in cybersecurity? Join me as I share why this field is growing rapidly, important security principles, along with various career paths. I will also share insights into my own personal journey and provide advice for how you can chart your path into cybersecurity. Outline • My Journey • What is cybersecurity? • Cybersecurity Principles • What's in it for you? • Career Paths & Roles • Digital Footprint & Reputation • Education & Certifications • My Advice / Conclusion	Diondria
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	350 F	92	SystemCore Software	Join members of the 2027 software team including WPilib for a discussion on the control system and future of FRC and FTC software. Learn about the latest plans and potential future directions the development team is looking to take the system.	Members of WPilib and 2027 Software Team
<b>3:00 PM</b>					
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	340B	93	Building Beyond Bricks: CAD Designs and Scratch Programming for Robotics	Discover how students can bridge the gap between imagination and reality by designing in CAD's 3D environment and turning their creations into LEGO build instructions. Using Scratch, students can program their builds with libraries from Mindstorms, Boost, WeDo, and more, creating systems that integrate music, video sensing, and even text-to-speech. This session equips educators, mentors, and students with tools to bring unique ideas to life while fostering creativity and innovation.	Brett Hannan, Peter Valastro
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	360ABC	94	FRCDesign.org - World Class FRC Design and CAD Education, Accessible to Everyone	How do world-class teams design and CAD their robots? FRCDesign.org closes this gap for students and mentors alike and teaches how to design and build competitive robots. This session will introduce FRCDesign.org: what it is, who it's for (everyone!), and why you should use it.	David D, Jonathan Mi & Christopher Kelly
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	340A	95	From Industry to Competition: Enhance your Robot and Master Real-World Developer Skills	This presentation will discuss the potential applications of Qualcomm chipsets in the robotics industry and FIRST robots. The topics covered include multicamera AprilTag capabilities, AI YOLO for game piece and robot collision detection, and SLAM for real-time mapping and navigation. The presentation will explain how these technologies can be used in FIRST to enhance robot capabilities and provide valuable real-world skills. The session will conclude with a demonstration of some of these capabilities and their applicability to FIRST robots.	Ramil Mouro
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	350F	96	REV in the Classroom Robotics Education Simplified!	Learning robotics is for everyone. This session will introduce educators to REV's educational program for the classroom. Teachers and coaches will explore our comprehensive free curriculum designed to simplify robotics for educators and engage students with its easy to follow approach.	Greg Needel, Ellie Eisenberg
3:00 PM - 4:45 PM	350 DE	97	Brilliant Black Builders Networking Conference	Join the Brilliant Black Builders of Pearadox (FRC team #5414) as we host a group discussion with Black STEM professionals from many industries and universities. Being a minority on a team often negatively affects the mental health of students. Being allowed to share and ask questions with no judgement is what contributes to the improvement of mental health. Since 2020, BBB has shown Black students that they are not alone by giving them a place of encouragement and understanding. More information and a list of our panelists is available at <a href="https://pearadox5414.weebly.com/bbb">pearadox5414.weebly.com/bbb</a> .	Kara Boyer, Melissa Franch, Kimi Bourland, Laura Hood
<b>4:00 PM</b>					
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	360ABC	98	From Classroom to Communities: Locally Advancing STEM Education	As the demand for STEM professionals continues to rise, it's crucial to improve education for future generations, especially in need-based communities. Executed by students for students, these programs foster critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills through customized curriculums. This session explores how FIRST teams can implement afterschool programs, and even a mobile technology lab to enhance STEM education in their community. Participants will learn Team Magma's strategies for simultaneously executing these year-long outreach programs and balancing three different robotics competitions.	Leilani Phan, Katie Ta Reese Sekiya
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	350 F	99	Guiding the Student Experience	FRC is more than robots - it can develop confidence, leadership, and a sense of belonging in students. By focusing on personal growth and meeting every student at their level, teams can create an environment where students progress at their own pace, from observing to learning to leading. This presentation will discuss the value of using systems like subteams to engage students in both technical & business roles, as well as how leadership opportunities and good mentoring can foster long-term success. Attendees will leave with actionable strategies for optimizing team dynamics and creating a supportive, growth-focused program for all students.	Julianne Ziegler
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	340 B	100	Military Service Academies and STEM offerings	What can the Military Service Academies offer you in the world of STEM? This presentation will provide information on all the technology career field offered through the different services and what each Academy has to offer. In particular there will be a short presentation on the application processes and how STEM can help you achieve your goals.	Vivien Wu, 2LI Hector Natividad
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	340A	101	XRP advocacy	Join FRC2847 and FTC26383 as they work on funding XRP in the state of Minnesota. We want to share our journey from having an idea at last year's world and implementing them in this year's legislative session. We will go through targeted advocacy efforts in a split legislature to find appropriate chairs and also promote XRP with different stakeholders within the state. By looking at documents, correspondences and connections we hope to bring a perspective that anyone can work with state legislatures to implement XRP.	Aaron Perkins