

INAUGURAL EVENT

CREATIVE DISRUPTORS IN THE DESERT



FEB. 23-24 • LA QUINTA, CA

Conference Agenda (Red are U.S. Government Officials)

Friday, February 23, 2024

5:30 – 7:00 PM Registration & Welcome Reception
7:00 – 9:00 PM Policy Dinner (Invite Only)

Saturday, February 24, 2024

7:00 – 8:00 AM Breakfast Buffet

8:00 – 8:05 AM Opening Remarks
Admiral (Ret) John Richardson

8:05 – 8:25 AM Congressional/Defense Leaders Welcome
The Honorable Ken Calvert
The Honorable Betty McCollum
The Honorable Mike Garcia
The Honorable Heidi Shyu, Undersecretary of Defense (R&E)
Director Doug Beck, Defense Innovation Unit

8:30 – 9:25 AM Space & Hypersonic Panel
Mandy Vaughn, CEO and Founder at GXO (Panel Leader)
Robert (Otis) Winkler, VP Corporate Development at Kratos
Sassie Duggleby, CEO and Founder at Venus Aerospace
Dr. James Weber, Principal Director for Hypersonics OUSD (R&E)
Paula Trimble, Policy Chief at the Space Development Agency

Red Team Members (Mike MacKay - Coach)
David Langan, CEO and Co-founder Umbra Space
Darren Garber, CEO and CTO at Revolution Space
AJ Piplica, CEO and Founder at Hermeus

9:30 – 10:00 AM Networking/Coffee Break

10:00 – 10:55 AM Autonomous Systems Panel
Mike Connor, Chairman and CEO at ThayerMahan (Panel Leader)
Diem Salmon, Senior Director, Mission Autonomy at Anduril Industries
Scott Newbern, VP and Chief Technology Officer at AeroVironment
David Alexander, President at General Atomics Aeronautical Systems
Alex Lovett, Director Prototypes and Experiments OUSD(R&E)

Red Team Members (Mike MacKay - Coach)
Steven Fendley, President of Unmanned Systems at Kratos
Rob Lehman, Co-Founder and Chief Commercial Officer at Saronic

11:00 – 11:55 AM	Keynote Interviews Mr. Daniel Goldin – Revolution in America’s Space Dr. Eric Haseltine – Author Riding the Monster Palmer Lucky, Founder of Anduril Industries Venture Capital Executives
12:00 – 12:55 PM	Lunch Break
1:00 – 1:55 PM	Artificial Intelligence Panel Shyam Sankar, Chief Technology Officer at Palantir (Panel Leader) Jen Sovada, President of the Public Sector at Sandbox AQ Scott Philips, Chief Technology Officer at Vannevar Labs Dr. Kimberly Sablon, Director Trusted AI/Autonomy OUSD (R&E) General James E. Rainey, CG Army Futures Command Red Team Members (Mike MacKay - Coach) Dr. Robert Hummell, Chief Scientist of the Potomac Institute Ryan Tseng, Co-Founder and CEO at Shield AI
2:00 – 2:55 PM	Empowering Government Intrapreneurs Panel Dr. Robert Sues, President and CEO ARA (Panel Leader) The Honorable Gabe Camarillo, Under Secretary of the Army Admiral Frank Morley, Navy ASN RDA Military Deputy Jason Rathje, Director of the Office of Strategic Capital, DOD Michael Stewart, Director Navy Disruptive Capabilities Office Red Team Members (Mike MacKay - Coach) Mr. Thomas Browning, ASD Mission Capabilities OUSD (R&E) Terry Emmert, Director DARPA Adaptive Capabilities Office RADM (Ret) Lorin Selby, Principal WestExec Advisors
3:00 – 3:25 PM	Networking/Coffee Break
3:30 – 4:25 PM	DOD Policy and Culture Panel Pete Modigliani, VP at Beacon Global Strategies (Panel Leader) Tyler Sweatt, CEO at Second Front Systems Steve Grundman, Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council Andy Lowery, Chief Product Officer of Epirus Justin Fanelli, Acting Navy Chief Technology Officer Red Team Members (Mike MacKay - Coach) Sally Donnelly, Founding Partner at Pallas Advisors Matt McGregor, Fellow at the Acquisition Innovation Research Center
4:30 – 5:25 PM	Shark Show Sharks - Palmer Luckey, 8VC, Bilal Zuberi, Katherine Boyle Entrepreneurs Frontier Audio Labs, Dextra, Castillion
5:30 – 5:55 PM	Congressional/Defense Leaders Closing Remarks and Awards The Honorable Ken Calvert The Honorable Betty McCollum The Honorable Heidi Shyu, Undersecretary of Defense (R&E) Director Doug Beck, Defense Innovation Unit
6:00 – 7:30 PM	Reception