

## Short Biographies of Panelists

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### **Joe Burns**, Sensurion Aerospace

Joe Burns is a 25-year veteran of aviation, communications, and technology industries and most recently the Managing Director of Technology and Flight Test at United Airlines. Joe also held positions as Managing Director – Flight Standards, FAA Certificate Director of Operations, and Pilot Instructor. He recently served as International Captain on the Boeing 767/757. He is currently on the Executive Branch Advisory Board for PNT/GPS; Board Member for Aspen Avionics; Board Member for Sensurion, Inc.; Member of the NACSC; Advisory Panel Member for the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR/UCAR); Chairman Emeritus for the ATA Air Traffic Control Council and Ops Committees. Joe holds an M.B.A. in Management and a B.S. in Aeronautics/Aeronautical Engineering from Miami University. He has multiple patents in aviation, communications, and sensor technology.

### **Cathy Cahill**, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Dr. Catherine F. Cahill serves as the Director of the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration (ACUASI) at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) and the CEO of the Pan-Pacific UAS Test Range Complex. For more than 30 years Cathy has conducted research on atmospheric aerosols and their impacts on visibility, global climate, and human health. Since 2006, Cathy has collaborated with the UAF UAS program and worked on developing unmanned aircraft-based sensors for determining the concentration, composition, and spatial distribution of atmospheric aerosols.

### **Brian Argrow**, University of Colorado Boulder

Brian Argrow is Professor in Ann & H.J. Smead Aerospace Engineering Sciences, director of the University of Colorado Boulder's Integrated Remote & In-Situ Sensing Program (IRISS), and founding director emeritus of the Research and Engineering Center for Unmanned Vehicles (RECUV). He is chair of the 3rd AUVSI/AIAA Workshop on Civilian Applications of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (CAUAS-3) that will be held this afternoon.

### **Chris Theisen**, Northern Plains UAS Test Site

Chris Theisen is the Director of R&D for the Northern Plains UAS Test Site and a Radar Research Meteorologist for the Regional Weather Information Center at the University of North Dakota. He graduated from UND with a B.S. (2003) and M.S. (2006) and became a full-time research staff member of RWIC in 2007 working primarily in UAS research. Mr. Theisen contributed in North Dakota's efforts to become one of the six FAA selected UAS Test Sites and has taken the role of Director of R&D after designation. He works closely with clients interested in utilizing UAS and ensures efforts address FAA goals and objectives to safely integrate UAS into the National Airspace System.

**David Knapp**, Army Research Laboratory

Dave Knapp has spent his 35 year scientific career in a variety of atmospheric science operational and research leadership and support positions, from active duty and Reserve Air Force to National Weather Service to Army weather technology research and development at Army Research Laboratory. He is currently the Battlefield Environment Division's Associate Chief of Science and Technology and the acting chief of the Atmospheric Dynamics Branch at ARL. Dave continues to enhance scientific collaboration among the military, civilian, and academic communities to advance the operational implementation of proven research technology for DoD and civilian forecast agencies.

**Marcus Johnson**, NASA Ames Research Center

Dr. Marcus Johnson is a Research Aerospace Engineer at the NASA Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, California. He received his Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Florida. His research interests focus on intelligent systems in aerospace applications and the integration of unmanned aircraft systems into the national airspace. Dr. Johnson serves as the test and evaluation lead for the UAS Traffic Management (UTM) Project, which is developing an air traffic management system research prototype for small UAS operating at low altitudes in the US national airspace.

**Andrew Thurling**, AeroVironment

Andy Thurling is currently Director of Product Safety and Mission Assurance at AeroVironment in Simi Valley, California. Andy is a Distinguished Graduate of the USAF Test Pilot School as well as the Air Force Institute of Technology. He has held several positions as a test pilot and as an instructor at the Test Pilot School. His career in the Air Force culminated as Commander of the Flight Test Squadron responsible for testing the nation's newest unmanned aircraft. Andy has over 2300 hours of flight time in more than 35 aircraft types and was awarded the 2011 AUVSI "Operations Award" for leading the flight testing of AV's revolutionary liquid Hydrogen powered Global Observer aircraft. Andy is currently leading airworthiness, certification, and airspace access strategic efforts for AeroVironment. He is active internationally as a subject matter expert to the JARUS working group developing the Specific Operational Risk Assessment process.