

Monday, 10 June

[The District](#)
 4521 W Empire Place
 Sioux Falls, SD 57106
 (Parking available on the north of the District in the Empire Mall parking lot and on the southwest side)

Time (CT)	Session	
5:30-7:30 PM	Opening Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eduardo Palacio, IEEE-USA Past President • Mayor Paul TenHaken

Tuesday, 11 June

[Denny Sanford Premier Center](#) - Ballroom A
 1201 N. West Avenue
 Sioux Falls, SD 57104 - [Directions & Parking](#)

Time (CT)	Session	Speaker
8:00 AM	Breakfast and Registration	
8:30 AM	Welcome & Kickoff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eduardo Palacio, IEEE-USA Past President • Virtual Remarks from IEEE President Thomas Coughlin • Vickie Ozburn, IEEE Region 4 Director • Stacy Manni, Ph.D., Director, AFRL Regional Network - Midwest
8:45 AM	Opening Keynote	South Dakota Representative Tyler Tordsen
9:00 AM	EPSCOR, Small Business Administration, and Federal Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joni Ekstrum, Executive Director, South Dakota Biotech (moderator) • Sandra Richardson, Ph.D., Section Head, Research Capacity and Competitiveness Section, NSF Office of Integrated Activities • Bryson Patterson, South Dakota Deputy District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration
9:45 AM	The South Dakota Workforce of the Future	• Dennis Hedge, PharmD. , Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, South Dakota State University
10:10 AM	Partnering Tactics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russell Harrison, Managing Director, IEEE-USA (host) • Abigail Omdahl, Procurement Specialist, Native American Development Corporation APEX Accelerator • Michael Channell, Program Manager, Nebraska Indian Community College APEX Accelerator
10:30 AM	Networking Break	
11:00 AM	Breakout Sessions	
	1) Engaging with the Federal Government, From Gaining Specialized Designations to the Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Francis, Ph.D., IEEE Region 5 Director and President, Ozark Integrated Circuits, Inc. (host) • Jake Droge, Business Development Specialist, South Dakota SBA • Andy Grocott, Associate, Goosmann Law Firm • Marcella Hurley, State Program Director, South Dakota APEX Accelerator • Garth Wadsworth, Senior Public Policy Director, Elevate Rapid City • Brian McJilton, Director, Office of Small Business and Vice Director, Strategic Partnering, Air Force Research Laboratory

Tuesday, 11 June (cont'd.)		
Session	Speaker	
	2) Utilizing Federal, State, and Local Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stoen Mollman, South Dakota SBIR Program Director (host) • Craig Bailey, President, Novum Nano • Michelle Kakacek, Director, South Dakota Manufacturing and Technology Solutions • Mike Kiley, Commercialization Liaison, National Nanotechnology Coordination Office • Ryan Oines, Chief Operating Officer, University of South Dakota Discovery District
12:00 PM	Networking and Keynote Lunch (Hybrid): Sarah Hughes , Chief of Staff, CHIPS R&D Metrology Program	
1:00 PM	Fireside Chat: AI and the Dakotas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke Lindberg, President and CEO, South Dakota Trade • Dr. José-Marie Griffiths, President, Dakota State University
1:45 PM	How South Dakota can Contribute to CHIPS Workforce (Hybrid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Feindt, Senior Vice President of Ecosystem Development, National Center for the Advancement of Semiconductor Technology (NATCAST) • Jade Borgeson, Director of Strategic Initiatives, NATCAST
2:15 PM	Small Business and the Federal Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian McJilton, Director, Office of Small Business and Vice Director, Strategic Partnering, Air Force Research Laboratory
2:30 PM	Networking Break	
3:00 PM	Breakout Sessions	Panel Discussions
	1) Preparing the Next Generation Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Stone, Ph.D., Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (host) • Denise Guzzetta, Vice President, Talent and Workforce, Sioux Falls Development Foundation • Antonio de la Serna, Principal Director, Strategic Technology, Siemens EDA • Derek DeGeest, President, DeGeest Corporation • Brian McJilton, Director, Office of Small Business and Vice Director, Strategic Partnering, Air Force Research Laboratory
	2) Update from North Dakota Engines (Hybrid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amber Orr, IEEE-USA Vice President, Career and Member Services (host) • Hollie Mackey, Ph.D., Chief Strategy Officer, North Dakota Advanced Agriculture Technology Engine • Cortnee Jensen, Ph.D., Interim CEO of the Northern Front Autonomous Engine and Executive Director of Strategic Partnerships, University of North Dakota
4:00 PM	The CHIPS Act, AI and the Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KC Santosh, Ph.D., Professor (AI) and Chair, Department of Computer Science, University of South Dakota
4:15 PM	What's Next	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stacy Manni, Ph.D., Director, AFRL Regional Network – Midwest • Brian McJilton, Director, Office of Small Business and Vice Director, Strategic Partnering, Air Force Research Laboratory • Melissa Carl, Director, Business Development, Career and Member Services, IEEE-USA
5:00 PM	Adjourn	