Innovare Advancement Center to Host Three-Part Trusted AI Challenge Series

Series kicks off on October 14 with the first event, "Building the Vision" for Design, Verification, and Validation of Self-Aware Learning Systems

Rome, NY – Innovare Advancement Center, in partnership with the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/RI) and The State University of New York (SUNY), and supported by NYSTEC, Griffiss Institute (GI), the United States Air Force (USAF), National Security Innovation Network (NSIN), The Research Foundation for The State University of New York, and the Innovation Collective, announces it will host a challenge series to "Build the Vision - Formalize Challenges - Advance the Art" of next generation Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems.

The series, which is designed to cultivate, define and fund creative solutions to a set of challenge problems in trustworthy AI with a particular focus on dynamic, autonomous systems that learn and adapt behaviors, will kick off on October 14, 2020 with a half-day webinar beginning at 12:00 PM.

"Intelligent systems are optimizing our lives and are more and more expected to construct courses of action, make decisions, and act at machine to machine speeds with reduced human oversight," said **Dr. Bryant Wysocki, United States Air Force Technical Advisor for Command, Control, Communications, Computing, Intelligence & Cyber, Air Force Research Laboratory.** "The Trusted AI Challenge Series is designed to get at the technical challenges associated with certifying self-aware learning systems to safely and reliably operate in society with the appropriate level of autonomy."

"SUNY is delighted to host and participate in this important event that will identify key requirements for

trustworthy AI technologies", said **Dr. Meera Sampath, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research**. "Trust is crucial for the widespread adoption and acceptance of AI. This challenge series is designed to enable critical advances in the field with its strong focus on translating vision into practical solutions."

With a set of thought-provoking talks and an interactive panel covering industry, research, and government perspectives, this first event of the Trusted AI Challenge Series will provide insights into the critical path requirements for building reliable, robust AI and autonomous systems that can be widely adopted.

The distinguished panel of speakers for this event include:

- **Professor David Doermann**, State University of New York, University at Buffalo
- **Dr. Peter Friedland**, Consultant and Senior Scientific Advisor to the Air Force Office of Scientific Research
- **Dr. David Goldstein**, Director of Special Programs, SpaceX
- **Michael Graniero**, Small Business Professional, Air Force Research Laboratory, Information Directorate
- **Heather Hage**, Vice President, Industry and External Affairs, The Research Foundation for SUNY
- **Professor Scott Hubbard**, Stanford University, former Director NASA Ames Research Center
- **Professor Pramod Khargonekar**, Vice Chancellor for Research, University of California Irvine
- **Karen Roth**, Chief Engineer, Air Force Research Laboratory, Information Directorate
- **Dr. Meera Sampath**, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, State University of New York
- **Dr. Elham Tabassi**, Chief of Staff, Information Technology Laboratory, National Institute of Standards and Technology
- **Dr. Bryant Wysocki**, United States Air Force Technical Advisor for Command, Control, Communications, Computing, Intelligence & Cyber, Air Force Research Laboratory

The event will conclude with a "Coffee and Concepts" networking session. During this 30-45 minute online gathering, attendees will mix together into small breakout rooms to meet and discuss all things Artificial Intelligence.

"The Griffiss Institute is proud to play a significant role in fostering the collaboration among the Air Force Research Laboratory, small business, and academia, in the critical technology area of Trusted AI," says **Mike Wessing, Griffiss Institute Acting President/Chief Engineer**. "This first event of three will continue the vision of the Innovare Advancement Center, bringing world class researchers together to cultivate and define creative solutions to a set of challenging research problems."

This event is designed for those interested in understanding the challenges that lie ahead as AI systems become increasingly autonomous, dynamically acquire information, and adapt behaviors, including academic and government researchers, university students, and small businesses.

The second and third events of this series, "Grounding the Critical Path", and "Accelerating Progress", will take place in Spring 2021.

To register for the first event, view the agenda, and to learn more about the three-part series, please visit: https://www.innovare.org/events/trusted-ai-challenge-series-1

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About Innovare Advancement Center
Innovare Advancement Center aims to be a global catalyst to converge world-class talent with cutting-edge facilities and focused technology challenges to accelerate the development of game-changing capabilities that protect and empower our country. An open innovation environment immediately adjacent to Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate in Rome, NY, Innovare Advancement Center offers a globally connected innovation ecosystem in which world-class scientific, engineering, and entrepreneurial talent from universities, government, and industry can leverage highly specialized resources in critical research areas, including artificial intelligence/machine learning, cybersecurity, quantum, and unmanned aerial systems to tackle the country's greatest challenges to national security and economic competitiveness. To learn more, visit innovare.org.