Celebrate
Women’s History Month

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March 21, 2023
Topics for Today’s Discussion

• The personal journey (we each have)
• Mentors and sponsors along the way
• Why and how women can lead innovation!
Reinvent Hampton Roads

• Established in 2016 to focus on higher paying jobs – grow the regional economy

• Serve as a thought leader for the region’s economic future

• Manage the Commonwealth's Innovative GO VA Program – Region 5
  ✓ Encourage collaboration among local organizations
  ✓ Prepare a Regional Economic Growth and Diversification Plan

• Incorporate innovation and entrepreneurship into the region
The Mentors and Sponsors Along the Way

- Grandmother and Mother
- Girl Scout Troop Leaders
- Teachers Through High School
- My Best Friend’s Mom
- ?
- ?

- UNC - men
- NCSL – men
- US Department of HUD – men
- Banking - men
- Mental Health Care - men
- Biotech - men
- Amerigroup – men
- ODU
- Reinvent Hampton Roads
The Mentors and Sponsors Along the Way

**Mentors:**
- Informal professional advisor
- Formal or through a matching program
- Not a parent/family member

**Sponsors:**
- Open doors (although you have to walk through)
- Advocate formally and informally
- Believe in you
And A Must Have ...

... MY ENERGY CABINET!

... personal Spark Supporters
The Region’s Unique Assets and Opportunities:

• One of the world’s deepest natural harbors at the southern end of a major estuary and the Atlantic Ocean
• World’s largest Naval base and highest concentration of Navy vessels
• Largest concentration of shipbuilding/repair/trade activity in the country, including HII-NNS and 1 of 5 public shipyards nationally
• The Virginia Port Authority, a top port and logistics node on the US east coast
• Interwoven cluster of related industries, including cybersecurity, alternative energy, IT, supplemented by health, recreation, and tourism
• An emerging “digital port” — including trans-Atlantic data pipelines and “Global Internet Hub”
• A newly developing offshore wind industry for the nation
• Unmanned autonomous systems (UxS) and other technology innovation
• Resilience and coastal adaptation
• Public assets – JLab supercomputing, NASA, Wallops Flight Facility
• Significant new Federal infrastructure and innovation funding opportunities

Hampton Roads Region:
We have the potential to be a global nexus for jobs, growth, innovation, and commercialization in the “water” space — with few equals in the world
Innovation Opportunities for Regional Priority

- Maritime/Offshore
- Wind
- Data Science/Cyber/UxS
- Healthcare Innovation
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Green Energy
“You Don’t Catch Fish … …Sitting in the Living Room !”
“When You See An Opportunity …
…Take It !”
“Do Unto Others …”
Hampton Roads Has Unique Assets ...
Thank You!