

Welcome Letter



It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 2023 General Donald R. Keith Memorial Capstone Conference at West Point!

The conference is named in honor of General Keith, Former Commanding General, U.S. Army Material Development and Readiness Command, and a leader in research and development throughout his military career. We are pleased to once again partner with the Society of Industrial and Systems Engineering to hold these proceedings as a Regional Conference. This year we are excited to welcome 63 undergraduate presentations from students, cadets, and midshipmen from Binghamton University, George Mason University, United States Air Force Academy, United States Military Academy, and United States Naval Academy.

We are honored to welcome Dr. Steven Walker, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for Lockheed Martin, as the keynote speaker at the Awards Banquet. Dr. Walker has over 30 years of experience in driving the development of emerging technologies for the military including his time as the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

During your visit, we welcome you to tour the campus to learn more about the historic local area and the beautiful grounds and structures that make up the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point. There is a scheduled walking tour on Thursday at 2:30 pm leaving from the first floor of Jefferson Hall.

This is my first conference as Department Head and I could not be more grateful for the team that got us here. A special thank you to General Keith's family for the generous endowment that allows our Department to run this exciting event every year, to the Society of Industrial and Systems Engineering, the professional panel of judges, to the staff and faculty of the Department of Systems Engineering, and to the Systems Design and Analysis Center. If it were not for the SDAC's efforts and leadership this event would not be possible.

Thank you also to our outgoing Department Head, BG(R) Rich Morales, for his leadership over this department. His tenure saw some of the most transformational evolutions in how we do business and we are grateful for his continued mentorship.

Congratulations to all the students and thank you for sharing your research. I hope that you enjoy your time while attending the 2023 General Donald R. Keith Memorial Capstone Conference.

All Systems Go!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Coxen".

JULIA O. COXEN
COL, Professor U.S. Military Academy
Head, Department of Systems Engineering