57th Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory, and Computing

Business, Industry, and Government Career Panelist
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:30 p.m.
Grand Palm Room

Howard Blair, Ph.D. Syracuse University

Howard A. Blair has published in the areas of Logic-based AI and Logic Programming, Mathematical Logic and Foundations of Mathematics, and Quantum Computing.   He is co-Author with Krzysztof R. Apt and Adrian D. Walker of Towards a Theory of Declarative Knowledge. His most recent PhD student, John Carver (Jack) Vining, completed his thesis on quantum state diffusion in the area of Quantum Information Theory. Howard is currently working on degrees of unsolvability involving guaranteed-to-halt selection from infinite sets, and abstractions of quantum entanglement in spaces, now called convergence spaces, originally introduced by Bourbaki.

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Zac Brennan, Ph.D. Argonne Research Lab

Zac is a postdoctoral appointee at Argonne National Laboratory on the Modeling and Analytics team in the Strategic Security Sciences division. In particular, he helps support and develop the Analysis of Mobility Platform (AMP), a detailed multi-modal transportation and logistics model. His appointment focuses on planning and scheduling systems as well as software development. Before this, Zac completed his Ph.D. at Iowa State University, researching discrete-time stochastic processes on graphs.

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Dominic Gold, Applied Physics Lab, Johns Hopkins University

Dominic Gold is a mathematician and researcher at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory with expertise in data science, cryptography, and mathematics. He serves as a consulting subject-matter expert across a wide range of projects in across the lab, translating complex problem spaces into concrete, solvable mathematical challenges and delivering grounded solutions through research, prototypes, and technical white papers.

Dominic earned his undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees from Florida Atlantic University, where he studied mathematics. While his undergraduate work focused on financial mathematics and actuarial science, his doctoral research expanded into cryptography, data science, and computational topology, with an emphasis on privacy-preserving machine learning. Since joining the lab, Dominic has continued to broaden his technical expertise, gaining experience in random number generation, quantum computing, benchmarking, and parametric statistical methods.

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Ken Kenedy, Ph.D.   BMW Group

Dr. Kennedy's focus is on developing AI solutions that focus on the areas of computer vision, robotics, LLMs, and optimization. This has been through a combination of working with startups and in BMW Group's US research lab. His volunteer work includes accreditation of undergraduate Computer Science programs via ABET and mentoring Ph.D. students focused on AI topics.

Anae Newman, Ph.D. , ACAS, National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI)

Anae Newman, Director & Actuary, earned her PhD in pure mathematics from Florida Atlantic University, where her research focused on norm inequalities in harmonic analysis. She first joined NCCI in 2012 and returned in 2020 to apply her mathematical training to research opportunities across the organization. She currently oversees the Individual Risk Rating research area and chairs the Individual Risk Rating Working Group (IRRWG) at NCCI.

Newman, an Associate of the Casualty Actuarial Society, remains active in the mathematics community and is passionate about mentoring students in the field.