



NASA's Commercialization Training Camp

Speaker Roster



Obafemi Ayanbadejo

Founder of Health Reel

NFL Veteran and Super Bowl Champion

Obafemi Devin Ayanbadejo is a former American professional football running back, fullback, and special teams player. His professional football career began as an undrafted free agent in 1997 with the Minnesota Vikings. He played college football at San Diego State where he also earned his BA in Psychology. He also played for the Baltimore Ravens (1999-2002), Miami Dolphins (2002-2003), Arizona Cardinals (2004-2007), Chicago Bears (2007) and California Redwoods (2009) of the UFL. Ayanbadejo was a member and significant contributor on the 2000 Ravens Super Bowl XXXV championship team. He officially retired from professional football in January, of 2010.

Since retiring from professional football, Ayanbadejo has earned his MBA from Johns Hopkins Carey School of business in Baltimore, MD. He has held founding and executive positions in several businesses and startups, including a startup based on technology exclusively licensed from the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. AQ Digital Health Institute, founded by Ayanbadejo, is presently working to commercialize a mobile health and fitness technology that uses artificial intelligence (A.I.) and neural networks to turn your smart phone into a device that can deliver customized health and fitness data in less than 3 minutes by calculating body composition and its effect on metabolic burn rate and its correlation to health and disease risk.



Anne A. Balduzzi

Director, Advisory Services

TEDCO

Anne Balduzzi has decades of technology expertise. Prior to joining TEDCO, her background included product development and marketing roles at Apple, AOL (when it was a start-up), and Viewtron, the first consumer online service in North America. After working in Silicon Valley and launching Apple's first online service, she returned to the East Coast and founded Accelerate Partners, where she mentored and advised a wide range of early stage and established technology companies.

Anne, who has been recognized as one of the region's Top Women in Tech, is a speaker and author on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and technology trends. She holds a patent on data match analysis and is the founder of SameGrain, an award winning social data-driven insight platform. She has also helped predict world events as a participant in IARPA's Good Judgement Project.



Neil R. Davis

Director, Entrepreneurial Development
TEDCO

Neil manages many of TEDCO's non-funding programs, including the mdPACE Program, the Network Advisors Program, the Rural Business Innovation Initiative, as well as all of TEDCO's educational efforts for its portfolio companies. He also serves as TEDCO's liaison with the State's technology incubators, is part of the deal team for TEDCO's core seed funding programs, and is actively involved in creating new strategies designed to assist entrepreneurs.

Neil brings more than 30 years of experience in engineering, business development, business consulting, and P&L management to his position at TEDCO. Prior to joining TEDCO, Neil was the vice president of operations at the Emerging Technology Centers (ETC), where his leadership and expertise were directed toward the formation of technology-based businesses in Baltimore City. During his tenure, more than 325 early-stage IT and life sciences companies were affiliated with ETC. He was instrumental in augmenting ETC's traditional business incubation model with both coworking and acceleration business models.

Earlier in his career, Neil held executive positions at Environmental Elements Corporation and Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc. where his role included a variety of operational, business development, and financial responsibilities.



Joe Famiglietti

SBIR/STTR Center Lead
NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Joe Famiglietti is an engineer at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center serving as the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer Center Lead since June 2016 where he manages the annual SBIR/STTR solicitation development, review, and selection process that provides small businesses an opportunity to participate in Federal Research and Development.

Since joining GSFC in 1990, he served as an Instrument Engineer in the Mesoscale Atmospheric Processes Branch where he designed, developed, and managed advanced, state-of-the-art Lidar remote sensing instruments and systems for use in Earth science missions on ground-based, aircraft, and spacecraft platforms. From 1995 to 1997 he was the Payload Manager and Lead Instrument Safety Engineer for the Infrared Spectral Imaging Radiometer instrument that flew aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery flight STS-85. Following a 9 year assignment as a Technology Transfer Manager in the Office of Technology Transfer responsible for the transfer of Goddard developed and sponsored technologies to commercial industry, other government agencies, and academia, he joined the Earth Science Technology Office where he managed the Advanced Component Technology Program responsible for the development of technologies for potential infusion into other NASA programs and missions. Before joining the NASA team, he served in the United States Navy as an electronics technician and reactor operator aboard the U.S.S. Honolulu. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics in 1992 and a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) in 1999 both from George Mason University.



Darryl Gaines

Assistant to the Director at NASA Stennis Space Center NFL Veteran

Mr. Darryl Gaines is the Assistant to the Director at NASA Stennis Space Center (SSC) in Bay St. Louis, MS. As a member of the Center Director's staff, he provides Center policy development, strategic planning, as well as budget and management integration. He works with NASA HQs in Washington D.C. representing SSC on various strategic efforts and is a member of NASA's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Engagement Council. Mr. Gaines has a background in Avionics and Software, and over 27 years of experience in planning, developing and leading Space Programs and Projects at NASA.

Prior to becoming the Assistant to the Director at Stennis Space Center, Mr. Darryl Gaines was the Assistant to the Director at NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston Texas. As a member of the Center Director's staff, he was responsible for planning, integration and communications, and management activities at the Center, which hosted approximately 3000 civil servants and 8500 contractors.

Mr. Gaines previously held the position as the Deputy Manager of the International Space Station (ISS), Program Planning and Control Office where he was responsible for managing an annual budget of \$3.8B dollars. He has worked across multiple NASA centers and with several commercial businesses, as well as International Partners in Russia, Japan, Canada, and Europe.

Mr. Gaines is a native of Mobile, Alabama, and a 1988 graduate of Mississippi Valley State University. Darryl was selected by the National Football League (NFL), Kansas City Chiefs in 1988 and managed a dual career working for McDonnell Douglas aircraft while playing for the Chiefs. He also played in the Canadian Football League (CFL) in 1989. Darryl received an Executive MBA from the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California, in September 2016. Mr. Gaines was inducted into Mississippi Valley State University's Hall of Fame in April 2017. He also established the Mississippi Valley State University's Houston Alumni Chapter.

Mr. Gaines is an engaged entrepreneur, owning a successful barber shop and salon. He is a member of the Board of Directors for Communities in Schools which has a focus on empowering at-risk and homeless children. He is, also, a member of the Board of Directors for the Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center in Mobile, Alabama, where he lends his expertise in space technology to help develop programs for children.

Mr. Gaines volunteers heavily as a mentor and performs speaking engagements at middle, high schools and Boys and Girls Clubs in the southeast region. Mr. Gaines was honored with the 2017 Chauncey Glover Project's "Game Changer Award" for his work in bringing education and STEM awareness to the community. The Darryl Gaines "HOPE FOUNDATION" (@darrylgaines.com), in Mobile, Alabama, helps support underprivileged kids, facilities and programs in the community.

Mr. Gaines is a member of the 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile. As a special guest during THE 2017 ESSENCE FESTIVAL, he served as a guest speaker on THE EMPOWERMENT STAGE, sharing his winning strategy both "on and off the field."

Mr. Gaines authored, "A Poetic Conversation", which chronicles a segment of his life's journey in poetry and prose. Available on his website, darrylgainesempowers.com, since October 2017. A portion of the proceeds are donated to the Darryl Gaines "HOPE FOUNDATION".



Frank Glover

Lead Director, Seed Investment Fund
TEDCO

Frank Glover is the Lead Director of TEDCO's Seed Fund and is a member of Maryland Venture Fund's investment team. Prior to joining TEDCO, Frank was at Greenspring Associates, a global venture investment firm, where he was responsible for investments in growth-stage companies, early-stage funds, and secondaries.

Before Greenspring, Frank held a strategic operating role at Yum! Brands. At Yum!, Frank focused on revitalization initiatives for the KFC franchise system, drawing from his experience building a franchise lending business for TD. Prior to Yum! and TD, Frank founded Odin Ventures, a pre-seed studio. Earlier in his career, Frank worked in investment banking at Barclays Capital and Piper Jaffray.

Frank holds an International MBA from University of South Carolina's Moore School of Business and a BS in Business Administration from University of North Carolina's Kenan-Flagler Business School. He is also a CFA charterholder and certified Project Management Professional (PMP).



Christyl Johnson

Deputy Director for Technology and Research Investments NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Dr. Christyl Johnson is Goddard's deputy director for technology and research investments. She manages the center's research and development portfolio, and is responsible for formulating the center's future technology goals and leading an integrated program of investments aligned to meet those goals.

Christyl Johnson joined NASA Goddard as deputy center director for science and technology on Dec. 6, 2010. In July 2012 Goddard Center Director Chris Scolese reorganized some of the responsibilities of the Goddard Executive Council, at which point Johnson assumed her role as deputy director for technology and research investments.

Johnson came to NASA Goddard from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where she served under the President's science adviser as the executive director of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), which is the principal means within the executive branch to coordinate science and technology policy across the Federal research and development enterprise. She was responsible for ensuring the establishment of clear national goals for Federal science and technology investments in a broad array of areas across the executive branch, including basic science, technology, energy, environment, natural resources, and homeland and national security.

Prior to joining the White House staff, Johnson served as the assistant associate administrator in NASA's Office of the Administrator. In this role, she and the associate administrator provided the oversight of the agency's technical mission areas and field center operations.

Johnson came to the Office of the Administrator from the Office of the Chief Engineer, where she served as the deputy chief engineer for program integration and operations. There, she provided an integrated focus for the development, maintenance, and implementation of agency engineering and program/project management policies, standards, and practices.

Prior to her appointment to the Office of the Chief Engineer, Johnson served as the associate director for exploratory missions in the Office of Earth Science, where she managed the formulation and development for all exploratory missions. The missions that she managed included QuikToms, GRACE, CLOUDSAT, Triana, AQUARIUS, HYDROS and OCO, and involved mission development activities at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Goddard Space Flight Center, Langley Research Center and several international and industry partners.

Johnson began her career at Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., in 1985 in the Remote Sensing Technology Branch where she designed and built laser systems for advanced active remote sensors. In 1991, she became the program manager and lead engineer of the Diode-Pumped Cr:LiSAF Technology Development Program. In this role she established several initiatives, one of which was an industry and NASA collaboration to build an efficient Differential Absorption Lidar for remote sensing of water vapor. Under this program, Johnson delivered the first tunable diode-pumped Cr: LiSAF laser system to achieve 33 mJ. This achievement was highlighted internationally, and Johnson was invited to collaborate with scientists at Los Alamos National Labs, using this laser system for three weeks of field measurements in the desert of New Mexico. Johnson also established a state-of-the-art laboratory for stress optic coefficient measurement of laser crystals, and utilized this laboratory to provide the science community and laser industry with the first stress optic coefficients for the Cr:LiSAF laser material. Johnson held a variety of project management and senior engineering positions at Langley involved in the design, development and application of state-of-the-art and advanced systems and subsystems for atmospheric, aeronautic and space flight research missions.

Johnson earned her bachelor's degree in physics from Lincoln University, a master's degree in electrical engineering from Pennsylvania State University, and a Ph.D. in systems engineering from George Washington University.



Kerry Leonard

Senior Technology Manager NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Kerry Leonard is a Senior Technology Manager at the Strategic Partnerships Office and is responsible for managing IP licensing and fostering partnership opportunities with external organizations. Prior to joining NASA, she worked as a Technology Transfer Specialist for the US Department of Veterans Affairs and managed technology transfer operations for VA Medical Centers located in the Midwest. Kerry received her JD, MBA, and Chemical Engineering degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. She is a registered patent attorney and is licensed to practice law in Maryland and before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Before becoming an attorney and turning to "The Dark Side", Kerry was a patent examiner at the USPTO.



Daniel Lockney

Technology Transfer Program Executive NASA Headquarters

Daniel Lockney is the Technology Transfer Program Executive at NASA Headquarters in Washington DC, responsible for Agency-level management of NASA intellectual property and the transfer of NASA technology to promote the commercialization and public availability of Federally-owned inventions to benefit the national economy and the U.S. public. Lockney oversees policy, strategy, resources, and direction for the Agency's technology commercialization efforts.

NASA has had a long history of finding new, innovative uses for its space and aeronautics technologies, and Lockney is the agency's leading authority on these technologies and their practical, terrestrial applications.

Lockney studied American Literature at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and creative writing at Johns Hopkins University. He started his NASA career as a contractor in 2004, converting to civil service in 2010. He lives in University Park, Maryland, with his wife and two space pups, Astro and Cosmo.



Eric McGill

Senior Technology Manager

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Eric McGill presently serves as a Senior Technology Manager for the NASA Goddard Spaceflight Center's (GSFC) Strategic Partnerships office (SPO), where he manages the intellectual property portfolio for the Earth Sciences, Applied Engineering & Technology Directorate (AETD) and Mechanical Systems and Missions assurance divisions. He also leads in matters pertaining to business development and direct marketing of technologies for licensing and collaborations. He possesses a strong scientific background in research and technology development, as well as entrepreneurial experience gained from discovering, developing, and successfully launching and commercializing his own patented technology. Mr. McGill has over 10 years of scientific and product development experience, 4 patented inventions, along with more than 19 years of technology licensing, commercialization and business development experience.

Prior to joining NASA GSFC's SPO, he served as a Sr. Technology Transfer Specialist working extensively in support of technology transfer from Department of Defense laboratories to industry. Mr. McGill also worked as a Senior Scientist in R&D and product development for a global biomedical technology company where he discovered two patented compositions/methods and served as a member of the company's patent review team. He earned a B.S. in Biology from South Carolina State University and a Graduate Certificate in Technology & Commercialization from the University of Baltimore, Merrick School of Business.



Viva Miller

Technology Manager

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Viva Miller joined Goddard's Strategic Partnerships Office in late 2018 as a Technology Manager, where she manages a technology portfolio for new technology reporting, licenses and partnerships. She is on detail from the United States Patent and Trademark Office, where she is a Primary Examiner that examines applications in computer software development, installation and management as well as applications in arithmetic processing and calculating. Viva has a BS in Applied Mathematics from the College of William and Mary as well as a Masters of Engineering Management from Duke University and a JD from Rutgers University. She is a licensed attorney and has worked in the technology transfer offices of Duke University, New Jersey Institute of Technology and Old Dominion University. When not working in the exciting world of patents, Viva enjoys swimming, hiking, pro bono legal work as well as teaching computer classes in the community and rooting for Duke Basketball (don't hold that against her).



Darryl Mitchell

Chief, Strategic Partnerships Office NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Darryl began his NASA career in June of 1989 in the Environmental Test Engineering & Integration Branch at the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). Darryl served as the lead Magnetic Test Engineer in charge of Goddard's highly unique, world-class, Spacecraft Magnetic Test Facility. In addition, Darryl was responsible for conducting Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) testing of numerous flight instruments, systems, and satellites. As a result, Darryl has worked on numerous NASA programs and projects, including COBE, GOES, HST, GGS, ISTP, TRMM, SMEX, and the Cassini Huygens Probe.

In 1997 Darryl accepted a position in GSFC's Strategic Partnerships Office (SPO), where he has been responsible for initiating, negotiating, and managing patent licensing and strategic partnership opportunities with external organizations. Darryl has also taken a leading role in envisioning and implementing new business practices for the SPO, such as the inclusion of federally owned intellectual property into NASA's SBIR/STTR Program, standing up the Agency's NASA OPTIMUS PRIME Spinoff Promotion and Research Challenge (OPSPARC), and leading GSFC's groundbreaking participation in a live public auction of intellectual property through Ocean Tomo Federal Services, LLC, in October of 2008. In February of 2019 Darryl became the chief of the SPO.

Darryl holds bachelor and master degrees in applied physics, as well as an MBA in technology management. In addition, Darryl is a member of the IEEE and is the GSFC alternate representative to the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC). Darryl was a recipient of the FLC's 2006 Mid-Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer, the 2010 FLC Mid-Atlantic Region Award for Outstanding Technology Transfer Professional, the 2011 FLC National Award for Outstanding Technology Transfer Professional, and NASA GSFC's 2009 Robert H. Goddard Honor Award for Quality and Process Improvement.



Dave Naves

Retired Engineer and Professional Athlete NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center Harlem Globetrotters

Ever since he was a kid growing up on the Southside of Chicago, Naves had a passion for basketball, science, and technology. He attended Lindblom Technical High School, one of two selective admission high schools in Chicago. While there, Naves joined the basketball team and began his stellar basketball career. His senior year he earned Chicago All-City and Illinois Honorable Mention All-State honors and was heavily recruited by some of the top universities in the country. Naves chose to remain close to home and played collegiate basketball for the Northern Illinois University (NIU) Huskies.

Naves had free agent tryouts with the American Basketball Association's Indiana Pacers (1971) and Dallas Chaparrals (1972) after his collegiate basketball career at NIU came to a close. Never in his wildest imagination could he believe that he would get the opportunity to play for the Harlem Globetrotters. His notable teammates were Harlem Globetrotter legends Meadowlark Lemon, Curley Neal, Hubert "Geese" Ausbie, Bobby "Showboat" Hall, and Jackie Jackson. Naves played over 130 games with the Globetrotters from 1971-1972, performing around the world in Canada, Australia/Tasmania, New Zealand, Fiji, Tahiti, Hawaii and New Caledonia. During his tenure with the Harlem Globetrotters, he helped establish the Globetrotter Players Union, which allowed for collective bargaining and the establishment of basic player rights, salaries, benefits and living standards.

Naves returned to NIU to receive his bachelor's degree and soon thereafter began his professional career in industry. For the last 45 years, Naves has held engineering, management, and executive positions within the rail-car, automotive, and aerospace industries. He was also president and founder of EG&L Systems a multimedia computer based training company. He is currently employed by Alcyon Technical Services where he is the Manager - Mission Systems Engineering on a \$200M contract supporting the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. This contract provides the mission and instrument systems engineering services needed for the design, development and tests of spacecraft, science instruments, and ground systems. During his career Naves has received several patents as well as other numerous awards. Integrity has always been his guiding principle whose actions are based on the highest standards of conduct coupled with sound decision making. Naves has always been committed to providing an environment that attracts and retains talented people through challenging work and rewards and recognition for their outstanding performance. Combining these principles have allowed Naves to have a very successful career.

Naves has been a member of the National Basketball Retired Players Association (NBRPA) Board of Directors since 2016. The NBRPA is a charitable 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a two-pronged mission: assist former NBA, ABA, Harlem Globetrotters and WNBA players in their transition from the playing court into life after the game and positively impacting communities and youth through basketball

Away from his job, Naves is very passionate about giving back to the community. He has coached and given youth basketball clinics and is actively involved with his church. Though kids marvel at his basketball skills, Naves really enjoys speaking to them about being successful off the court and encourages them to stay committed in their school studies and to have the drive to go after career goals.

Naves resides in Bowie, Maryland with his wife Jacqueline and they have three adult children: Erica Naves Sillmon, Lindsay Naves Anderson, and David Gregory II.



Dennis Small

Technology Manager

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

MS, Technical Management - Johns Hopkins University

BS, Applied and Computational Mathematics, Bowie State University

Dennis Small presently serves as a Technology Manager for the NASA Goddard's Spaceflight Center's (GSFC) Strategic Partnerships office (SPO), where he has the opportunity to meet with businesses and universities talk about partnering opportunity and the outstanding technologies available for licensing at NASA Goddard. This falls in line with the Presidential Memorandum: Accelerating Technology Transfer and Commercialization of Federal Research in Support of High-Growth Businesses. An initiative established to foster innovation by increasing the rate of technology transfer and the economic and societal impacts from Federal research and development (R&D) investments of businesses to fuel economic growth.

His job includes the identification, review, and evaluation of advanced aerospace technologies for potential patenting, and/or licensing options, in addition to the negotiations of mutually beneficial partnerships between NASA and private industry, academia, and/or other government organizations.

Prior to joining NASA GSFC's SPO, he spent over 25 years at NASA in the area of Ground System Implementation. He served as the Acting Earth Observing System Mission Operations System (EMOS) Manager. He was responsible for maintenance and enhancement of the highly complex telemetry and command (T&C) ground system, as well as on-line and analysis subsystems needed for planning, analysis, and real-time operational support for the Aqua, Aura, Terra, and TRMM missions. He was the Technical Monitor of 4 contractor tasks supporting EMOS re-engineering and maintenance of both ground system software and hardware components.

He also served as Mission Operation Implementation Manager for the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope mission, which explores the most extreme environments in the Universe; where nature harnesses energies far beyond anything possible on Earth. The Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope mission also searches for signs of new laws of physics and what the mysterious Dark Matter is composed.



Ben Solomon

Founder and Managing Partner

Fed Tech

Ben is the Founder and Managing Partner of Fed Tech, the premier R&D spinoff accelerator in the United States. He started Fed Tech in 2013 the program has grown to partner with more than 30 top R&D labs across the country and worked with hundreds of entrepreneurs, inventors and investors. Fed Tech is now sponsored by DoD, NASA, DOT, DOC, DOI and others. Ben is also a frequent speaker on technology commercialization at conferences across the country, including the Federal Lab Consortium and the DoD T2 Annual Workshop. Ben also has taught technology commercialization as an Adjunct Lecturer at the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland. Earlier in his career he worked at NBC Sports and Bloomberg News in a variety of roles. He has an MBA from University of Maryland and a B.A. from Princeton University.